

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

October/November 2026

Issue 207

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.



DEADLINES

Issue 208

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

**Front Cover
Scarecrow Competition Winner**

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Killin News to Stop Production

The time has unfortunately come, that the Killin News will soon produce its final issue - we will do the Christmas issue as normal, then the February issue will be our last and will include a look back at the 35 year history of the Killin News since it started in 1991.

Why are you stopping, you ask ? The reasons fall into 3 main areas :- content, staffing and technical.

- **Content** - more and more stuff is no longer being sent to us like it used to, but is just going on Facebook instead. This is understandable to some extent, Facebook is immediate, whereas we only produce once every 2 months. Is a physical bi-monthly publication still relevant in this digital age ? To many in the village the answer is still yes, but the reality is there are many things that no longer get sent in to us.
- **Staffing** - most of the core team are long serving, and some are now looking to step down. We have appealed for new volunteers to come forward, and despite some possible interest, there has unfortunately not been enough so that we can carry on.
- **Technical** - this is by far our biggest problem, more so than the content and the staffing. We need to change the software publishing package we use, as our current one will no longer run on the new computers we need to buy. The new software package options are vastly different from our current one, we need to start completely from scratch again and lose all the technical knowledge we have built up over the years. What currently takes us 3 or 4 days will take much longer as we try to learn the new system, and with a much reduced team size, then it's simply not feasible.

It has been asked if we can continue to produce the magazine and just put it on-line rather than printing it and distributing it around the houses - however this still requires the same effort and time to collect and format all the articles and adverts in to the look of a magazine, and it is this formatting using the publishing software where our main issue lies.

Much, much more to come in the final issue regarding thanking all parties that have been involved over the years - the production team, the adverts team, the proof readers, the deliverers, the article writers, the advertisers (some since the very start), etc - it takes quite a team effort to put it all together and get it out to all the households.

Killin News Production Team



It's hard to believe how far Lochay Lounge at Killin Golf Club has come since we took over the clubhouse in May 2025.

As a husband-and-wife team, our dream was to create somewhere welcoming for everyone – not just golfers. Somewhere locals, visitors, families and four-legged friends could enjoy good food, a drink and a relaxed atmosphere.

Since then, Lochay Lounge has grown into so much more than we imagined. From pool and poker nights to take-away and delivery, there's always something happening – and anyone who follows us on social media will definitely recognise our slightly crazy cartoon dogs, Hope, Rory and Blue!

Food is a huge part of what we do, and we're particularly proud to offer a great selection of gluten-free options, so more people can come along and enjoy a meal with us.

One of the things we're most proud of is the feedback we've received. Reading reviews praising our food, friendly welcome, generous portions, gluten-free choices, dog-friendly atmosphere and beautiful setting genuinely means the world to us. As a small business

Lochay Lounge More Than Just the 19th Hole

run by just the two of us, every review, recommendation and returning customer makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Winter at Lochay Lounge

We'll be closed throughout November for a much-needed break, before re-opening two days per week during December and January.

We'll also continue offering takeaway and delivery throughout the winter, including gluten-free options, with full days and times announced on our social media.

Most of all, we want to say thank you. To everyone who has visited, eaten with us, joined an event, left a lovely review, shared a post or recommended us. Your support has helped turn our little dream into something we're incredibly proud of.

**Melissa & Michael
(M&M)
Lochay Lounge at
Killin Golf Club**



RAF Memorial Service at Glen Ogle



A service was held on 1st September 2026 at the RAF memorial in Glen Ogle to remember the two pilots, Patrick Harrison and Peter Mosley, who died when their Tornado crashed there on 1st September 1994.



Davidsons Chemists – We're here to help

Your local pharmacy, Davidsons Chemists, is committed to caring for you and our community

EAR AND HEARING HEALTH

We now provide ear and hearing health checks. Are you having trouble hearing others, annoying ache, ringing in your ears or itchy sore ears? It could be wax, which we can easily remove in store by microsuction. Speak to a member of staff to get further information, or to book an appointment.

NHS PHARMACY FIRST SCOTLAND

Your pharmacy is the first place you should go for advice and treatment for many common conditions and ailments. Particularly as we come into autumn and coughs, colds and sore throats begin to circulate! 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.

PRESCRIPTIONS REMINDER

A reminder that after reordering your repeat prescription the surgery need time to process this and we need time to assemble it which combined can take 2-3 working days. The easiest way to know your prescription is ready for you to collect is to sign up for our text messaging service; speak to us next time you are in.



Davidsons Chemists, Myrtle Grove, Main Street, Killin Tel: 01567 829006 killin@wdavidson.co.uk
Mon-Fri 9-5.30pm (limited service 12.30-1.30pm) & Sat 9-12.30pm

Killin Golf Club

Ladies & Gents Open Saturday 1 August



Magic 2's

Daniel Knecht (Killin), Andy Jacobs (Aberfeldy), Alexander Jones (Killin), Martin Cull (St. Michaels), Ewan McGregor (St Michaels), Peter Nettleton (Killin)

Nearest the Pin in 2 (6th): Ewan Dunbar (Crieff)

Nearest the Pin handicap 19 and Under (8th/17th) : Roy Smith (Killin)

Nearest the Pin handicap 20 and Above (5th / 14th): John McIlroy (Kenmore)

Longest Drive :

Handicap 19 and Under (9th/18th) : Tam Dewar (Killin)

Gents Handicap 20 and above (7th /16th) : Kenny Aitken (Killin)

Ladies Handicap 20 and above (6th/15th): Sheila Aitken (Killin)

Ladies

Handicap

1. Kay Dowling (Killin) 63 BIH
2. Sheila Aitken (Killin) 63

Scratch :

1. Laura Aitken (Killin) 74

Killin Cup (Best overall Handicap) : Kay Dowling (Killin) 63

Bridge of Lochay Salver (Best Local Handicap): Kay Dowling

Dochart Trophy (Best overall Scratch) : Laura Aitken (Killin) 74

Gents

Handicap

1. Daniel Knecht (Killin) 63
2. Will Nettleton (Killin) 64 BIH
3. Calum Frost (Killin) 64

Scratch

1. Alexander Jones (Killin) 72
2. Barry Vince (St Michaels) 73
3. Jim Ronald (Killin) 74

The Melia Quaich (best overall handicap): Daniel Knecht (Killin)

The Davies Trophy (best overall scratch): Alexander Jones (Killin) 72

The Wee Claret Jug: (best local handicap): Daniel Knecht



Jim Ronald, Sheila Aitken, Laura Aitken, Alexander Jones, Kay Dowling, Calum Frost

Ladies Greensomes Open 20 August

Magic 2's

Kay Dowling and Susan McRobbie (Killin)

Nearest the Pin in 2

Anne Wilson and Lesley Malkin (Muthill)

Longest Distance in 2 shots

Susie Gillespie and Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy)

Net

1. Kay Dowling & Susan McRobbie (Killin) 61
2. Lesley Stone & Marina Corran-Colthart (Taynuilt) 64
3. Martine Morrison (Crieff) & Susie Robertson (Muthill) 65

Scratch

1. Kathryn Champness (Muckhart) & Laura Pottinger (Blairgowrie) 85



Senior Stableford Open 9th September

Magic 2's

Martyn Paterson (Aboyne), Ian G Kerr (Kilmacolm x2), Sandy Ogg (Strathmore), James Richie (Dunblane New), Drew McGregor (Stirling), Martin Cull (St Michaels), John Stone (Taynuilt)

Nearest the pin

Gents: Ian G Kerr (Kilmacolm)

Ladies: Susan McRobbie (Killin)

In TWO: Ewan McGregor (St Michaels)

Ladies:

1. Kay Dowling (Killin) 39
2. Sheila Aitken (Killin) 33
3. Susan McRobbie (Killin) 30 BIH

Gents:

1. Allan McHenery (Killin) 38
2. Gary McCrorie (St Fillans) 37
3. Ian G Kerr (Kilmacolm) 30 BIH

Overall Handicap : Kay Dowling (Killin) 39





Killin Mountain Rescue Team

Callouts Update

We have had a steady trickle of callouts over the Summer months with a good number being multi-agency taskings. We have also had a surprisingly high number of callouts utilising the skills and experience of our Remote Rescue Medical Technicians (RRMT). Holding this certificate requires an intense amount of training, revision and an intense examination process so it is great to see it put to such good use.

We worked closely with the Scottish Ambulance Service on a number of low level rescues. However, the ground conditions required our technical capabilities. These include:

- assisting in the middle of the night with the evacuation of a young male alongside the River Leny who had severely injured their ankle
- a male needing transferred to the SCAA helicopter near Lix Toll
- a mountain biker who dislocated their ankle on the West Highland Way near Kirkton Farm.

The last of these was a particularly interesting experience for members present given the nature of the injury, the close working with the Special Operations Paramedics who re-aligned the limb then closed the A82 road to allow us to transfer the casualty to an air ambulance. Also nearly all of our RRMT's were present meaning they couldn't have been in better care.

We also had a particularly challenging callout for a High Risk

Missing Persons search in the Callander Craggs/Bracklinn Falls area. This was the second time within two weeks we had worked closely with SARAA (Mountain Rescue Drone Pilots). The person was successfully found by the drone pilot with



members being talked into the location by the pilot. Being in difficult terrain with significant injuries, Ochills MRT assisted in moving the casualty to a more suitable location for winching by Coastguard Helicopter. We believe this is the first time in Scotland that a Drone has had such a successful outcome in a search.

We wish all of our casualties a speedy recovery.

Summer Events and Fundraising

We choose not to undertake Training during the months of July and August mainly due to holidays and the need to take a break.

However, it also gives us the opportunity to be present at many of the local events that take place over the Summer Months.

These provide a great opportunity to meet the public and pass on vital safety information, as well as assisting in providing First Aid cover or Marshalling Duties. Being present at these events is also one of our main fundraising and donation opportunities with nearly £2000 raised from being at the following events:

Locheearnhead Highland Games; Killin Agricultural Show; Killin Highland Games; Killin 10K

We also want to say a special thank you to one of our Trustees, Arabella, and their daughter, Lucia, who ran the Killin 10K to Fundraise for the Team and raised £1200! They were amazed at the amount raised. We also want to thank all those present assisting in

speedily packing away our stand so we could attend a callout on Tarmachan ridge. Fortunately the Coastguard helicopter was able to assist in lifting the casualty. We also want to thank the Tay Fitness Team for once again allowing us to utilise places within the Killin 10K for Supporters fundraising for the Team.

As the nights draw in, we will not be surprised to get a callout for overdue walkers, be-nighted on the hill. It is easily done, so please check you have a head torch packed and importantly, charged or fresh batteries for any walks this Autumn. We are human and learnt the hard way ourselves.

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





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 attend every fortnight to help with any issues with benefits, housing or energy costs etc.

The community hub is a great place to be 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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Dun Coillich

where people and nature thrive



Dun Coillich is a community owned landscape regeneration and rural skills training project in Glen Goulandie. Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust owns and manages the land for the benefit of wildlife and the local community.

Project Officer's 10-year anniversary



Heather Hamilton, our Project Officer at Dun Coillich, has been in-post for 10 years. Volunteers and trustees gathered on the Tuesday volunteer day 1st September to celebrate this milestone with talk and cake. The appointment of staff, first Heather and later Fred Cochrane, has transformed the operational organisation and achievements at Dun Coillich. The Trust's founders created a volunteer led charity, so change was inevitably slow in the early years. Heather has brought impressive personal human and physical skills to engage and inspire volunteers, rural skills trainees and now apprentices. The transformation of Dun Coillich into a wooded landscape is a rejuvenation success story we can all be proud of. As we approach the Trust's 25th anniversary, the pace of change led by Heather has been remarkable. We all hope that this is only the start.

HPCLT wins the PKC Apprentice Employer of the Year Award

The Apprentice Awards for Perth and Kinross were developed by Perth and Kinross Council, Skills Development Scotland, Developing the Young Workforce Tay Cities, and UHI Perth to showcase the value of apprenticeships. The event on 3rd September brought together apprentices, employers, mentors and education partners to recognise outstanding achievements and celebrate the positive impact apprenticeships have across Perth and Kinross. HPCLT is delighted to be awarded as Apprentice Employer of the Year. This is a fantastic recognition of the work done by our staff, our apprentices and our partners Forestry and Land Scotland, National Trust for Scotland and the Dalchosnie and Kynachan estate.

Events

We will have a barbecue at Dun Coillich on Saturday 31 October - do come along to find out more about our work, see our emerging woodlands and meet some of the people involved.

Get involved!

There are many ways to get involved with our small charity's work:

- Visiting – to walk our well-marked network of footpaths and spot wildlife
- Membership - costs £20 a year; our members become part of our community. Further details at www.duncoillich.org/support-us-2025/
- Business partnership scheme – a way for local businesses to give back to communities and the environment, and to support our work.
- Volunteering - every Tuesday we enjoy time outdoors doing something practical.
- Become a trustee - to help steer the work of HPCLT among a friendly group of fellow board members.

More information

Visit our website www.duncoillich.org to find out more about where we are and what we do or follow our Facebook Group (Dun Coillich Community Land) for regular updates.



Breadalbane Heritage Society

 **BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY** 
Friday 16th October 2026 at 7.15 p.m.
From "Shaky Toun" to Schiehallion:
geological stories from Breadalbane
An illustrated talk by Dr. Martin Smith



Breadalbane is rich in mineral deposits and subject to earthquakes with its glaciated landscape supporting a hydroelectric network of dams and pipelines. Martin's talk will highlight some of the gems hidden in the geology and landscape of Breadalbane.

Breadalbane Community Campus: Doors open 7.00 p.m.
Admission: No charge for Society Members. Visitors - £5.00
For any enquiries contact Ian at bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com
Breadalbane Heritage Society: Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation: SC049382

The Society continues its autumn and winter series of monthly illustrated talks with a presentation by retired geologist Dr Martin Smith :-

'From "shaky toun" to Schiehallion: geological stories from Breadalbane'

on **Friday 16 October** in the auditorium at the **Breadalbane Community Campus, Aberfeldy**. **Doors open at 7.00 pm and the talk begins at 7.15 pm.**

New members are welcome.

Dr Smith's career spanning 40 years has taken him all over the UK and beyond. In 2026 he was awarded an MBE for services to Geological Science.

The BHS's website <https://breadalbane-heritage.org.uk/> provides the following :-

- 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
- 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.

An updated edition of the illustrated booklet *Around Aberfeldy, A Brief History* is now available in local outlets.

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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Crianlarich Primary School

Community Garden Hub Opening

On the 10th September, we joined the Strength and Balance group at the opening of the new Community Garden Hub. We sang O'Flower of Scotland with the community members, followed by a ribbon cutting. After, we went to the village hall for a Strength and Balance class, then had some cake and juice. Although it was very wet, it was still fun!



After School Club

On Tuesdays and Thursdays for an hour we play with certain toys and other stuff that we bought with funding for our after school club. The club is quite fun, it is a nice way to end the day off with some chill music and friends to play with.

Christopher P6

On Tuesday and Thursdays, the thing I am always looking forward to is after school club. There are lots of fun activities like Kandi beads, air-dry clay and board games. At the end of the day I get to have fun with my friends and create whatever I want.

Zoe P6



New P1s

We had two P1s join us this year - Klara and Nevaeh. This is what they had to say about starting in their new school: Klara - "It's scary being in Primary 1 but I'm having lots of fun. I like playing with my friends." Nevaeh - "I feel good being at school. It feels a little bit scary, but I like building towers and having fun!"



MacGregor's Community Store

We attended Killin Agricultural Show with Tombreck Farm Shop. We had a lovely day catching up with locals, enjoying all the fun of the day. We offered a variety of items from our shop. Thanks for coming to see us and we hope it gave you an idea of the breadth of offering in the shop. Thanks to those who stopped by our stall, we intend to be back next year.

We've had a lovely summer with the ever popular fresh fruit, vegetables and salad on our pop up market Fridays. We try always to offer locally produced provisions first, filling in the gaps as needed. Localism makes our community more resilient and allows us to provide high quality items for sale, whether vegetables, eggs, tablet, gifts and other items.

Wild Hearth bakery is a big draw on a Friday too, and for a very good reason. Its wood fired sourdough bread and pastry range takes days of baker know-how to make. Whether your preference is a Yorkshire Wholemeal, a White Sourdough, or a delicious seasonal Danish, come in on a Friday.

For Kenmore Bakery fans, we stock a wide range of cakes and biscuits. And don't forget Tower Bakery's

white or brown rolls which come in on Tuesday and Friday.

As the season of soups and stews approaches, consider checking out our spice wall for something to pep up the flavours. We also have seasonal squashes and root vegetables, etc, to fill out those hearty meals.

You can always place an order for something you want, either in a larger quantity or that we don't regularly supply from our suppliers.



With those darker nights coming, remember to stock up on tins and store goods. We also have candles in case of blackouts!

Pick up a book, whether it's a bit of local information or a novel (some from local authors), or something from our wide range of magazines, it's a good time of year for a bit of a read.

Our refill station is now up and running for foods and detergents in addition to our already successful bird seed and nut section. And your dog is not forgotten here either.

We recycle old batteries and now also printer ink cartridges.

The Post Office is ever busy (10am - 2pm Monday to Saturday) and provides a wide range of services. Think ahead if you are going to post internationally, or pick up travel money for your autumn break.

Thank you for supporting MacGregor's Community Shop and Post Office. We are Scotland's Littlest Department Store. These are very valuable local resources. By shopping with us you are helping to hold onto these services.

As always, don't forget to follow us on Facebook (MacGregor's Community Store, Killin) for regular updates on our progress, and give us a like, we really appreciate it!

Loch Tay Water Watch: Phosphorus Readings Raise Concerns

Volunteers with Loch Tay Water Watch have tested water at more than 24 locations around the loch since the spring, and results show a clear pattern: phosphorus readings are consistently higher in the bay at the east end of the loch than anywhere else tested.

The bay at Kenmore was the most consistently elevated site, with consistently very high readings of 50µg/L and more - well above SEPA's baseline target of 8µg/L. Other sites at the east end of the loch also recorded repeated elevated readings, while a handful of other locations around the loch occasionally showed less consistent spikes.

The Loch Tay Association says the findings raise real questions over the fish farm's plans to more than double its permitted phosphorus discharge, as the modelling behind that proposal assumes phosphorus spreads evenly across the loch - which this local data does not support.

"These results give us something we haven't had before - solid local evidence of where phosphorus levels are highest," said Donald Riddell of the Loch Tay Association. "That's exactly the kind of evidence that needs to be properly considered before any expansion goes ahead."

Loch Tay Water Watch continues its sampling programme through the year.

Contact: Donald Riddell, Loch Tay Association — portmoy@hotmail.com



Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Strathfillan Community Rangers

Our Community Rangers have been extremely busy over the past few months, as the summer holidays have been and gone. Unfortunately, the Rangers have been called out to numerous abandoned campsites, fly-tipping sites and irresponsible fires,



all while continuing with a regular programme of inspections and maintenance across many of the communities most well visited sites. Some of the paths and walkways across the community have never been in better shape thanks to the efforts of the Community Rangers. We've also been in dialogue with Stirling Council and Forestry & Land Scotland about shared responsibilities and reporting of incidents and issues across the Strath. A big thanks to Lynne & Jimmy Mackay and Gavin Macnab for all their hard work and dedication!



We are extremely thankful to the Wild Strathfillan project and the National Lottery Heritage Fund for awarding funding this year to our Community Ranger programme. If you need to get in touch with the rangers, please contact rangers@strathfillancdt.org.uk

If you need to report any incidents of damage, fly-tipping or irresponsible visitation, then please report it to the Keep Strathfillan Tidy chat by scanning the QR code.



Woodlands

The Trust were delighted to welcome two sitting MSPs to the Tyndrum Community Woodland over the past few months. The Convener of the Rural Affairs Committee, Mark Ruskell, joined us on the 10th of August to visit the woodland and find out what we've been doing as part of

the Wild Strathfillan Project, and perhaps to check up on some of the trees he had previously planted! We were also delighted to welcome the Minister for Agriculture, Marine and the Islands, Jim Fairlie, to the woodland on the 15th of September, as part of a wider meeting with Forestry & Land Scotland and Community Land Scotland. We discussed a number of important issues and challenges facing Strathfillan, and how communities must be central to future landscape scale restoration projects focussed on the area.

The Trust was also delighted to host Community Land Scotland Natural Capital Communities Partnerships team on the 5th of August, to discuss how community land holders can be supported through natural capital investment opportunities. This led to an interesting discussion around the current mechanisms available, their benefits and their shortcomings. We hope to continue a close relationship with the NCCP team to explore any future funding opportunities.

We are expecting the harvesting works in the Tyndrum Community Woodland to recommence at the end of September. These works should be completed soon, from which we will turn our attention to replanting the felled compartments. Keep an eye out on Facebook and our website for information on how to get involved.

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

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Jim Fairlie, Minister for Agriculture, Marine and the Islands meets SCDT members under a rainbow!

Crianlarich Community Garden

The Trust would like to thank everyone who braved the horrible weather to come out for our grand opening of the Crianlarich Community Garden Gazebo. We were joined by Crianlarich Primary School, the Strathfillan Strength & Balance Class, the Loch Lomond & Trossachs Countryside Trust, and a number of guests from near and afar! We all gathered under the Gazebo for the ceremonial cutting of the ribbon, of which the honour was given to Mr John Burton in recognition of him celebrating his 90th birthday the week before! We then headed along to Village Hall for a Strength & Balance Class, in which a record 31 people took part, before enjoying some tea, coffee and cakes across the rest of the afternoon.

A big thanks to Diane, Dawn, Isobel & Una for organising and thanks to Miss Limonci, Miss Elston and all the pupils at Crianlarich Primary School for joining us. The gazebo was funded through the National Lottery

Heritage Fund and was delivered as part of the Wild Strathfillan Project. A big thanks to the National Lottery for helping us improve our much-loved community garden.

Strathfillan Angling Association

The SAA have decided to keep permit prices level with the previous season. Permits and maps for 2026 are available from the usual places - Crianlarich Stores and the Green Welly Stop. Online permits and day passes are now exclusively booked through our website www.strathfillancdt.org.uk/projects/fishing-in-strathfillan

The updated map for 2026 is also available on our website. Follow us on Facebook and share any photos of your catch and our lovely area at www.facebook.com/Strathfillanfishing

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

Strength & Balance Classes



Our Strength and Balance class meets every Thursday in the Committee Room at Crianlarich Village Hall at 2pm, and we follow every class with tea and biscuits, or sometimes homemade cakes! Our

classes continue to be well attended, and we thank everyone for taking the time to come to class.

Strength & Balance classes are part of the Walk in the Park project, and we are grateful to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs Countryside Trust for their continued support and to Fiona and Diane for managing and supporting in the delivery of the classes. We are always on the lookout for new members to join us and for volunteers to help run the classes. If you would like more information, then please get in touch with either Fiona at fiona@trustinthepark.org or Sheona at sheona@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Keeping strong and balanced at home

As we progress into autumn it's good to think about your walking. Do you lift your toes or catch them on raised pavements easily? The 'toe raises' exercise will help ensure you lift your toes more easily when stepping over things and reduce your chance of tripping or falling backwards. It works the muscles at the top of the foot and challenges your balance and core strength to stay upright. Just ensure you have something solid to hold on to if you need to - it's harder than you think! Try to keep your body straight (no bums out backwards). Once you have mastered the toe raise, see if you can walk about for a few steps on your heels.

Toe Raises

- Stand tall holding your support
- Raise your toes taking your weight back into your heels without sticking your bottom out
- Hold for a second
- Lower your toes with control
- Repeat 10 times



Have a go and let us know how you get on. Give us some feedback at dawn.skelton@laterlifetraining.co.uk or on the SCDT Facebook page.

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A Message from the Killin Parent Partnership

The Killin Parent Partnership met for our AGM at the end of August, where our Chair Jeremy Hannah and Treasurer Leeanne Coyle stepped down from their roles. Many thanks to you both for the hard work and great care you put into your roles last year! Thanks also to the very generous parents and carers who have volunteered time, resources and wonderful baking efforts!

This year, Lisa Stewart has volunteered as Chair, Lizzie Johnson takes on the role of Treasurer, and Emma Kerr remains as Secretary. It was great to see so many of you there, ready to support the school by raising money for resources, trips and fun extras that benefit all of the children at the school.

At the time of publication, we will already have completed our first fundraising event: the Scholastic Book Fair, where every book bought earns free books for our school library. At the end of October, we look forward to a spooktacular Halloween Party and our famous Pumpkin Patch Competition. Every year we are amazed by your creativity and effort - we can't wait to see your costumes and pumpkin designs!

As always, we would love to hear from you if you have any ideas, comments, or would like to get more involved.



Class 1 created fantastic Aboriginal-inspired artwork using dot techniques and iconic animal symbols. The children worked hard on their designs, producing a vibrant display for the whole school to enjoy.



Class 2 has fun outdoors on a nature scavenger hunt!



Class 1 made excellent Sydney Harbour Bridge models using paper plates and paper cups.





Class 3 have been diving into a new topic all about Australia and the amazing Great Barrier Reef. As part of their learning, pupils were set a creative challenge to research a reef animal of their choice and produce their own fact file and diagram. Class 3 have shown fantastic enthusiasm and imagination in their creations!



A huge warm welcome to our new Primary 1 pupils.



After **11 wonderful years** of dedicated service, the school said a fond farewell to **Mrs Dunshea** on her final day. We thank Mrs Dunshea for everything she has done over the past decade and wish her the absolute best of luck in her next chapter!

Our newly appointed 'Young Leaders of Learning' completed their training at Fallin Primary. We look forward to hearing their ideas.





At Ben Lawers summer is coming to an end but it's still busy as ever on the reserve. Here are a few of our highlights.

Improvements to footpaths

Apprentices Finn and Coleby spend a week with us each month helping out with various estate and conservation management tasks. In August, they did a great job building a boardwalk across a particularly wet and boggy section at the start of the Meall Corranaich ascent. The 40m of new boardwalk helps hikers keep their feet dry whilst also helping us protect the ground from any erosion.



Our national footpath team have also been out and about on reserve. They've been making further improvements to the Tarmachan track with drainage ditch clearing, pitching and constructing steps, as well as starting works on the new Meall Corranaich path, where we had an airlift to drop stone back in June.

Aspen Planting

Aspen is one of Scotland's rarest trees, having somewhat disappeared from many of our landscapes. We've been doing our bit in recent conservation efforts to re-establish these lovely trees and help them thrive. Since last year, we've been planting Aspen saplings in amongst our woodland areas on the lower slopes of the reserve. We've planted a couple hundred so far with the help of volunteers but still have many to go out over the next few months. Hopefully Aspen will soon start to become a more familiar sight!

Collecting Willow Seed



A big job that we have throughout the Summer and into the Autumn is collecting seed from trees that we can use in the tree nursery to grow and plant out native, local trees. In June and July, we spent several days out on the hills collecting the white, fluffy seed from the various montane willow species we have here. Thanks to the help of volunteers, we managed to collect seed from Downy, Woolly, Mountain, and Dark-Leaved Willow. They've now been sown and will be growing in our tree nursery until next year when we can plant them out to continue the mountain woodland restoration.

Monitoring rare alpine plants

Our seasonal ecologist Polly has been keeping busy with monitoring a suite of alpine flora. She recently ventured up the crags in search of the rare Drooping Saxifrage (*Saxifraga cernua*) to monitor the population that we have here. In the UK it only survives at a few high-altitude Scottish summits (Lawers, Nevis and Glencoe) and is confined to ledges or crevices beneath overhangs, where exposure is limited and there are moist conditions, and late snow-lie. The plant itself is fairly striking with small shamrock-like leaves and shoots adorned with minute red gems (these are the bulbils which fall off to create new plants in asexual reproduction). Very occasionally they produce a flower with snowy white petals. Polly was lucky enough to find some of the beautiful plants and record how they are doing, counting the plants with small blue flags.



Polly is also focussing on the monitoring of another rare montane plant, the false sedge (*Kobresia simpliciuscula*). In Scotland it's primarily found around the Breadalbane range; its habitat is the calcareous grasslands and flushes on the mountain, but it can be very difficult to identify amongst other sedges and grasses. The monitoring done here is part of a 10-year cycle of quadrat monitoring, which involves surveying the existing populations and researching the impacts of grazing pressure changes on the population.

Volunteer work camps

We have just finished hosting our second Trees for Life group of this year, with another great bunch of volunteers who stayed with us for a full week of conservation tasks. Together we've managed to plant over 1000 trees as part of montane scrub and mountain woodland projects, remove another 200m of old fencing, collect birch seed for future propagation and planting, and patch up a bit of track.



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Strathblane	Strathgry	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 notified above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us to plan.

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Killin and Breadalbane Angling Club

2026 Review

Well it is coming to the end of the season for most of our fishing. The trout and salmon will be closed by the time of this release, with the course still ongoing.

It has been a fantastic year for Killin and Breadalbane Angling club. We have had more Juniors attending our outings and more Juniors joining the club. Hope this trend continues and keeps growing.

All the outings for the year have concluded and dates for next year already getting reviewed and will be sent out as soon as they have been confirmed.

Annual Competition vs EBAC

The Angling club had a competition with Edinburgh Angling club over two legs – this is an annual competition. First of the two legs was held in May on Loch Tay. This leg was won by KBAC with 10 fish caught to EBAC 1 fish. Well done to all that were fishing on the behalf of KBAC, and especially to John Chisholm for being top rod with 4 caught.



Callum and Innes Chisholm

The second leg was held on Lake of Menteith, KBAC caught 15 to EBAC 12. Giving the combined score of KBAC 25 to EBAC 13. KBAC winner of the two legs. Again special thanks to



Another cracking day out on Loch Tay

John Chisholm for being top rod with 6 caught.

Great to have the number of anglers increasing for these two friendly rivalry days out and it is good to keep in touch with other clubs.



Heading out for the day at Lake of Menteith

Community Night

The Killin and Breadalbane Angling club in association with the West End Salmon Fishing Club are hosting a community night on the 24th October in the McLaren Hall.

Tickets available at the MacGregors store, and music will be provided by the Minogue Brothers. All funds raised will be put towards the further development of the junior anglers.

Doors open at 6.30pm, 7pm - 11pm

THE NIGHT SHALL INCLUDE: Bingo, Raffle, Auction, Music, Casting competition, Coin closest to the bottle.

Over 16's are £5 per ticket Under 16's are free when accompanied by fee paying parent. Bring your own bottle.



Enjoying day out at Lake Of Menteith

AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on the 20th of Nov. Location still to be confirmed. If you have any items to be raised or like to come along 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

Thank you
Stephen Hay
President of KBAC

Killin Highland Games 2026

Mixed weather at Killin Highland Games on the 5th August but despite the weather, the games brought together a day of traditional events, local crafts, hill racing, piping and highland dancing built on true grit and community spirit. Visitors from far and wide came together for the day to experience the event, with many competitors from all over the world taking part in the hill race. A great day enjoyed by locals and international visitors.



Scenes from Killin Agricultural Show 2026



Generation Hope

Plans unveiled for new Loch Tay outdoor activity centre for young people.

Generation Hope proposals would give many young people the chance to experience the outdoors.

Exciting plans have been unveiled to bring back to life an abandoned township as a new outdoor activity centre on the shores of Loch Tay, providing young people from across Scotland with opportunities to enjoy outdoor adventure, build confidence and connect with nature.

Generation Hope is seeking planning permission for an outdoor activity camp at Blarmore township on Carie Farm, located on the northern shore of Loch Tay in Perthshire.

Generation Hope is a Scottish charity working with teenagers aged 12–15 from schools and community groups across the country – incorporating those of all faith backgrounds, and none.

It was founded by Magnus and Julie MacFarlane-Barrow, who also established Mary's Meals, the international charity that provides school meals to more than 3 million children every school day in some of the world's poorest communities. Generation Hope runs independently of that charity.

Generation Hope already runs successful outdoor camps at Loch Monzievaird, but a growing need from schools means it now requires a permanent base.

The proposed Carie centre would allow Generation Hope to expand the number of camps it runs throughout the school year, reaching many more young people. Crucially, the proposals support the recent Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Act, which requires all pupils in state and grant-aided schools to have the chance to experience at least four nights and five days of residential outdoor education during their time at school.

Young people would have the opportunity to take part in activities including kayaking, paddleboarding,

archery, team games and other outdoor pursuits, helping develop confidence, independence, teamwork and new skills.



Arrival and welcome

The proposals include accommodation cabins, staff accommodation, dining and kitchen facilities, an outdoor playing area and facilities providing access to Loch Tay for largely non-motorised water-based activities. There is also the potential to restore the historic derelict building on the site as a chapel or meeting space.

The development has been carefully designed to sit sensitively within its spectacular Loch Tay setting. Existing woodland would provide natural screening, while the cabin layout would follow the landscape's contours and reflect the site's historic settlement pattern. An emphasis on engendering respect and care for nature will be a dominant theme in young people's induction to, and the culture of, the camp.

Environmental education would also be at the heart of the centre, with young people encouraged to learn about and participate in woodland creation, management and biodiversity enhancement.

The proposals will benefit the local economy through employment opportunities and by using local

businesses for food, supplies, and equipment wherever possible. A Proposal of Application Notice (PoAN) has been submitted to Perth and Kinross Council, initiating formal consultation with the community before a planning application is submitted. This includes two public consultation events on 27th October and 2nd December at the McLean Hall in Fearnan. Generation Hope expects to submit a planning application in early 2027.

A spokesperson for Generation Hope said:

"This is a unique opportunity to create a special place on the shores of Loch Tay where young people from across Scotland can experience the outdoors, try new things and develop skills, confidence and friendships that can stay with them for life.

"Our existing camps have been hugely successful, but demand from schools has grown well beyond what our current facilities can accommodate.

"Carie would give us the space to welcome more young people and provide an unforgettable outdoor experience in one of Scotland's most inspiring natural settings, delivering significant social, health and environmental benefits.

"We are very conscious of the special environment at Loch Tay, and the proposals are being carefully designed to sit sensitively within the landscape, while also giving young people the opportunity to learn about, enjoy and help care for God's creation.

"We look forward to extensive engagement with the local community on our proposals, answer any queries and respond to feedback received and explore positive collaborations."



Dining Hall, Laundry, Stores

Scottish Wildlife Trust Callander Local Group Events

The following talks will be held in St Andrew's Church Hall, Callander, FK17 8AL.

Suggested donation £3 includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Thurs 22 October, 7.30pm

'Is it too late to Save the Capercaillie?'

by Prof Neill Metcalfe, University of Glasgow

Thurs 19 November, 7.30pm

'Cambusmore Quarry: Landscape Restoration'

by Donald Wilkins, Planning & Estates Manager, Breedon Group

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Auchreoch Caledonian Forest Community Event

Auchreoch Caledonian Forest at Tyndrum is embarking on an exciting programme of native woodland restoration. Restoration efforts are centred around protecting and expanding the rare and beautiful Caledonian Pinewood, a true remnant of the Ancient Caledonian Forest that once covered much of Scotland. Alasdair (who owns Auchreoch Caledonian Forest) and his team will be working alongside Treestory on the restoration project and we would love to hear your thoughts.

Please scan the QR code below to learn more on the dedicated project website.

You can also reach out to
adm@treestory.org.uk

You're Invited!

We will be having an in-person event at the Artisan Cafe on the 16th of October 2026, and we'd love to see you there.

Key details are below:

Where: Artisan Cafe, Crianlarich

When: October 16th 2026 | drop in anytime between 5-7:30 pm

Why: To learn more about the project and hear your feedback

Refreshments will be provided by the Artisan Cafe



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Walk in the Park

This summer, our Killin Walk in the Park group has enjoyed exploring some of their favourite local routes and beyond, taking in the beautiful scenery and spending time together outdoors.

The group have enjoyed utilising the great path network along NCN7 at Strathgryre and closer to home have walked the new railway path and boardwalk. The walks have provided the group with lots of opportunity to spot wildlife, soak up the summer sun and spectacular views and take quiet moments of reflection. The benefits of spending time outdoors continue to shine through, with 67% of participants reporting a stronger connection to nature and the natural world.

Join us every Wednesday at 10.20am, see schedule below for meeting location and routes. Suitable for all abilities, no booking required, just turn up and walk with us. We always welcome new faces and look forward to walking with you.

Evening Walks in Killin

Our evening walks continued fortnightly throughout the summer months with a mix of weather, but everyone who has attended has thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to connect with each other, and nature. Our final evening walk of the year will be Monday 5th October, with a short walk followed by refreshments in the Pavilion and an opportunity to reflect.

Strength and Balance

Despite the wet and windy weather, our **Crianlarich Strength and Balance group** enjoyed a supported walk from the village hall to Crianlarich Community Garden. Crianlarich Primary School pupils and



Nature images taken during our summer walks, Credit Fiona Boath



Garden shelter opening

their teachers joined us, where local resident John Burton officially opened the new garden shelter by cutting the ribbon. We were also treated to a heart-warming performance of Scotland the Brave. The group then returned to the hall, completing a short walk before taking part in a

Strength and Balance session. The afternoon ended with a well-earned drink and slice of cake. It was a lovely event, bringing together people of all ages, from 5 to 93.

Our **Killin Strength and Balance** group have also been on the move, as on the 3rd Wednesday of every month we hold a Monthly Movement session at the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home. Our amazing volunteers and staff at the home have partnered to deliver a safe and fun session for everyone to attend. The active movement sessions are a great opportunity to build stability and confidence through movement. All who have attended have benefitted hugely from it and

Walk Schedule

- 7 Oct – Meet Sports Pavilion – Pier Road Finlarig Castle
- 14 Oct – Meet Monemore – Kinnell Estate
- 21 Oct – Meet Sports Pavilion – Glen Ogle (CS)
- 28 Oct – Meet Monemore – Acharn Railway Line
- 04 Nov – Meet Sports Pavilion – Head of the Loch, Memorial Walk
- 11 Nov – Meet Monemore – Craignavie
- 18 Nov – Meet Sports Pavilion – Pier Road Finlarig Castle
- 25 Nov – Meet Sports Pavilion – Moirlanich

felt a sense of achievement which is fantastic. Strength and Balance exercises are suitable for all abilities - come along and enjoy moving with others in your community! The sessions are always welcoming, fun and a great opportunity to socialise with others. Join us for free (although donations are greatly accepted) with no need to book - just turn up!

- Wednesday's, 2-3pm, Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church – weekly except 3rd Wednesday of month when you will find us in the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home
- Thursday's 2-3pm, Crianlarich Village Hall - weekly

These popular sessions support people's mobility, confidence and their physical, mental and social wellbeing. From our 2026 Strength and Balance participation survey 91% advised they felt an improvement in their physical wellbeing and 6 out of 10 said they were more confident moving around since attending a session.

Movement Together activities are supported with thanks to funding from: The National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, Scottish Forestry, Walking Scotland and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Thank you to everyone who supports our activities. Our 2026 participation survey shows that 100% of participants would recommend them. To find out more, we'd love to hear from you - just drop us an email at fiona@trustinthepark.org or call Fiona on 07843 842323 (Monday to Thursday).



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It's been another busy couple of months here at KAT. We have tried to provide a summary of some of the key events, but no doubt will have missed some of them.

As you know KAT is a registered charity and relies heavily on grants and donations. We have recently launched a Just Giving page to help; here is the QR code if anyone would like to donate.



We are also able to take donations in the Old Mill and Fassiefern. Many thanks in advance to anyone who can donate.

For those on Facebook you will have seen our recent posts about trying to recruit new volunteers. Volunteering in the Community is a great way to get to know people and feel connected and is also an opportunity to learn new skills. If you would like to get involved, please contact us kat@killincdt.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of our team.

KAT AGM

The AGM is being held on the 1st of Oct at 18:00 in the Church Hall. We hope to see as many of the community there and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Killin Place Meeting

We were pleased to be part of this exciting initiative and would like to thank Davy Fettes and everyone who attended for their help and support in getting things off the ground. The general idea is to bring together all businesses, organisations, clubs and groups in Killin so that we can

improve things by working more closely together. It's great to see that they have already managed to launch the Killin Visitors' Hub (visitkillin.org) web site. We look forward to the next meeting and are keen to support this great initiative.

Fassiefern

We are really pleased with our new office blinds and think it helps smarten up the high street a wee bit. The business & learning hub is now fully up and running and available for hire by organisations or individuals looking for a private desk. We have full video conferencing and multimedia facilities for online meetings and presentations. If you would like more details, please contact kat@killincdt.co.uk or pop in and speak to one of the team. We are also looking for trades people such as electricians, plumbers, builders to help us maintain Fassiefern and the Old Mill. If you would be interested in quoting for the work or would like to know more, please contact us at kat@killincdt.co.uk

Our display screen is sitting proudly in the window and is on between 08:00 – 20:00, 7 days a week. If any group would like to have their information on the screen, please contact us at kat@killincdt.co.uk

RecyKillin



The Reuse Shop is now able to accept small items of furniture by appointment only. The team have lots of ideas to keep improving the shop so please do pop in and look around. To keep up to date with what's going at the Reuse shop make sure to follow them on Facebook.

Tool library

At the tool library we have two volunteer roles: Tool Librarians who welcome new members, check tools in and out, sign up new members and update the inventory and Maintenance Volunteers who test, clean, repair and maintain returned tools - some people do both. The tool library is open on Tuesdays from 2-3pm and Saturdays from 12-1pm, so if either or both roles are of interest, please pop in for a chat."

Heritage Archive and Makers' Space at the Old Mill



Exciting things are happening with the former Killin Heritage Society archive at the Old Mill! We now have a great group of volunteers ready to go through the collection and undertake the cataloguing process. We are also looking, in partnership with Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust, through the Stories of the Land project, to contract an archivist to guide this process (see ad below, and <https://trustinthepark.org/about-us/work-with-us/> for more details) This will allow us to make better use of the archive, and to ensure it is properly stored and preserved. It is the first step towards our aim of opening up access and doing more to share Killin's amazingly rich heritage.

Once we have organised what is there, then we will also be able to consider adding to the collection. We can't do this yet, so please hold on to your treasures for now! If you want to join our heritage group, contact me on the details below.

After the fabulous Vararfeldr exhibition currently on at the Old Mill (take a look at the photos from our opening night on page 33); starting in November we will host the Stories of the Land exhibition at the Old Mill, featuring the local heritage of Killin and Strathfillan, told by local people. Thanks to the Killin Media Team for providing a large number of these interviews from the amazing work they have been doing for their new Killin documentary.

We are always on the lookout for new Makers to join the Old Mill Maker and Artist community. We offer low commission and rates, high footfall in a premium tourist spot, advice on presentation, sales and pricing, skilled sales staff and a cosy and supportive community in our unique Old Mill building. Contact me Raina on 07730 586526 or 01567 820628 or raina@killincdt.co.uk for an initial chat.

And finally, it will be Christmas before we know it! Don't forget we have wonderful and unique gifts from local Makers right here in Killin at the Old Mill!

Youth Group



Thank you all for your support over our summer activities; we hope you all had lots of fun. Youth Group starts back next Wednesday, with a slight change to groups and times. Please keep an eye on Facebook for the latest information.

Rural Skills Programme



The Rural Skills Programme gives young people aged 14–25 the opportunity to take part in practical rural and land-based activities. Working with local organisations, sessions give young people the chance to try different types of work, develop practical skills and learn more about jobs and opportunities in the rural sector. Activities have included ecological and land-based work.

No previous experience is needed, and young people can take part in individual sessions throughout the year.

For more information, or if you would like to take part or support a session, please contact:

skillsdevelopment@killincdt.co.uk

Projects

Volunteer Drivers Car Scheme

KAT has now taken over responsibility for the overall running of the scheme. We'd like to thank Don and Alicja for all their hard work and are pleased that they have agreed to continue to take the bookings and manage the drivers. A huge thank you on behalf of community to all the drivers. You are doing a great job.

Old Railway path

This project is now complete and hope you agree is a huge success, especially as it managed to go right from Lyon Road, and to the improved parking area at the head of the loch. We'd like to thank our contractors NSB Farming for doing an excellent job and being able to complete it in time for the 5K race.



Tin Church

To recap on this project, the SEC Diocese has consistently preferred to see the Tin Tabernacle transferred into local community ownership and has been in discussions with KAT regarding this. The Diocese's preferred usage is for it to be a multipurpose building that supports community activity, heritage interpretation, retreat and reflection, and simple, affordable accommodation. The full feasibility study, including the business case, has completed and is being reviewed by the KAT board and Diocese. We will keep providing updates as we reach significant milestones of the project.



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2nd Killin & District Scout Group Stirling & Trossachs



We're just getting going after our summer holidays.

We had a very exciting time harvesting the potatoes that have been growing in the summer. We were pleasantly surprised with the wonderful harvest - there were lots of potatoes of all different sizes too! We are looking forward to cooking and crafting with them over the coming term.

A big thank you to all the team who have organised and built the beds from our beavers.

Beaver Scouts are aged 6&7, they meet 6-7pm in Killin on alternate Tuesdays. We will have some space if your child would like to join us after the October holidays. Please email killinbeavers@yahoo.co.uk

Laura Carmichael
Beaver Leader
07708216065



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SJP Approved 11/08/2025



Frost Report

Journey of a Night-time

While ill recently I was taking medication which had a slightly hallucinogenic effect. The outcome of this was that I had one or two vivid dreams. One of these was particularly enjoyable as I relived many old occasions on the hill at night-time.

When fox controlling, it is often necessary to follow a long day on the hill with a watch at night. It's not much fun on your own but it is always in pairs or a small group. The dreamt adventure began somewhere near Comrie on a fox drive in the woods with Lawton Evans. (Keeper of the pack of fox hounds for many years.) Alongside was John Sinclair. The hounds are used to run through woodland to move out foxes who live in there but can move out to neighbouring farmland for the odd lamb chop. A practice which has gone on for many years and still is the same today.

My dream next took me up to Loch Choire in Sutherland and was set nearly 60 years ago when I was learning keepership from the late Jock Cairney. The ground there was laced with pony paths as the stags and hinds were brought in on a pony's back, usually a garron. Some paths had been built years before for the then Duke of Sutherland to race his ponies over the hills from Loch Choire to Ben Armine, two remote shooting lodges. Along one of these paths my dream had me sitting at a fox hole one night with Jock and his one-eyed terrier. We had a heather fire to keep us warm till daylight. It was needed as we were cold and damp in our tweed suits. Not much in the way of reliable waterproofs then or other 'amenities'. Just a flask of black tea. This did happen but I can't remember whether we got a fox. This is probably all history now as the area has been widely planted and the deer have been heavily culled. Mr Fox probably wanders happily around the forest now munching the voles to

prevent them eating the young trees'

Back in Killin, it's great how far and fast you can travel in a dream! There couldn't be mention of foxing in the old days without Old Fred Simpson. I have mentioned him before as the rabbit man who used to cycle to the train at Crianlarich with handlebars full of rabbits. He was also the local fox man to the surrounding farms. Years ago there was a local fox control club where farmers paid in together. He knew every fox den around and had a story to tell about most. After Fred's foxing days were over John Sinclair and I would pop along to Fred's after each foxing day to fill him in on the news in exchange



for the old stories. He had jackets and all sorts hidden in some holes, still to be found by John and I. There was always a brown screw topped beer bottle too. Don't think that was Mr. Fox's!

Next stop was Boreland and Auchlyne with whom we neighboured at den time. Myself, a teenage son Falcon and The Key Man (the keeper

at Auchlyne) were at a den, probably the Auchlyne side of the march and the rain became torrential. Still before the days of 'amenities' we spent the rest of the night under a black silage bag.

I remembered a similar night at the Boreland cairn. With me were John, George or maybe James Sinclair on an extremely cold frosty night at the end of April. We spent most of the night on a tarpaulin with another over us watching the satellites going over in a clear sky. You see, the amenities are improving. If anyone else was mad enough to be on the hill at the time and saw us they

would probably have thought that it was the filming of an episode of 'Last of the Summer Wine.' It is sometimes surprising what is in them thar hills as one morning we returned to the argo to find that it had been moved during the night.

Keepers still go out to dens at night but, if they are anything like my four sons, they will be more comfortable. Over recent years they have tried to outdo each other with hot instant breakfasts ranging from pasta or noodles to various boil in the bag meals. Things have also moved on very much in the clothing and shelter departments with pop up tents, warm waterproofs and draught free vehicles. The downside is that rucksacks are considerably heavier than Old Fred's beer bottle.

But the night sky and the hills remain the same – at least for now. Let's hope that our legislators do not spoil it. Mr Fox also seems to be worried as he was recently found under a desk in an office in The Houses of Parliament. He jumped onto a shelf, and it is thought that he was looking for top secret environmental papers.

Killin Community Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday 1st September

1. Welcome C. Grant (Vice-Chairman) welcomed all those present.

2. Recording of those present and apologies received

Present: C. Grant, S. McRobbie, F. Inglis, W. Simpson, Stirling Councillor M. Earl. Stirling CEO B. Roberts and six other members of the public.

Apologies: A. Aitken, P. Farquharson, S. Inglis and D. Fettes.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Adoption of July 2026 minutes

W. Simpson proposed to accept the minutes as a true record of the previous meeting. This was seconded by S. McRobbie and passed unanimously.

5. Notes of interest from members of the public

There were no notes of interest.

6. Chairmans report

Due to his absence, there was no chairman's report.

7. Financial report

There was no financial report.

8. Stirling Council CEO, Brian Roberts

Stirling CEO B. Roberts was introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

C. Grant said he had received complaints about new parking restrictions on the Main Street. KCC had asked that any measures should allow for one-hour parking and no-return limits. This appeared to have been ignored by SC, who implemented respective limits of 30 minutes. This was unsatisfactory for businesses and residents.

M. Earl feared that any changes might have to wait until a CPMP (car park management plan) has been completed, which could be in three years' time.

B. Roberts felt that changing the limits to an hour would be a simple measure that shouldn't require a three-year wait. He suggested a temporary traffic order could be implemented much sooner. FI said there was an accident on the A827 bridge near the golf club. It involved a vehicle travelling towards the village and another leaving it. She raised concern at the sudden speed limit on the A827. A member of public reported a scary incident on the A827 near the caravan park.

It was felt that some vehicles are travelling at 40mph even after entering the 30mph area.

M. Earl said SC has a speed limit policy and the A827 doesn't meet the criteria for changes to the 30mph zone.

C. Grant stated that on August 24, when there was an emergency incident at the Falls of Dochart that closed the A827, some children were stranded on a school bus and had to walk through 3-foot-high grass due to poorly maintained grass verges.

M. Earl said he gets a lot of complaints about the verges on the C107 road south of Loch Tay Road. He said it needs to be cut at least twice a year but the previous day, Monday August 31, was the first time this has happened this year.

B. Roberts admitted that grass cutting is too infrequent. He said he would rather spend money supporting local businesses to do jobs such as grass and verge cutting, rather than getting council workers up from Callander and Stirling to do these jobs. Using local contractors, he felt, would create more civic pride and be cheaper. This practice could apply to other necessary jobs as well.

M. Earl raised the issue of the lack of a path on the A85 for users of the Ember coach service. A member of public felt that the bus stops are at an unsafe location. C. Grant said Ember was in talks to move it.

B. Roberts explained that the A84/A85 is managed by Transport Scotland all the way down to the Kildean roundabout in Stirling.

He said he would rather SC manages all the roads in its area, apart from motorways.

He did say that the option of a new footway along the A827 connecting Killin and the Ember stop at Lix Toll should be investigated.

He added that SC could buy land to this end, though there are budgetary challenges.

F. Inglis remarked on the state of pavements on the Main Street. She said they hadn't been touched for years, leaving craters. She also said yellow lines opposite the school have badly faded.

B. Roberts said Gary Neill, SC's road services manager, needs to visit the village for a walk-around and talk with locals about issues in the area. This suggestion was welcomed.

He said community councils should receive more detailed responses than currently. Items shouldn't be put on a list and forgotten.

There needs to be a reinvestment in rural roads. There is additional budget for this year and next year but this won't cover everything required.

He admitted that local knowledge and understanding in the roads team is missing because a lot of officers don't live in Killin. We need a different approach, he said.

M. Earl said having a designated rural communications officer would help raise the profile of rural areas.

A member of public said people were leaving dog poo near the caravan site because the bins on this part of the Main Road had been removed.

M. Earl explained that SC is getting rid of this type of bin across its patch due to SC officers experiencing unpleasantness when emptying them.

He said they should have been replaced with new bins, but SC's policy is to only put bins back on council land. He added that this would be a good topic to mention if the SC roads manager visits.

C. Grant congratulated Kay Riddell for 40 years' service at Killin Library. A round of applause was given to Kay.

9. Stirling Council report

Housing allocations were discussed. C. Grant said the village has had problems with tenants from elsewhere in Stirling allocated to Killin.

M. Earl explained that because 50% of prospective tenants present as homeless, the council is under pressure to get people into homes, which may be in an unsuitable location for their needs. C. Grant reported that a Killin resident, who was evicted and left homeless, was rehoused in Crianlarich. Yet another person from outside the village was given a house in Killin.

B. Roberts said part of problem is not enough houses are available. SC needs to build more and buy more. He added that he would raise KC's concerns with the head of housing.

10. Police report

The local police officer couldn't attend but F. Inglis had a copy of the report if anyone wanted to see it.

11. Planning and road report

Planning

S. McRobbie gave an update.

The construction of a utility/lobby extension at Easter Lix had been approved.

The part retrospective erection of boundary fence and gate at Muileann Sabh on Main Street had been approved. The erection of a rear single storey extension and insertion of rooflights at Craigview Cottage on Main Street had been approved.

Roads

Public utility works were due to take place on the C107 south Loch Tay road, between Killin and Ardeonaig.

They would take place on September 7 to 9, and again on September 11.

M. Earl said access would be retained for residents.

12. KAT, LLTNP, Sports Hub and other reports

There were no reports.

13. AOCB

The council unanimously agreed to support Killin Community Choir's application to SSE Renewables for a grant.

F. Inglis reported that SSE had planned activity taking place at the substation in Lochay on September 9 and 10. The public was advised was stay away.

A member of public said Stirling Council had provided paint for the gate at the cemetery.

D. Fettes had contacted the National Parks Association about the steps from the former railway line down to Ballechroisk. They were considered dangerous.

M. Earl would try to organise the cutting back of hedging and vegetation on the junction of Craignavie Road and Manse Road.

People were reportedly going to the toilet at the yard behind the Co-op. Options included a sign illustrating the location of the actual toilet block, and asking the landowner to block off the yard.

14. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday November 3 at 7pm in McLaren Lesser Hall.

Annie Smith

20 March 1938 - 18 July 2026

Our Gran who will be dearly missed by all our family and many dear friends.

Gran met GG (George Smith) when she was working at Kings House, as a waitress in 1956. They then married in 1957.

Uncle Gordon was born 1959, then our mum Freda in 1961.

Gran had a wonderful life in Killin, especially when she started her Plant Nursery at their home Muliean Sabh, Killin. Wow what a wonderful plant business she made.

At a young age myself and my little sister Alison would go and help her with any planting on, sowing and watering all



the many plants. We loved helping her in the Nursery.

Growing up she taught us to bake cakes etc, cook and iron clothes. The ironing was that fun, I always made sure she had some when I went down to see her and GG.

Gran loved her grandchildren, great grandchildren and her great great grandchild Colton, who was born the day after her 88th Birthday.

Words cannot express how much we will miss her. She will always be in our thoughts everyday. You are at peace Gran and reunited with GG. Love you always Gran, cherished mum to Gordon and Freda and much loved by all her Family.

Donna Winton

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Scottish Wildlife Trust unveils a new season of nature talks

The Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust is looking forward to another inspiring season of talks, with a programme of expert speakers covering everything from wildlife conservation and habitat restoration to photography and overseas adventures.

The monthly talks take place at 7.30pm on Monday evenings at The Tryst in Pitlochry and offer a great opportunity to hear from experts, learn more about the natural world and meet others with an interest in wildlife and the environment.

This season's programme is:

- 19 October: *Dalnacardoch: the beginning of a restoration journey* – Sam Buckland
- 16 November: *Loch of the Lowes: a place for wildlife* – Raz Rasmussen
- 14 December: *Through the lens: wildlife photography at Dùn Coillich and beyond* – Fred Cochrane
- 18 January: *Exploring the wildlife of the Galápagos and Costa Rica* – Brian Mullins
- 15 February: *Leading the John Muir Trust: an ecologist's perspective* – David Balharry
- 15 March: *Strategic invasive species control in Northeast Scotland* – Mark Purrrman-Charles
- 19 April: *Riverwoods and lichens* – Petra Vergunst

A suggested donation of £3 for non-members and £2 for members (cash on the door) helps support the talks.

To receive updates on future events, sign up to the Scottish Wildlife Trust mailing list at <https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-mailing-list/> and select "Events and information from my local group".

Talks are subject to change. For more information, contact branch chairman Mark Aquilina on 07796 561844 or email markandrosie@btinternet.com



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Old Mill Vararfeldr Exhibition



We had a great opening event for our new exhibition: Vararfeldr, Weaving New Life in Archaeology. Thanks to all who came along, especially those who came in costume- you know who you are!

The exhibition was created by Old Mill Maker weaver Sarah Rosenthal Almirall, and writer and researcher Alicia Anne Adams. This is what they have to say about the exhibition:

When you imagine a Viking king, what do you see? Is it a mighty sword? A jewelled torc? Or perhaps a mighty, shaggy cloak blowing in the wind, bringing to mind legends of bear-skinned warriors?



That heavy cloak is called a vararfeldr, and is woven from loose locks of wool, giving it an impressive, voluminous look. Used by seafaring Vikings from the 9th Century, they provided natural insulation and waterproofing due to the lanolin in the locks.

These cloaks are described in historic law books, mentioned in sagas, depicted in tapestries, and a Viking king even took his name from one. Remnants have been found in Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Scotland, and the Isle of Man. It is clear that these remarkable pieces of craft were an important part of Viking life, as a unit of trade, a defence against the elements, and a mark of status.



As a modern maker of vararfeldir using historic methods and tools, Sarah Rosenthal-Almirall has been on a journey to improve our understanding of these amazing textiles by transforming rare archaeological records of fabric fragments, preserved over centuries, into living, tactile objects.

Together with writer and researcher Alicia Anne Adams, Sarah is sharing the exciting history of these Viking cloaks via an international touring exhibition, and offering visitors a chance to see, feel, and even wear her amazing replica vararfeldir, made using archaeological reports

of surviving historical remnants.

These cloaks will be based on remnants found in Iceland, Norway, Scotland and the Isle of Man, demonstrating the variety and versatility of the garment. The exhibition will include excerpts from historical texts and reports from archaeological digs, shedding light on how the vararfeldr became such an ubiquitous symbol across Northern Europe.

The exhibition will also feature a series of short stories, touching on the people who wove, traded and wore these remarkable cloaks, from weavers to warriors to legendary rulers.

The exhibition will be at the Old Mill Killin until November the 1st, you can even try on a Vararfeldr yourself!

We hope to see you soon!



Table Tennis

Table tennis can be played by almost anyone at any age and of any standard. It is easier to learn and play than tennis or badminton but has comparable social and health benefits. It requires little equipment or technique.

A table tennis group is starting up in Killin, playing in the Lesser Hall on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm. Dates will depend on availability of the Hall and the players.

The next session is arranged for



Tuesday 13th October. No need to join or book, you can simply turn up, though it would be helpful to hear from those interested. Bats and balls will be provided.

We had only one table for the first session but hope to get another one soon, with help from Active Stirling.

Dates will be confirmed on the Killin Community Noticeboard Facebook group, as events or announcements.

To express interest or find out more, contact Alan Dawson on 07421 022411.

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Tombreck Market Garden

August and early September was our peak harvesting season, with the picking of several different types of potatoes, broad beans, garden peas, cabbage, broccoli, beetroot, carrots, Swiss Chard, kale, courgettes, cucumbers and even some tomatoes and tomatillos!

Nine volunteers from SSE Transmission came to harvest the maincrop and heritage potatoes on a beautiful September day, and in

of our crops to mature prematurely even with watering. During this time, we received devastating news from our friends in England, where the prolonged drought meant that many growers had to ration their water supplies and abandon entire crops in order to save others.



August we were at the Killin Show with MacGregors Community Hub, sharing a gazebo and promoting both businesses. Tombreck Market Garden had a table full of produce for sale so look out for us next year!

Overall, we have had a good summer albeit challenging with several hot dry spells causing some



We are fortunate to be farming on the side of a mountain in Scotland, but who knows what the future holds. Please get in touch if you would like to know more, visit the garden, find out how to support us or buy our produce.

We grow without the use of chemicals or artificial fertiliser, using mostly hand tools. Our produce is sold in the Tombreck Farm Shop (six miles out of Killin on the A827 north Lochayside road) which is open every day.

Sue Manning
Tombreck Farm
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suemanning@tombreck.co.uk



A service was held at the Killin War Memorial on the 15th August to commemorate the 81st VJ Day anniversary.



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Local Planning Applications

National Park

23 Jul 2026

Proposal: Installation of vertical
flue
Location: Glengarry House Main
Street Killin
Applicant: Mr John Ward
Applicaton Type: Listed Building
Consent
Decision: Current

26 Aug 2026

Proposal: Change of use of two
holiday lets to form one
residential flat (sui generis)
Location: Heather Craiglea Main
Street Killin
Applicant: Ms Althea Sutherland
Applicaton Type: Detailed
Planning Permission
Decision: Current

Perth & Kinross Council

Nothing to Report

Stirling Council

15 Jul 2026

Proposal: Extending the upper
floor to form a mansard
accommodation in the roof
Location: Tigh Na Craig Killin
Applicant: Mr Fred Stroyan
Applicaton Type: Full
Decision: Approve with
Conditions

24 Jul 2026

Proposal: Replacement fire exit
stairs
Location: Firbush Point Field
Centre Ardeonaig
Applicant: The University Of
Edinburgh
Applicaton Type: Full
Decision: Awaiting decision

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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 07879 258229
- Indoor Bowls, 7.30pm, Lesser Hall (winter months only)

Tuesday

- Bee Creative, 10am-12pm, Community Rooms
- Bookbug, 10:30am, Killin Library
- Beavers, 6-7pm, Sports Pavillion (every other Tuesday)
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- Pilates 5.15pm & 6.15pm 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.

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]
- Killin Comm Choir, 7.30pm-9pm, Killin Church

Thursday

- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark
- Killin Community Hub, 12.30-2.30 Sports Pavillion
- CAB drop-in session 12.30-2.30, Killin Sports Pavillion
- 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 McLaren 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

Various:

- Walk in the Park dates, p24

October

- 1st KAT AGM p26
- 13th Table Tennis p34
- 15th Auchreoch Forest event p23
- 16th BHS talk p9
- 19th SWT Pitlochry talk p32
- 22nd SWT Callander talk p23
- 24th KBAC Community Night p19
- 31st Dun Coillich barbecue p8

November

- 3rd KCC meeting p30
- 16th SWT Pitlochry talk p32
- 19th SWT Callander talk p23

Church Services

Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church

- 1st Sunday of the month - 10am service with Sunday School
- 2nd Sunday of the month - 10am Cafe Church service
- 3rd Sunday of the month - 10am Communion service with Sunday School
- 4th & 5th Sundays of the month - 10am Service with Creche
- Tuesdays 8pm - Bible Study
- Last Monday of the month - 2pm service in the Falls of Dochart Home
- Third Thursday of the month - 2pm Guild

Website: <https://killinardeonaigchurch.org.uk/>

Contact for more information: sessionclerk@killinardeonaigchurch.org.uk

Episcopal Church - www.strathearn-episcopal-churches.org

Roman Catholic Church - Sunday Mass in Callander at 11:30am

Which bin? Tues/Wed

7 Oct

13 Oct, 14 Oct

20 Oct

27 Oct, 28 Oct

none

10 Nov, 11 Nov

17 Nov

24 Nov, 25 Nov

Green=green bin

Blue=blue bin

Brown=brown bin

Grey=grey bin Red=glass

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

Mobile Libraries

Please see the council websites for any updates.

Crianlarich/Tyndrum

Fortnightly Friday

9 Oct, 23 Oct, 6 Nov, 20 Nov

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

20 Oct, 10 Nov

Tombreck 16.10-16.30

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