

# Ben Ledi View

Aug/Sept 2022

Issue 325

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# Ben Ledi View

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The *Ben Ledi View* is a community newspaper produced and distributed bi-monthly by volunteers free of charge to approx. 2,000 households and businesses in the Callander area. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views, beliefs or opinions of the Editorial Committee, who also reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any particular letter or article. Contributions will only be published if accompanied by a contact name and address; these will be withheld at the author's request. Articles and advertisements are accepted and printed in good faith.

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## Hello Readers

We have some good news to report on page 3 of this month's edition, the opening of the Callander Play Park. After three years of hard work from many individuals and organisations in the community the children of the town have a play area they can really enjoy. Let's hope the current good weather continues for them!

June also saw Callander's Citizen of the Year awarded to Mark Nicols. Congratulations to Mark, who received the award for his contributions to the community when the pandemic hit. During lockdown, Mark provided meals for delivery to a range of people in different parts of Callander, as part of the Support Scheme. He has recently been organising the Thursday Craigard Club meals at the Callander Youth Project (CYP), for older members of the community.

Two positive developments for the tourist sector have been announced recently. The Bracklinn Falls should have a replacement bridge by early 2023. The new bridge is going to be a simpler structure than the last one, which fits in well with the landscape of the falls. It's also going to be built to last, up to 120 years is quoted. It's going to be made of "weathering steel" which doesn't need painting or regular maintenance thus helping to protect

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the Keltie Water below it. Also, the refurbishment of the iconic steamship that graces Loch Katrine, the Sir Walter Scott, is due to be completed by September this year, complete with its new eco-friendly boilers! Sailing on the 122-year-old boat across Loch Katrine is one of the tourist highlights of the Trossachs and has been sorely missed this last couple of years.

I personally take great pleasure in seeing the Callander Jazz and Blues festival sponsor this month's edition. For me the festival is one of the many reasons that makes this small town special. Drawing fans from all over the country, it makes the first weekend in October a special experience with 50 live performances in 11 separate venues. I'm looking forward to it already!

I hope you all have had a chance to look at our brand-new website, <https://benlediview.org/> Our previous website was quite out of date. We'd like to keep the new one relevant to the community of Callander so we would very much appreciate it if we could get readership feedback about what to include on the site. Please email me at [convenor@benlediview.org](mailto:convenor@benlediview.org) with any suggestions you may have.

Wendy Munro, our advertising coordinator, is leaving the Ben Ledi View team after two and a half years of excellent service. On behalf of all on the management committee I'd like to express many thanks to Wendy and send her best wishes for the future.

## Convenor

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## Opening of Camp Place Play Park, Callander

The sun shone on Sunday 19th June for the re-opening of Callander's Camp Place Play Park. Breezy enough to keep away the midges and dry the grass but not enough to send the gazebos flying. At last, after a three-year project, Camp Place Play Park was ready for opening and Mark Nicols, Callander's Citizen of the Year, cut the ribbon.

The project really started in 2019 when Callander Community Council decided that the planning gain fund held by Stirling Council from the Robertson Way development needed to be supplemented if it was to make the substantial improvement that the play park needed.

With the help of Stirling Council, and with Callander Community Council driving the project, an additional £100,000 was raised, which, together with the planning gain of about £58,500 gave a substantial sum with which to plan the park. The development included play equipment with inclusive facilities to enable children, irrespective of any physical and mental challenges they may have, to find something to enjoy in our play park. Plus Forth Valley was helpful in helping with our design choices. A recent UK government publication from 2021 emphasised how much inclusive play design is needed.

If you have visited the park recently, you will know it has undergone quite a transformation and now includes a wide variety of equipment, both new and some pre-existing. Even the oldest equipment – the swings, have had new life breathed into them by being painted in a variety of bright colours – so they almost look like new again!

On our opening day, which was also Fathers' Day this year, there were stalls to enjoy, including a Swap or Buy toy and book stall run by the Primary school, who also provided some fun games including wellie throwing. The Brownie home-baking proved very popular, as did the face-painting. Callander P7 drew some amazing anti-litter posters which were put up around the play park and the message worked, as the final litter collection was small. Rotary Club ran some fun games, including Splat-the-Rat and Potty Dotty and also had a drawing competition. Both the posters and the drawings were judged by Callander Rotary Club and prizes given.

Trossachs Search and Rescue brought their amazing dog, and some heart start equipment, the football and rugby juniors were well represented and were also displaying their plans for future development of the sports clubs. Forth Valley Orienteers also had a stand – they have held several very popular sessions in the last few months in Callander.

A generous offer came from a kind local Camp Place resident who mowed all the play park that morning, so everything was perfect for the event.

Lots to do, plenty of sunshine and smiles, happy children, happy parents, especially the dads and grandads who came along, so a very happy day was had by all. It was great to see our community coming together and just informally enjoying their local park and picnicking in the sunshine.

We haven't stopped yet: there are still 4 wheelchair accessible picnic tables to go in, plus a repainted bench, hopefully at least one other litter bin, the rotten logs are kindly being replaced by Cambusmore Estate, and we are hoping to brighten up the path from the pedestrian access to the enclosed area with thermoplastic images on the tarmac. As you and your family use the play park, if you have any ideas on future improvements or extras, please let us know using the email [campplaceplaypark@gmail.com](mailto:campplaceplaypark@gmail.com) Next task – the BMX/bike track!

Many thanks from the community to all our grant funders including:

- FCC (Landfill grants)
- Viridor Credits (Landfill Grants)
- Awards for All (National Lottery)
- National Park – Green Recovery Award
- Stirling Council (Community Pride Fund)
- Town Centre Fund (Stirling Council)
- Callander Hydro (Callander Community Development Trust)
- Callander Enterprise
- Airtricity Fund (now called Braes of Doune Community Fund)

If anyone has any questions or ideas for the future please contact us.

*Marilyn Moore*  
Callander Community Council



Face Painting (Marilyn Moore).



Toy and book swap (Marilyn Moore).

**Visit Our New Website at <https://benlediview.org>**

## Coffee, Cake, Chatter



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## THANK YOU

Two of our Ben Ledi View deliverers - Alex Mitchell of Katrine Crescent and Chris Gillespie of Tulipan Crescent - have recently retired from their delivery duties after many years delivering our magazines in all weathers. We would like to thank Alex and Chris very much for their sterling service to the BLV.

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| Callander | Gartmore   | Locheamhead |                |
| Deansston | Killearn   | Strathblane |                |

We may be able to build in other communities in the future - please let us know if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us plan for the future.

If you are interested in renting one of our properties when they become available please contact us:

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## Callander Community Council (CCC) Summer Update From June To August

### June 13th: Scheduled meeting - live

The June meeting was held as a live event in the Callander Youth Project (CYP). This was the first time since April 2020 that the CC members and members of the public had been able to meet together in the same physical space. Something that had, before that, been 'normal'.

We were glad to have three members of the public with us and we all considered the effect of space on discussion, involvement and availability. The ease of direct communication in a live meeting was generally felt to be a strong positive factor; the practical problems for many people of attending it were recognised as an equally strong negative aspect for others.

The outcome? A commitment to ensuring future hybrid meetings can combine the best features of both. Careful thought is being given to ensuring there is equal accessibility for both those participating online and in person.

Space, acoustics, meeting protocols, technical equipment - all will be checked, rehearsed, discussed- and tried out before and at the 15th August meeting. Come and join us and add your own voice and personal experience. The aim is to find a new, post-Covid 19 format that will work for everybody into the future.

### Revised meeting schedules 2022-2023

Another item discussed at the meeting was the number and frequency of our scheduled meetings. The Secretary had researched the practice of other Community Councils and had discovered Callander was the only one to have 12 meetings in a year! One Council only has 6, the Stirling Council minimum. We agreed 9 was a practical number. Our aim is to ensure that dates during school holidays can be avoided.

Another result of this research was the suggestion that moving our meetings to the third Monday of the relevant month would also avoid school and other holidays, as well as removing the date clash with a neighbouring Community Council. It was agreed to adopt this schedule for 2022-23.

### Local Place Plan (LPP)

Everyone will be aware that the LPP public consultancy closed on 30th June, with the results posted on [https://callandersfuture.uk/consultation\\_results](https://callandersfuture.uk/consultation_results)

These show the percentages of 'agree', 'don't agree', 'don't know' responses.

The Coordinator has described the next stages in an article in this issue. There is much to discuss and to prioritise with the various official bodies and local groups (including CCC and Callander Community Development Trust (CCDT)) in order to build on these aspirations for the community future.

### Citizen of the year 2021: Mark Nicols

It was a pleasure to make this award to Mark Nicols as he formally opened the rejuvenated Camp Place Play Park on 19th June.

Mark had won this award for his outstanding work with various sections of the community, and this was an ideal opportunity to present the certificate to him.

The award recognised his cross-community contribution:

- All sectors during lockdown - over 2,000 meals supplied as part of the Support Scheme
- Older members - the Thursday Craigard Cub lunches at the CYP and the Seniors' meal there in May
- Younger members on the CYP apprentice scheme
- Even younger members in ongoing discussions for the BMX track

As one person told me before the presentation to Mark: 'He is a chef with a social conscience'.

*Susan Holden  
Chair, Callander Community Council*



## National Park Board Elections

The counting for the elections of community representatives to the Board of the National Park took place on Thursday 7th July, the day before the BLV Deadline. I am pleased to say that I was elected to be the board member for Ward 3: Callander. Over the next few weeks I will catch up on the Park's plans for Callander and will report back in the next edition of the BLV. For now I would like to thank all those who helped and supported me during the election process and thank everyone who voted for me.

*Richard Johnson*



### St Kessog's update

Thank you to those who showed their support for the re-opening of St Kessog's, in the recent LPP survey. The results indicated that 84% of those participating (357 responses) thought Callander should have a community hall and that "as the landmark building in our Main Street, St Kessog's provides a natural gathering place for the community." This proposal will now be incorporated into Callander's Local Place Plan and submitted to the National Park and is consistent with the replies we received from our open invitation for support we made to you in August/September 2020.

Yes, it's taking a long time...but yes we are confident that it's going to happen.

To this end our new group of volunteers has been meeting and working on the application to set up the charitable trust "Friends of St Kessog's". We have now submitted this and when it is approved, they will become the trustees, whereas in subsequent years there will be elections.

Communication is always a difficult thing to get right and we are trying, but clearly we are not reaching everyone - there was a letter in a recent issue of the Observer, from someone in Callander saying they did not know what was happening to St Kessog's and thought there was a lack of public information.

The BLV has included an update on St Kessog's in every issue over at least the last year (thank you BLV editors). These articles included architect's floor plans, a description of the building, how it will be used and organisational information. We have put similar articles online on the Callander Discussion Forum and a while ago we even leafleted every property in Callander. But we will keep on trying, maybe with some drop-by sessions in the Square so we can listen to your thoughts on your community centre.

If you have any questions or want more information, please email [StKessogs.survey@gmail.com](mailto:StKessogs.survey@gmail.com) or leave a phone or text message on 07591312227.

We really do want to hear from you. Thank you

*Susan King*

### Callander's Place Plan – Update

The final public consultation closed on June 30th and the results can be found, online, at: [https://callandersfuture.uk/consultation\\_results](https://callandersfuture.uk/consultation_results)

Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate. All 35 of the proposals received majority support and will therefore go forward into our Place Plan submission to the National Park. We received input from an estimated 23-25% of all Callander households.

By the time you read this a list of priorities will be established, along with recommendations as to which body will be responsible, who will deliver the proposals and who should be consulted. This will allow everyone with an interest to understand the steps needed to complete each project.

As planned, I will be stepping down once I have delivered the Place Plan to the National Park. Callander Community Council and Callander Community Development Trust have accepted my suggestions to implement the proposals set out in the Place Plan.

These are:

1. That the existing Callander Partnership (which includes the Park, Stirling Council, our ward councillors, our MSP, social enterprises as well as Callander Community Council and Callander Community Development Trust) should function as the steering group – providing oversight and overseeing delivery of the proposals in the Place Plan.
2. That an experienced Community Development Officer should be employed to act as a project manager and to support community liaison. Funding applications for this role have been submitted to Scottish Government and Stirling Council.
3. That the Place Plan should be 'owned' by the community rather than one or two local organisations. This means that any action taken should, first and foremost, be in the interests of Callander residents and businesses.

We will keep the community informed of the Place Plan progress, ahead of a final draft, via the website and our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/213829557463398>

Thank you, again, to everyone who participated in our surveys, focus groups and face to face discussions.

*Helen Terry*  
Callander Place Plan co-ordinator





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## Dental health in dogs and cats

Dental disease is very common in cats and dogs. Surveys show that after the age of three years, about seven out of ten pets have some kind of tooth disorder.

It starts as plaque, a sticky film of saliva, food particles and bacteria that covers the teeth and causes discolouration, smell and inflamed gums (gingivitis) and in some patients results in pain, ulceration and bleeding. The disease can be reversed or controlled at this stage.

If left unattended the plaque can build up on their teeth and harden to form a brown substance called tartar, starting at the base of the tooth along the gum line, in the grooves and then it can gradually build up until it covers the whole of its surface and extends under the gum line to cause periodontal disease.

Periodontal disease is a more severe form of dental disease that causes irreversible changes: gum recession and loss of bone; exposure of the roots of the teeth progressing onto loose teeth, tooth loss and or tooth root abscess and infection of the jawbone. There is also the concern regarding bacteria getting into the blood vessels in the mouth and spreading via the bloodstream round the body, causing damage elsewhere in the body.

So, there are a wide range of signs to look out for depending on what is happening in your pet's mouth, from smell to the pain resulting from advanced dental disease which may cause difficulties in eating. If your pet dribbles excessively or sometimes the saliva is flecked with blood, has blood on their chew toys or shows signs of pain or discomfort such as head shaking and pawing at its mouth, reluctance to eat biscuits or to chew things, then it may have problems with its teeth.

How can you help your pet when comes to dental disease?

1. Check your pet's teeth and mouth regularly for signs of dental disease
2. Visit your vet if you are worried about your pet's teeth/mouth and at least once a year for a dental check (this can be part of their vaccination health check).
3. Act on early signs of dental disease. It may seem over the top to go ahead with a dental procedure under general anaesthetic if your pet does not seem affected by teeth problems but remember that early-stage disease is completely reversible and as disease advances, it becomes harder and harder to treat.
4. Proactive dental care at home. This includes regularly checking your pet's teeth and mouth and taking steps to keep their teeth clean. Brushing your pet's teeth daily with a pet specific toothpaste is the single best way to keep them free of dental disease but there are also products to soften plaque, washes to neutralise bacteria, dental diets, dental chews and dental toys to help slow up the progression of disease if brushing is not possible.

Speak to the nurses here at Riverside Veterinary Clinic in Callander; they can advise you on all the ways you can keep your pet's mouth healthy.

*Marslaidh Smith, Veterinary Surgeon, Riverside Veterinary Clinic, Callander*



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## Harvest Thanksgiving and Lunch

Callander Kirk Sunday 25th September at 11.15.  
In aid of Start Up Stirling  
Soup Lunch at 12.30  
Entertainment Callander Kirk  
Junior choir

All Welcome



## Messy Church

We will be meeting again on  
Saturday 24th September at  
10.30 am in Callander Kirk Hall, South  
Church Street

Please come and join us for fun, food  
and family worship

Look forward to seeing you there

If you would like to know more about Messy Church, please  
speak to [Lara Rawson](mailto:Lara.Rawson@btinternet.com) on 01877 339324



## Deepbluedirt

Poor Chris is still recovering from a broken neck from a crash on his bike on the tracks built up the Stank, below Ben Ledi in June last summer.

So our sailing season hasn't started yet, we've been recuperating back in Almerimar; a small town which has a comfortable yet cheap marina tucked away on the Andalusian coast. We are hunkered down on a pontoon shared with a mixture of cruisers, old school salty spanish sailors and the sporadic group of fleeting race boats. It's really interesting all the people you meet, I

love the variety involved in this lifestyle.

We have been balancing recovery with boat building jobs for fellow sailors as they drop in and out... keeping our bank balance ticking over. Luckily Chris's boat building history has allowed him to do all sorts here from rigging checks/upgrades, engine diagnosis and multiple stainless steel jobs. It turns out, as soon as fellow sailors hear you have a TIG welder onboard they are all dropping by. I've painted the bottom of the hull of the odd boat and done a

few cleaning jobs to help along the way too, alongside being the glamorous assistant for Chris. Last year Chris managed to secure the position of a roaming installer for Hydrovane; a Canadian company that produces self steering systems for yachts. A Hydrovane is a super impressive yet simple mechanical self steering system that mounts to the transom of the boat (the back) and steers using an auxiliary rudder steered via

a big (red) vane. A design I'm sure we nearly ached all those years ago with my Dad on a DIY raft race down the River Teith. So we had a lot of fitting jobs on an array of boats where I was always the one to crawl into the small places to to tighten the bolts up, where I'd end up a sweaty mess!

We installed our carbon fibre bowsprit onto the deck of Berzerk which we truly can't wait to try out once we set sail. It basically allows us to fly a few extra light wind sails when there is very little wind, which is quite common in the Med, so we are armed and ready as we certainly can't afford the diesel prices now.

And saving the best till last...We helped sail a 50ft Oyster Yacht on a three day trip to Cartagena, including a beautiful anchorage at Cabo De Gata. Sailing this boat was a real experience; the size difference creates for a much more stable ride in the swell and we certainly enjoyed the space it offered down below, especially for Chris's neck! So naturally our minds are whirring to work out how we achieve this size of boat for ourselves one day~ we hope to always watch the sunset on the ocean, a feeling you can't describe.

Jenni Foster



## 10 Snippets

### Steamship Sir Walter Scott .

It's taken a while but eventually the Steamship Trust has just about raised all the money required to complete the repairs and upgrades to the Steamship Sir Walter Scott. This was helped enormously by the announcement of a £130,000 grant award from the Heritage Lottery Fund in June this year. This award, along with the substantial sum raised from the ongoing public appeal and a series of smaller grant awards,



will enable work to begin in earnest to replace decking and the two cracked boilers on the historic Steamship.

Whilst we are still around £35,000 short of the £500,000 we will finally need, the grant has allowed us to move ahead and order the boilers and hope for delivery in August.



The new boilers are being supplied by Byworth Boilers in Yorkshire and have been designed to ensure the steamship can greatly reduce its carbon footprint with the use of a revolutionary hydrogen and vegetable oil fuel. Hydrotreated vegetable oil, (HVO), is a paraffinic diesel fuel that can be used as a direct replacement for both red and white diesel and is synthesised from 100% renewable raw materials such as vegetable oils, animal oils and fats, which reduces net CO2 greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 90%. Best of all HVO isn't affected by the congealing that previous vegetable based fuels

### Update from Loch Katrine

suffered from in cooler temperatures.

A band of enthusiastic volunteers from the Steamboat Association of Great Britain, have already been busy, skilfully stripping out old decking and rubbing down the wheelhouse, handrails, and seats as part of the preparatory work for the fuller £500,000 restoration programme which is anticipated to take three months and will hopefully be completed in September 2022

*Loch Katrine Team*



### Craigard Club

Since lockdown restrictions eased, Craigard Club members have been meeting on Thursdays in the Function Room of Callander Youth Project to enjoy sharing conversation and a delicious lunch prepared by chef Marc Nicols and his trainee hospitality students. Youth Project staff serve lunch, getting to know Craigard guests, a lively mix of generations. This high class dining experience is enhanced by the view of the gardens and the backdrop of Ben Ledi.

During June there were two special celebration lunch parties. One was the Golden Jubilee of the establishment of Craigard Club in 1972, so while the royals celebrated a platinum jubilee, the toast in Callander was to the continuation of the Craigard Club with its emphasis on friendship, good company and good food. The other party was a 99th birthday party for the club's oldest member, Jessie Pate, who posed for many photos, talked with old friends and met some of the newest members. A birthday cake decorated with flowers, instead of candles, finished off an enjoyable event.

The club's summer outing was a sailing on Loch Katrine, followed by enjoying a meal in Scott's Bistro at Tigh Mhor. The club appreciated the welcome and generosity of both the Steamship Company and Scott's Bistro which made for a great day out.

After a break during July and August, the club resumes on Thursday 15th September for lunch 12 noon-2pm. If you'd like to join, please get in touch with any Craigard member you know, or phone [01877 330996](tel:01877330996).

*Anne Docherty, Administrator, on behalf of Callander Community Development Trust*





## Church mice to run amok at the Flower Fest

A small army of church mice will be invading nooks and crannies in St Andrew's church during the 13/14th August. Open Saturday: 10am to 4pm, and Sunday: 12noon to 4pm. Morning coffee and afternoon teas available. Admission free, donations welcome.

'The delightful wee creatures have been produced by the U3A Knit & Natter group, which meets weekly in the church hall – and we hope younger visitors will count how many they can find during their visit,' says Liz Balding, vestry secretary.

'The weekend is a celebration of the amazing work of a host of multi-talented people who live in Callander. As well as all the eye-catching flower arrangements, the Knitters & Natters, Felters and Quilters groups will be exhibiting their work in the Lady Chapel and a group of local artists will be exhibiting floral art, including water colours and postcards – that will also be available to buy.

Children from both Primary and High Schools have entered a painting competition, to be judged by our visitors.'

On Saturday evening, David Spotiswoode, the organist and choirmaster from St Ninian's Glasgow, will be giving an organ recital, 7.30pm, tickets £5, available in the Visitor Information Centre or on the door. 'I was privileged to hear a rehearsal recently and David is a truly wonderful performer. Listening to the music and marvelling at the various exhibits should make it an evening to remember,' she says.

For more information contact: Liz Balding: 07825 635428; [www.standrewschurchcallander.org.uk](http://www.standrewschurchcallander.org.uk).

## THANK YOU FOR THE DAYS!

The 16th and 17th of June was the 50th reunion of 37 McLaren High School classmates who had left in 1972, with friends from 1971 and 1973. They arrived from all over the world to meet up, exchange addresses and enjoy the good company they'd known five decades before, including former teachers.

Thursday afternoon, 16th June 2022

On arrival, they were warmly welcomed by Linda Darby (Ross), Heather Gallacher (Williams) and Douglas Connell (London organiser, who had a pivotal role in events). Name badges found their rightful owners.

Despite the rain our excellent official photographer Duncan Peet, captured the moment in an Former Pupils group photograph, and throughout the day Winfried Wahner, Hilda Findlay's husband, took many formal and informal shots

We then sat down to a delicious buffet lunch with wine and enjoyable speeches from Douglas Connell and Marc Fleming, current Head Teacher of the School who welcomed us. Douglas touched on the unavoidable absence of David Masson (Global organiser), who had initially proposed the event pre-pandemic and whose enthusiasm and initiative contributed to the event's success. Douglas went on to give comprehensive thanks to the teachers past who had given us such a good start in our lives. A special tribute was addressed to Mr Ian Milligan, our inspirational music teacher and "music man par excellence", who was present despite a broken clavicle: no, this was not a musical instrument, as Douglas ad libbed!

The event was a huge success. Tommy McClymont, Europe-based singer/songwriter brought the Reunion to a suitably musical end with an unaccompanied Richard Thompson song, rather than one of his own, and the remaining attendees reluctantly made their way homeward.

Friday 17th June 2022



In a Callander downpour, some 23 FPs re-convened next morning at the School for a ceremony commemorating the Reunion by the planting of a young tree (an acer situated near the side of the school with a commemorative plaque).

Arriving back in the entrance hall, we were shown the commemorative brass

plaque for the tree, and then, in the soft and oft remembered Callander rain, we said our fond farewells of the "definitely see you again" kind. A show of hands and it was agreed that the next Reunion would take place in 2032, and with that the FPs departed, with lots of new memories made over the two days.

Some of us then took part in a Reunion Golf Tournament

Anne White





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## Callander Medical Practice

By the time of publication we will have moved towards a more blended way of working, with an increase in the number of face to face GP appointments. We will still be retaining telephone consultations along with the face to face slots. Our trained admin team will continue to signpost patients to the most appropriate care – this is not always the GP and we request that patients embrace this as we have a variety of staff available to deal with requests including Advanced Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacists, Mental Health Nurses and Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioners. These staff can all prescribe and work alongside the GPs in the practice.

In July we welcomed Dr Allana Capiello to the Practice as a Partner. Dr Capiello will be working 4 days per week in practice and brings lots of experience and knowledge from her previous roles.

The past two years have been very difficult for us all - patients, partners and staff. During the pandemic we have been very short staffed but have managed to continue to provide a GP service in the area. We are looking forward to a degree of “normality” returning. We appreciate your ongoing support.

## Congratulations

The practice wish to congratulate Susan Brown and Ceri Stoddard, the Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs) on their recent qualifications.

Ceri Stoddard passed MSc in Advancing Practice and Susan Brown has obtained her Post Graduation Diploma in Advancing Practice. They both studied extremely hard, while still working at the Practice and we are very proud of them and their fantastic achievements- they both passed with distinction. Patients will benefit from their increased knowledge and skills and we are delighted they are part of our practice team.

## Minor Injuries Unit - Stirling

You should now call NHS 24 on [111](tel:111), day or night before attending the Minor Injuries Unit.

NHS 24 can offer advice or arrange for you to speak to one of our local healthcare professionals who can organise a telephone/video consultation or arrange an appointment for you to be seen in either Stirling or Larbert. This means you wouldn't need to wait and helps avoid overcrowding to keep everyone safe.

The Minor Injuries Unit at Stirling Health and Care Village provides treatment for a wide range of minor cuts, burns and suspected broken bones and is open 9am – 9pm, 7 days a week (including public holidays).

## COOK'S CORNER by Audrey Corrieri

### Orange Pudding Cake

### Makes 9 squares

### Ingredients

- 100g margarine
- 75g caster sugar
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Finely grated rind and juice of half a large orange
- 1 tsp vanilla essence
- 75g self-raising flour
- 1tsp baking powder
- 2tbsp ground almonds
- Quartered orange slices to decorate

### Method

Preheat oven to 180 C/ 160 Fan/Gas No 4. Line a 18cm square cake tin with non-stick baking paper. Beat together the margarine and sugar in a bowl until smooth. Beat in the egg until combined. Mix in the orange rind, orange juice and vanilla essence. Sift in the flour and baking powder, mix gently. Mix in the ground almonds. Spoon the mixture into the tin and spread level.

Back in oven for 30 mins or until the surface springs back when lightly pressed.

Cut into squares and serve straightaway, or turn out onto a wire rack to cool completely before cutting. Decorate with the quartered orange slices.

## Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) Connect Callander Group

Do you or a member of your family or a friend live with sight loss? There is a small group meeting monthly in the Library which might be of benefit. Some times we just chat and share experiences, at other times there may be a speaker.

We'll be meeting from 2 - 4pm Wednesday August 24th and September 21st.

For more information contact Dorothy Mitchell on [01877 339 827](tel:01877339827).



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If things are getting to you

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This number is FREE to call

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Text or call

**jo@samaritans.org**  
Email

**samaritans.org**  
Website

**SAMARITANS**

**If you can't wait until your GP surgery reopens**

**111**

**NHS 24**

[www.nhs24.scot](http://www.nhs24.scot)

**HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY SEXUAL VIOLENCE?**  
For support and information please call Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline

Freephone:  
**08088 01 03 02**

Email:  
[support@rapecrisisScotland.org.uk](mailto:support@rapecrisisScotland.org.uk)  
For more information:  
[www.rapecrisisScotland.org.uk](http://www.rapecrisisScotland.org.uk)

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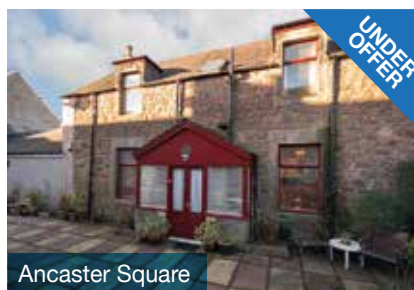
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Would like to thank her clients for their continual support  
Wishing you all a happy 2022

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## What's On for August and September

### REGULAR MEETINGS

#### Mondays:

- Mondays: Body Fit 7.00-7.45 am McLaren Leisure
- Active Life 9.30-10.30 am McLaren Leisure
- Chair Yoga 11.00-12noon McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit 1.00-1.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Climbing Club (children) 4.00pm and 5.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Soccer School (5-7 yrs) 5.00pm, (8-11 yrs) 6 pm McLaren Leisure
- Highland Dancing 4.00pm Kirk Hall: restarts 22nd August until October
- HIT Circuits 7.00-7.45 McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit 7.00 -7.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Indoor Cycling 8.00-9.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit 8.00-45pm McLaren Leisure
- Guides 6.30-8.00pm St Andrew's Church Hall from 22nd August
- Callander Pipe Band practice/teaching 7.00pm Masonic Hall
- Open rink night Bowling Club 7.00pm Visitors/beginners welcome(bowls available) Contact Donald [075134 488453](tel:075134488453)

#### Tuesdays:

- Callander Cycle Meander meet 10.00am Ancaster Square ( contact 01877 339074)
- Yoga Basics 12.30-1.45 McLaren Leisure
- Gentle Yoga 2.00- 3.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Strength and Balance 3.00 -4.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Power Fit 6.00-6.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Badminton Club 7.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Evening Yoga 7.30-9.00pm
- Taekwondo 7.00-9.00pm McLaren Leisure

#### Wednesdays:

- Cycle Fit 7.00-7.45 am McLaren Leisure
- Active Life 9.30-10.30 McLaren Leisure
- Citizens Advice Bureau 10.00am-12.30pm Callander Library

- Teapot Café 10.30am Callander Kirk Hall Library
- Body Fit 1.00- 1.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit 4. 00-4.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Bowls 2.00pm (as Monday) Bowling Club
- Body Fit 7.00-7.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit 8.00-8.45pm McLaren Leisure Taekwondo (contact [falkirktaekwondo@gmail.com](mailto:falkirktaekwondo@gmail.com))

#### Thursdays:

- Aqua Therapy 9.30-10.30am McLaren Leisure
- Town Break 10.30-12.30 St Andrew's Church Hall
- Craigard Club meet for lunch 12.00-2.00pm Callander Hostel from 15th September
- HIIT 7.00-7.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit 7.00-7.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit 8.00-8.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Redtooth Poker League at Lade Inn 7.30pm all welcome

#### Fridays:

- Body Fit 7.00-7.45 am McLaren Leisure
- Power Fit 1.00-1.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit 4.00-4.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Determinator 7.45-8.00 and 8.15-9.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Spike Island 8.15 -9.15 pm McLaren Leisure

#### Saturdays :

- Body Fit 9.00-9.45 am McLaren Leisure
- HIIT 9.30-10.00am McLaren Leisure

### August

#### Saturday 6th

- SWT Group Plant and Book sale, Ancaster Sq. 10am-3pm

#### Thursday 11th

- Callander Kirk Guild meeting 2.00pm Kirk Hall

#### Saturday 13th

- Festival of Art and Flowers 10.00am-4.00pm St Andrew's Church ,entry by donation.

- Organ recital 7.30 pm St Andrew's Church by David Spottiswoode  
Tickets £5 at door or VIC

#### Sunday 14th

- Festival of Art and Flowers 2.00-4.00pm St Andrew's Church

#### Monday 15th

- Community Council Meets 7.30pm place and format TBA

#### Saturday 20th

Callander Horticultural Society Annual Show 2022 from 2.00-4.00pm (prize-giving 3.00pm) East Torrie Farm FK17 8JL (off B8032)

#### Wednesday 24th

- RNIB Connect Group 2-4pm Library

### September

#### Friday 2nd

#### Ben Ledi View deadline

#### Monday 5th

- CAOS welcome to new members

#### Monday 12th

- CAOS Rehearsal

#### Monday 19th

- Community Council meets - place and format TBA
- CAOS Rehearsal

#### Friday 23rd

- German-speaking group meet on Zoom at 7.00pm. Contact [jenshearer@gmail.com](mailto:jenshearer@gmail.com) for details of meeting by mid September.
- Woodland Trust Climate Emergency event, Glen Finglas drop-in Central [events@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:events@woodlandtrust.org.uk)

#### Wednesday 21st

- RNIB Connect Group 2-4pm Library

#### Saturday 24th

- Woodland Trust Tree Medicine across the seasons Autumn Contact [03303300](tel:03303300)

#### Monday 26th

- CAOS Rehearsal

### October

#### Saturday 1st

- Rotary Bottle and BricaBrac stall 10.00am-12noon Ancaster Square

#### Friday 7th

#### Ben Ledi View published

## Callander Bowling Club



We are now mid-season and have had mixed success in various competitions. Our players had some minor victories in the Scottish Regional Championships, but sadly couldn't progress into the Nationals. Friday nights in May and June proved to be more enjoyable, as we won the Forth & Endrick league title for the first time in many years. After 4 matches it was all down to the final weekend, we were 4 points and many shots behind Kippen as we came head to head on the last day. Both our home and away teams won to secure the 4 points, plus we surprised ourselves by overturning the 33 shots that we were behind prior to the matches. The West Perthshire league matches will be concluding in August. At the time of writing, it looks like we will be chasing Doune Castle Bowling Club in our attempt to hold on to the trophy we won back in 2019.

A triples team, a pairs team and Ewan Waugh in the gents singles have progressed to the semi-final stages of the West Perthshire knock-out competitions.



Sunday 3rd July saw our first large competition taking place since the Covid outbreak. Alan Tomlin and Andy Miller won the Peter Easton pairs, sponsored by Honorary President Marion Allan. It was good to see the green and its surroundings busy again after 2 years.



This month we hold an Invitation Triples competition (sponsored by Andrew Anderson & Sons) on 7th August and an Open Pairs competition (sponsored by JTM plumbing and heating) on 21st August.

Our club competitions are heading towards the all important finals weekend of 26th-28th August. Good luck to all players still in with a shout.

The season carries on until mid-September, so if you are interested in trying out the game, Monday evenings at 6.30pm or Wednesday afternoons before 2pm are the best times to come along. We have spare bowls available for use. Contact Donald: [07513488453](tel:07513488453) for info

## Callander Target Sports Club



Although the Covid pandemic has lessened, many of our older members are still staying safe at home and not visiting the club as usual. This unfortunately has had a knock on effect with regard to the number of shooters participating in competitions. However, we would rather our members stayed safe at home than spread the Covid bug.

In the meantime, we have been having a good turn out from our newer members, who are all shooting quite well. We are always looking to introduce new shooting disciplines in order to provide a choice for our members and are soon to run a training course in order to increase our number of qualified Range Conducting Officers, who are responsible for overseeing the daily running of all shooting within the club.

### Cumbria leagues after 6 rounds:

12 shooters continue to compete in the outdoor Cumbria leagues. As yet no one has distinguished themselves in any discipline. Let's hope we can improve by the end of the season.

### Perthshire Prone after 5 rounds:

Team Results – Callander are currently lying in 2nd place, 2 points behind Alloa.

Individual Results: - Div 7 leader is Jonathan Richards, with Allister McLean a close second.



Andy Tomlin

Andy Miller

Marion Allan



### Perthshire Benchrest after 5

#### rounds:

- Division 1 John Johnston is in 1st position with Wullie Jenkins in 3rd.
- Division 2 Robert Farquhar is in 2nd Position.
- Division 3 Chris Miller is in 1st Position and Tony Ashford in 2nd.
- Division 5 Jack Wilkins is in 1st Position

#### Air Pistol:

Air pistol is going well, with John Moffat and Alex Boyd coaching some enthusiastic youngsters on a Wednesday night.

Also the Cumbrian Air Pistol league has 3 entrants from Callander, 2 in division 3, and 1 in division 4, out of 15 divisions

For further club details, contact our secretary Bob Farquhar [07721-744229](tel:07721-744229).

### Redtooth Poker League

Eammon Champion of Scotland

The Redtooth Poker League Scottish Final was held in Dundee's Grosvenor Casino at the beginning of June. 109 players representing pubs, clubs and hotels from all over Scotland qualified for the final. The Lade Inn had four representatives and happily after many challenging hands Eammon O'Boyle was declared the tournament winner. Eammon's prize is qualification to the Redtooth International Poker Tournament in Las Vegas May 2023.

Eammon is a well-deserved winner having been instrumental to the success of bringing poker to Callander. Any new comer to poker in Callander learns the game under Eammon's tuition. Poker is an inexpensive fun evening open to residents and visitors for an entry fee of £7, all are welcome.

Redtooth poker is held in the Lade Inn on Thursdays at 7:30pm

### Balquidder Primary School

On Saturday 10th September 2022 former pupils of Balquidder Primary School who attended in the 1950s and early 1960s are meeting up in Balquidder Village Hall for a reunion.

If you or someone you know would like to be part of this event, please let me know at [esporter@btinternet.com](mailto:esporter@btinternet.com) so that I can keep you in the loop about arrangements.

*Elsbeth Porter*

### Callander and West Perthshire u3a

AGM and RECRUITMENT DAY  
Thursday 25th August 2022

#### AGM by Zoom at 10.30am

(an email link will be sent out to members in advance)

#### Drop-In Session at McLaren Leisure, Callander 2pm until 4.30pm

(sign up for this year's groups, join as a new member, see what we do)

Please look at our website, Callander and West Perthshire u3a, for information about our interest groups and how to make contact with group leaders. We always welcome new members.



### Robert MacLaren

Margaret, Fiona Thomas, Finn and Logan wish to thank all the family, friends and neighbours for lovely cards, flowers and kind messages of sympathy received following the sad loss of Robert. A special thanks to Susan Fraser (celebrant) for the lovely service. Thanks to Dr. Kerry Mathewson, District Nurses, Oncology at Forth Valley Royal Hospital Bellfield Centre for all the care and help they gave to Robert. Thanks to all who came to pay their respects at the graveside and a special thanks to George Currid for his excellent service and also the Roman Camp Hotel for a lovely soup and finger buffet.

*Margaret MacLaren*

### Megan Hogg

Megan Hogg of Main Street Callander received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Stirling on the 21st June. Megan is a Staff Nurse at Forth Valley Royal Hospital. Congratulations from all the family

*Leslie McLaren, Camp Place (PaPa)*

### New Planning Applications

**Replacement of existing windows** 20 Bridgend Callander Stirling FK17 8AG  
Ref. No: 2022/0186/HAE | Received: Thu 16 Jun 2022 | Validated: Fri 17 Jun 2022 | Status: Current

**Installation of replacement windows** Lanercost Leny Feus Callander FK17 8AS

Ref. No: 2022/0174/HAE | Received: Thu 02 Jun 2022 | Validated: Thu 09 Jun 2022 | Status: Current

**Alterations to existing workshop proposed for Class 4 use (Business) and Class 5 use (General Industrial) (as amended)**

Workshop Aros Lane Callander Stirling FK17 8BS  
Ref. No: 2022/0111/DET | Received: Thu 07 Apr 2022 | Validated: Mon 25 Apr 2022 | Status: Current

## Town Break - Callander Coffee and Blether!

Nearly 30 years ago a charity was set up in Stirling to provide a safe and enjoyable place for folks with mild to moderate dementia to gather together. The aim of this was twofold: to allow those with the condition to get out, meet others, chat and do activities and also to give their carers, friends and family, a time to visit the town, shop and have no responsibility for a while. Hence the name 'Town Break'.

In Callander, the group meets on a Thursday morning from 10.30am to 12.30am in St Andrews Church Hall. It is a really happy group, run by Lesley Milne, who is a coordinator for the Dementia Service. Some folks have their carer with them and some are happy to spend the couple of hours just with their friends at the group. Lesley provides an activity or theme each week, including fun things like a reminiscence game, pebble painting, a singalong, a strawberry tea etc. It is all aimed at stimulating cognitive wheels and helping folks to flourish in their own personal way and within their own capacity. This year there is to be a trip for a cruise on Loch Katrine!

In conversation, Lesley said to me 'It's not like coming to work, it's like coming to a party every day'!!

All the local groups met together the other week for a huge Jubilee party and in September there will be a 30th Birthday Extravaganza. There's no end to the fun!

The scheme is partly funded by Stirling Council, with an office in Springkerse, Stirling, but fundraising remains an important part of maintaining the service, along with willing volunteers to help out at each group. In the light of much more awareness of the progress and effect of dementia in people's lives and those of their loved ones, this service is undeniably crucial.

If anyone is interested in finding out more, please contact Lesley Milne: Tel: [07707 129867](tel:07707129867), the office on [01786 641841](tel:01786641841) or email [lesley@townbreak.org](mailto:lesley@townbreak.org)

*Marilyn Willett (on behalf of Town Break in Callander)*

## Callander Guides



Sarah Miller

Callander Guides had a great summer term with lots of outdoor activities, including orienteering, the burn scramble at Dounans, and the cat's pole- climbing a tree then walking across a pole at great height before jumping off attached to a harness and rope. The leaders joined the burn scramble but weren't up for the cat's pole!

We also completed lots of badges this term, the biggest challenge of which was our upcycling badge. We turned an old pallet into a planter for the grounds of the church, and a dolls house into a "little free library".

This is a scheme where people can take a book free of charge, and if wanted replace it with another. It encourages reading for all ages, and can be particularly useful for tourists who may not be in the area for long enough to borrow and return books to a library. We encourage all of you to come and have a look- it is in St Andrew's church grounds.

Guides are for girls aged 10-14 years, if you are interested in finding out more, please contact Sarah on [scmiller@doctors.org.uk](mailto:scmiller@doctors.org.uk)

*Sarah Miller*



Sarah Miller



Come along for a trip down Memory Lane,

familiar songs, friendly blether and a cuppa.

Everyone welcome, including those living with dementia and their carers.

Come along and join us on Mondays:

12th September, 10th October,  
14th November and 12th December

2022

For more information please contact:

Ann Ross [07720 887720](tel:07720887720)

or

Anne McLachlan [07743 125966](tel:07743125966)





## Callander & District Horticultural Society

The Callander and District Horticultural Society are holding their physical Annual Show on the Saturday 20th August at East Torrie Farm, Callander, FK17 8JL, on B8032 - look out for the balloons! Ample parking is available for dropping off/collecting entries and for visiting the show. Please note the revised timings for dropping off competition exhibits are: Friday 6-9pm and Saturday 8am-10am. Doors will be open to the public from 2-4pm with entry by donation and we have reinstated the usual prizegiving at 3pm. Prize winning entries and results will also be displayed later on our website.



Tea, coffee and baking will be available during the show and there will be plenty of benches to sit at for a wee blether! There will also be the opportunity to buy raffle tickets to win a number of hampers and help boost society funds.

Exhibitors must be a member of the Society; the annual membership subscription is £2 per annum which can be paid when you bring along your exhibits. Membership is free for community organisations and children under 14 years of age. There is no additional charge per exhibit so please enter as

many classes as you like.

If you have never entered a horticultural show before, we have a novice section for you to find your feet, but you are also welcome to enter any part of the show.

Schedules for the show are now available. Please download an electronic copy from [www.CADHS.co.uk/schedule](http://www.CADHS.co.uk/schedule) or email [cadhortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:cadhortsoc@gmail.com) for a copy. Limited printed copies are also available at Callander Post Office, Campbell Butchers and Deli Ecosse.

If you currently are still in possession of a trophy from 2021, please hand it to any committee member or email [cadhortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:cadhortsoc@gmail.com) to arrange collection.

Entries for the Callander Community Council 'Best Kept Garden Competition' will be closed by the time of printing this issue but the results will be announced at the show prizegiving at 3pm and later displayed on our website.

All up to date details about the Show can be found on our website [www.cadhs.co.uk](http://www.cadhs.co.uk). Look out for posters around the town or scan the QR code with your mobile to go straight to the website.

In this ever-changing world, arrangements sometimes need to be modified at fairly short notice so please keep checking our website or facebook page for the latest updates



*Jacquie Fingland*

## Rotary in Callander

The club is getting back in to the swing of regular events at last. At the beginning of June we held the summer Coffee and Crafts morning to raise funds for Rotary's own Foundation Charity.

Foundation helps causes all over the world and at the moment is very much involved in Ukraine.

The event was arranged at short notice and as a result there were fewer stalls than usual. There was a steady flow of visitors though and everyone appeared to enjoy themselves. A total of over £600 was raised and our thanks go to all who attended and to our helpers from Friends of Rotary and the ladies from Tangent.



Several members were involved in the opening of the new play park at Camp Place in June including organising an art competition. They enjoyed a lovely day with the children and families, however none of the Rotarians were spotted trying out the play equipment.

On 9th July, we said thank you to outgoing President Peter Ireland for steering us through another tough year as we and the rest of the world set about recovering from the Covid pandemic. We then welcomed incoming Club President Michael Kay. The last two handovers had been done via Zoom, so it was a pleasure for it to happen in front of many of our members

Finally, the next event on the schedule is the Bottle and BricaBrac stall in Ancaster Square on Saturday 1st October. We hope to see you there. We are also planning to hold a Christmas Coffee and Crafts on the 19th of November.

If you would like to find out more about Rotary please look at our website, [www.callander.rotary1010.org](http://www.callander.rotary1010.org), or on Facebook.

*Derek House*



### German Speaking Group

**B**is Ende August haben wir noch Sommerpause. Das Datum für unser Treffen im September ist Freitag 23en um 19:00. Wir werden im Voraus angesichts der aktuellen Virus Situation entscheiden, ob wir uns auf Zoom oder persönlich treffen sollen. Mitte September werden wir allen Mitgliedern über das Thema und die Vorkehrungen für das Treffen Bescheid sagen.

Falls Sie bis jetzt an unseren Treffen nicht teilgenommen haben aber jetzt mitmachen möchten, schicken Sie mir bitte eine E Mail um die Einladung zu unserem nächsten Treffen zu erhalten: [jenshearer@gmail.com](mailto:jenshearer@gmail.com).

Wir freuen uns auf ein Wiedersehen.

Jen und Peter

*Jen Shearer*

### Ripple Retreat - Happy Fifth Birthday!



**F**ive years ago this haven of peace, designed so brilliantly by Tony Kettle to merge into and reflect the rippling water of Loch Venachar was opened and ready to receive its first guests.

Very special guests – children and young people who are undergoing or recovering from treatment for cancer and their immediate family. Since then, over 120 families have benefited from the gift of a holiday, to allow them to relax together, as so often, there are long periods of separation during hospital treatment, when a child is away from siblings and parents.

Lynne McNicoll is the wonderful lady who has tirelessly driven this project from the beginning. She is a fundraiser 'extraordinaire' and has been instrumental in finding the £3.5 million needed to establish the Ripple Retreat, and now continues with her team to fundraise, to maintain the £100,00 annual running costs. The charity 'It's Good to Give' was initially started to supply helpful and practical packs to families having long stays in hospital with young cancer patients. One of the greatest gifts was right at the beginning, when the Ferguson family donated part of their land to build on.

Ripple Retreat just embraces you in an atmosphere of safety and peace. So many special little touches have been added... from comfy seating and an all singing, all dancing TV, to musical instruments and books, to many lovely pieces of art work on the walls, each one lovingly donated with its own story, including two poems written by a young cancer patient, Finn, and his sister, Meg. There is a wonderful bespoke kitchen, specially designed by Kitchens International, with wheelchair accessible worktops and ovens and everything with a view on all sides. A very special feature is a large enclosed decking area where many an exhausted carer has no doubt basked in the sun in the sure knowledge that children can play safely and not wander off.

The three bedrooms all have floor to ceiling views and are simply, but beautifully decorated. Many of the small details have been suggested by some of the young trustees appointed to the team. Lynne speaks so warmly of some of these young ambassadors.

Outside, many willing hands have created and continue to maintain the expansive grounds. It is a perfect wonderland, running down to the water's edge and leading to a jetty stretching over the loch. The outdoor play equipment is such a blessing because so often cancer patients are unable to join their siblings at the playpark, and here they can all be together with minimum risk to health. There are also high quality paths and flower beds scattered with decorative sculptures which have highly personalised designs connected to some of the guests.

The visitors book (wonderfully shaped as a letter R) contains the words that come from the hearts of those who have stayed. As an example:

'It was so good to remember what normal life can be.'

'The most magical, wonderful, beautiful, tranquil, peaceful, luxurious, amazing place, with stunning views, facilities that are out of this world and somewhere very, very special. When the waves of life seem to be crashing in with great strength, this ripple of love is real soul food. Forever grateful...'

Do check out the website for more information.... how to help, how to apply, how to get in touch. This is a truly special place - [Itsgood2give.co.uk](http://Itsgood2give.co.uk)



*Marilyn Willett*



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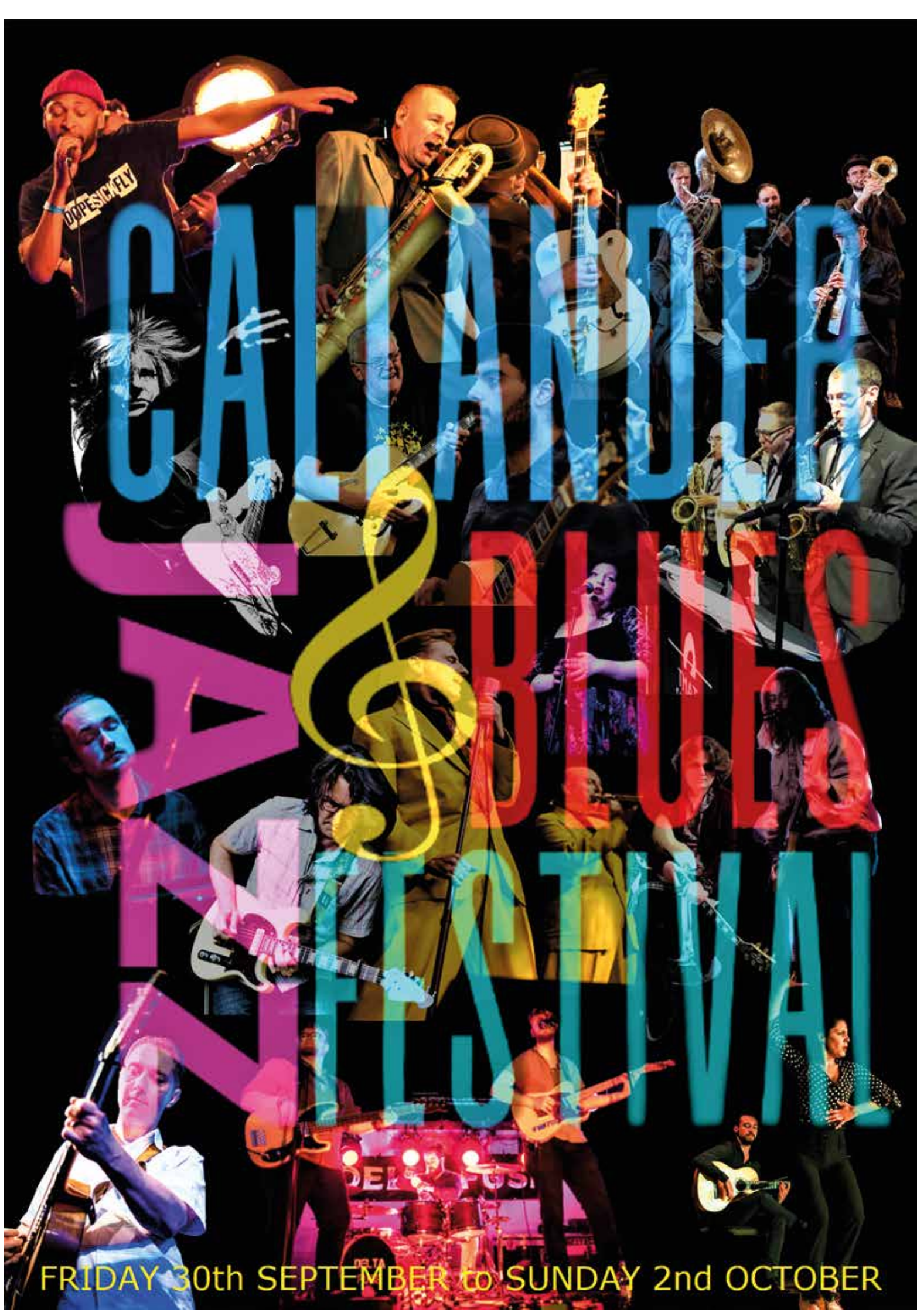
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FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER to SUNDAY 2nd OCTOBER



**W**e're back on track for another fun and fantastic weekend of quality live entertainment at this year's 16th Callander Jazz & Blues Festival. It promises to be one of the best yet, and boy do we need it, after the slow recovery from the recent pandemic. The town will be rejuvenated with an eclectic mixture of around 50 live performances across 11 venues playing a mixture of jazz, blues, rock, swing, jive and rock'n'roll, along with a few surprises! Only 4 out of our 11 venues require a ticket to enter, so kick off those 'pandemic blues' and enjoy the live music on offer throughout Callander. This year, over 130 musicians from across the UK and abroad will be performing over the weekend, from as far afield as the USA and Spain, as well as top artists from England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland, making up a very national and international musical line-up. A special mention must go to the Daniel Martinez Flamenco Co, who will be bringing their award-winning Art of Believing show to the festival this year. A festival first, and perhaps a Callander first, to have a flamenco performance in the town...qué fabuloso!

Here is a sample of just some of the amazing performers we have lined up for this year's 16th weekend musical extravaganza in Callander....

**Jive Aces** - the UK's No.1 Jive & Swing band, the Jive Aces are renowned for their high-energy spectacular showmanship, exploding onto the stage in their trademark yellow suits. The Jive Aces were the first live band to reach the final rounds of Britain's Got Talent, and their performance at the 2015 Glastonbury Festival was listed by the Daily Telegraph as one of the festival's highlights.

**Fergus McCreadie** - a BBC Jazz Musician of the Year Finalist in 2018, Fergus is a complete and well-rounded musician, a passionate communicator and consummate performer, a composer of elegant, nuanced and captivating music as well as a pianist and improviser of exceptional ability and originality. If ever there's a band that can excite and inspire, the Fergus McCreadie Trio is it.

**Gerry Jablonski Band** - a powerful and energetic, standout act with a confident, no-holds-barred swagger and a unique trademark sound. Four guys that were meant to play together. The 2018 Blues Awards - UK Blues Act of the Year. "An absolutely refreshing and life affirming experience. The best band you never heard of"... Classic Rock Magazine

**Daniel Martinez Flamenco Company** - an award-winning flamenco production, the Art of Believing won a Herald Angel Award and has received several 5-star press reviews since its premier in 2017. Join Daniel and the cast in a must-see powerful flamenco performance bursting with passion and authenticity. A beautiful presentation of pure flamenco and outstanding musicianship.

**Tom Remon & Jim Mullen** - Tom Remon is an aspiring young guitarist on the London Jazz scene and has already played with some of the era's most esteemed jazz musicians. Jim Mullen is a veteran award-winning guitarist with a career that spans over four decades! Together, this amazing guitar duo bring new life to a host of standards and remind how difficult - and rare - it is to sound simply good.

**Chris Corcoran** - the Brit King of Jump Blues, Chris is the guitarist's guitarist and one of the UK's finest Blues and R&B players. Chris has been performing across the UK and Europe for over 25 years, winning Best Instrumental Album Awards and being nominated for UK Blues Instrumentalist of the Year in 2020 & 2021. The Chris Corcoran Trio are a dynamic instrumental Blues outfit.

**Delta Fuse** - an energetic, cut-throat Blues Rock trio from Northern Ireland, Delta Fuse style has been described as 'brothel blues', with all the dirt and grime you would expect from old-school R&B, but their influences extend further, through 50s Chicago and 60s psychedelic blues to the smoother, soulful sounds of BB King. The band remain immersed, however, in the music of John Lee Hooker.

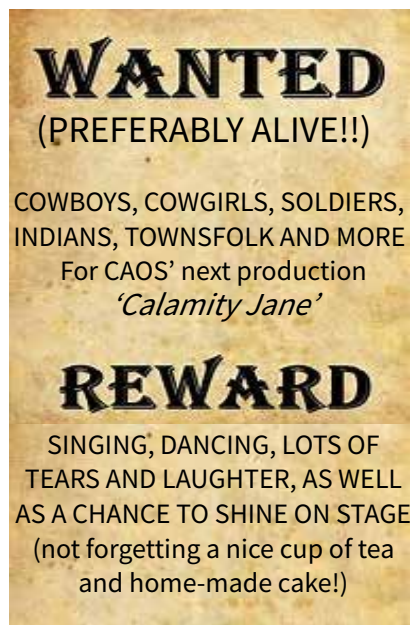
**Mark Pontin Group** - since releasing his debut album in 2013, Mark has firmly established himself in the UK Blues/Rock scene as an artist to take notice of. A multiple blues award nominee and stalwart guitar player and vocalist, Mark is one of the best guitar players in South Wales and his band are definitely worth a watch! Expect power trio style jamming with funk, blues and soul elements.

**Tommy Bentz Band** - Van Morrison meets the Allman Brothers....that's one way to describe the sound of the Tommy Bentz Band. Tommy hales from Wisconsin in the US and has been a regular and firm favourite at the festival over the last few years. The band's latest album release showcases the mix of blues, rock, folk and jazz with soulful vocals and a message of positivity and unity.

**The Revolutionaires** - established within the 'hotbed' of the North East of England music scene and led by exuberant front man Ed Stephenson on guitar and vocals, The Revolutionaires power out jumpin' hot rhythm & blues in their own indomitable hard hitting style. Festival regulars for over 10 years now, 'The Revs' still pack out every show, highlighting how popular and dynamic their performances have been to an ever-growing festival fanbase.

The 16th Callander Jazz & Blues Festival runs from Friday 30th September through to Sunday 2nd October 2022. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for up-to-date news and for more information on this year's performers and venues, check out our website; [www.callanderjazzandblues.com](http://www.callanderjazzandblues.com). We hope you can all take in at least one of the festivals shows this year, there's certainly plenty of choice.

CAOS



Following our successful return to the stage in March this year, we are really looking forward to next year's show and are excited to announce that it will be the ever popular *Calamity Jane*. Full of great numbers and witty dialogue, we will be taking Callander back to the Wild Wild West helping 'Calam' bring that stage back over the hill. Rehearsals will start on Monday 5th September at McLaren High School at 7.30pm. We are always looking for fresh talent and new members will be most welcome – don't worry too much about the singing and dancing, the most important thing is lots of enthusiasm and a sense of fun! See our web page ([www.c-a-o-s.org.uk](http://www.c-a-o-s.org.uk)), contact our president, Angela Dickinson ([angeladickinson.20@hotmail.com](mailto:angeladickinson.20@hotmail.com)) or speak to any member for more information.

CAOS could not stage its shows without the practical and financial support of you, our audience, an army of volunteers and local businesses. In particular, we would like to thank Andrew Baird for sponsoring *Sound of Music*.

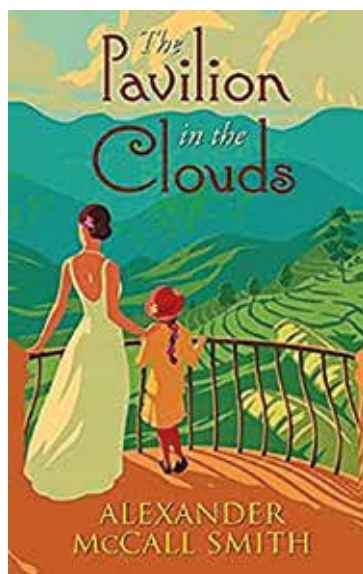
We also received a most welcome grant from the Airtricity Fund – thanks due to current and past members of the Community Council who have supported us over the difficult past two years.

Sadly our fantastic producer for the past few years has decided to step back and will not be directly involved in next year's production. Iain has gone above and beyond to ensure the shows produced are of the highest quality and we, the members, express our heartfelt thanks to him. The good news is that our very own Mhairi Stewart has agreed to produce and is already full of ideas for the show.

The show dates are Wednesday 15th March to Saturday 18th March 2023 so please put a place holder in your diary. Yeee haaaa!

*Steve Murphy for CAOS*

### Book club review



This issue's book review title is *The Pavilion in the Clouds* by prolific author Alexander McCall Smith (Polygon: 2022). Most people will have heard of McCall Smith who is a popular writer, particularly renowned for his *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series and *44 Scotland Street* novels. I did go through a phase of reading many of his books (and there are more than 50 to choose from), however that was a couple of decades ago, so I was keen to get reacquainted.

*The Pavilion in the Clouds* is a standalone novel. The story takes place in 1938 on a tea plantation called Pitlochry up in the green hills of Ceylon. Henry Ferguson is the Scottish owner of Pitlochry, preoccupied with the day-to-day operations of running a fragile trade in a diminishing British Empire. Meanwhile, his wife Virginia spends the days playing tennis and discussing books with other expatriate wives, whilst daughter Bella is tutored by governess, Miss White. Bella is a precocious eight-year-old. She has few friends and time on her hands. This, coupled with an overactive imagination, causes Bella to begin to view her governess with suspicion. What are her intentions? Why does she laugh with her father? Will she upset the family's idyll? The young girl decides to act, not realising the far-reaching consequences of her actions.

Fans of McCall Smith will not be disappointed, as *The Pavilion in the Clouds* has all his typical trademarks. McCall Smith has first-hand knowledge of the Scottish expatriate experience (he was born in Zimbabwe and educated both there and in Scotland). Whilst not knowing the extent of factual accuracy of the book, the Scots did have an important presence in the tea plantations of Ceylon whilst it was under British rule up to 1948 (in 1972 Ceylon changed its name to Sri Lanka) and this was interesting to read in this fictional context.

McCall Smith has an ability to create multi-faceted characters whose thoughts and traits, both positive and negative, he carefully unpicks and lays bare. His writing style is so unique and also recognisable. Reading this latest book was like curling up with a warm pussy cat – comforting, clever, but unpredictable.

The next BLV book club review will be *All My Mothers* by Joanna Glen (The Borough Press: 2022)

*Maggie Magor*



## Callander Woodland Group

Over the last 2 months the Callander Woodland Group Volunteers have continued to clear path edges in Coilhallan Wood. Walking the arboretum loop is now a pleasant experience rather than a prickly encounter with overhanging gorse. In the last 3 sessions, vegetation has been removed from the sides of the main spine path, starting at the Invertrossachs car park. Tree seedlings by the path and in the ditches have been taken out and invasive species have also been removed. The next few more sessions will include the path towards Ben Gullipen and down to the A81 entrance.

We have removed many bags of invasive pirri-pirri burr but there is an alarming amount still to be tackled. This New Zealand invader spreads rapidly, crowding out native plants. It is a low growing, creeping plant ~4" high but its



Cleared Main Path photo L Hawkins

fruiting flowers are sticky burrs which stick to clothing and animals. If you notice your dog has burrs in its coat, please do not just pick off and drop them in the wood but, if possible, remove and take home but DO NOT put in your own compost heap, use your brown bin, its contents will be composted at a high

enough temperature to kill it. Even better would be if you were willing to carry a bag and remove it from along the sides of the paths or in ditches whenever out for a walk.

More volunteers to join the very friendly group for practical sessions are always welcome but we urgently need more people to help feed community views into the next Forestry & Land Scotland Land Management plan for Callander woodlands. This is an excellent opportunity to feed

into the plan from the beginning: no use complaining after the event!

If interested in being involved in either practical or feeding into the new woodland plan, then please contact us via [callanderwoodlandgroup@gmail.com](mailto:callanderwoodlandgroup@gmail.com).

*Lesley Hawkins & Sue King*



Pirri-Pirri Pullers photo L Hawkins



Pirri-pirri bur foliage photo L Hawkins



Pirri-Pirri burs photo L Hawkins

## Update on Larch Disease

In the July Callander Woodland Group meeting, the representative of Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) gave an update on the local situation with larch disease (*Phytophthora ramorum*). This disease affects European, Japanese and hybrid larch species commonly used by FLS. Unfortunately, eight suspect cases have been seen in the woods from Bochastle to Corriechrombie at the

head of Stank Glen. These were identified by helicopter surveys and confirmed by walking the area. Sampling is underway to confirm the cause but it is fairly certain it is *phytophthora* and compulsory felling is expected to start in early August. The disease appears to be spreading northwards. This outbreak possibly came from one in Leny Woods four or five years ago and it has taken until

now for the impact to become visible. The area will be replanted but not including larch or ash.

If you would like to know more about tree diseases or to report signs of tree pests and diseases then have a look at the excellent Forest Research site <https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/tree-alert/>

*Lesley Hawkins*

## Greener Callander says Thank You

We hope you are enjoying the colourful summer flowers around Callander, flourishing despite the challenging weather. Around the centre of town Greener Callander volunteers have planted forty-three hanging basket, beds & barrels outside St Kessog's, two 3-tier planters near the War Memorial, twelve baskets on the railings beside the two pedestrian crossings, the bed and train outside the Station Road toilets and four of the Council's large wooden planters in the car park. Tubs in the smaller War Memorial Garden at Esher Crescent are also being maintained by one of our members.

As always we have relied upon help from many others in the community to achieve this: thanks to Tricia and the 'boys' from CYP for doing the daily watering of our embryo plants and baskets in their polytunnel, Janet Greenwood and Dick Revie for fostering plants and to John MacIsaac for bringing on 30 planted baskets in his greenhouse. Once again installation of the baskets and watering throughout summer is being sub-contracted to Liam Burnett of Empardio.

Further thanks go to those who helped out on the plant and bric-a-brac stalls on 28 May, those who donated and those who bought. The takings of £1,000. will ensure maintenance and planting for the next twelve months. Also special thanks to several individuals who have made very generous cash and 'in kind' donations.



We will be back in the Square in May 2023 when we will again be sharing it with the Callander Horticultural Society.

In addition to regular maintenance of the beds in the Friendship Community Garden in South Church Street we are looking at how we can restore the garden to nearer its 2013 glory. Unfortunately, there are few affordable options for the worn gravel surface and it is proving difficult to find subcontractors when landscapers and builders are so busy. We have therefore decided to replace the most worn features, starting with the rotted bog garden. In an admirable show of strength, Keith Corrieri and Clare Luti rapidly removed the rotten logs and the willow tree then removed them from



the site – a priceless help to start the rebuild. With further invaluable help from Charlie Donald and Alan Davidson we overcame the mental challenges of fitting together the Woodblocx kit (like a giant Lego-cum-Jenga) and in a long, hot day managed to rebuild a very smart octagonal raised bed which will be replanted with mainly native bog plants.

This couldn't have happened without the grant from Callander Community Hydro Fund which is much appreciated.



Finally, a thank you to Stirling Council which has again planted up the bed and baskets at Lagrannoch plus baskets at the end of Tulipan Crescent.

If you would like to join our regular monthly gardening sessions, or offer any other skills, please get in touch with Lesley Hawkins [mlhawkins@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mlhawkins@tiscali.co.uk) or Sue King [m.susan@gmail.com](mailto:m.susan@gmail.com) or Hilary Gunkel [mail@hilarygunkel.co.uk](mailto:mail@hilarygunkel.co.uk)

*Lesley Hawkins*

## Scottish Wildlife Trust Callander Group – we are back!

After being unable to hold indoor meetings for the last two seasons due to Covid, the Scottish Wildlife Trust Callander Group plan to start indoor talks again from October 2022 to April 2023.

We will be holding them in St Andrew's Church Hall where the larger room will allow us to spread out more if preferred. Unfortunately, that does mean we will have to change our days from Tuesday to Thursday but still meeting from 7.30-9.30pm. Dates are mainly the second Thursday of the month, starting on 13 October so I hope many of our regulars and new people will be able to come along. Of course we will have an excellent programme of speakers - more details in the next BLV.

*Lesley Hawkins*



## Local Information

### Emergency Services: 999

#### Callander Police: 101

Local Council Office & Registrar:  
[01877 33004](tel:0187733004)

Social Work: [01786 471177](tel:01786471177)

Post Office: [01877 330267](tel:01877330267)

Stirling Council: [01786 404040](tel:01786404040)

### National Health

Callander Medical Practice [01877 331000](tel:01877331000) (Prescriptions (10.00am till 3pm))

District Nurse [01877 330150](tel:01877330150)

NHS 24 [111](tel:111) or [www.nhs24.scot](http://www.nhs24.scot)  
[www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot)

Callander Dental Practice [01877 330703](tel:01877330703)

### Chemists

Farrens **M-F** 9-6 **S** 9-5 [01877 330132](tel:01877330132)

Trossachs **M-F** 9-1 2-6 [01877 330016](tel:01877330016)

### Vets

Callander: [01877 381213](tel:01877381213)

### Schools

McLaren High: [01877 330156](tel:01877330156)

Callander Primary: [01877 331576](tel:01877331576)

## Callander Kirk



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First Sunday of month service at  
Trossachs Church 3.00pm

Details at <https://www.facebook.com/callanderkirk>

Rev Jeffery McCormick BD  
[01877 330474](tel:01877330474)



## Callander Baptist Fellowship

We warmly welcome folks to join us in worship on a Sunday afternoon. This takes place in St Andrews Church Hall at 4.00pm, with the exception of the 14th August.

Our weekly prayer meeting remains on a Monday evening at 8.00pm on zoom. Please contact : [callanderbaptistfellowship@gmail.com](mailto:callanderbaptistfellowship@gmail.com) for full details of times and venues.

### Bin Collections

Bins are now collected on a Saturday or a Tuesday. The day is in the week following these Sundays

#### August

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Brown/Green Bins | Sunday 21st |
| Brown/Blue Box   | Sunday 7th  |
| Grey/Blue Bins   | Sunday 14th |

[www.stirling.gov.uk/waste](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/waste)

#### September

**Not Announced at time of print**

### Lagrannoch WRC Opening times

- Monday - Friday 5.00pm to 7.30pm
- Saturday 10.00am-1.30pm
- Sunday closed
- Lagrannoch depot [01877 330492](tel:01877330492) Also for sandbags and grit
- Stirling Council Main number [08452 777000](tel:08452777000) (Functions as emergency number from 5.00pm to 9.00am and over weekends. Also use for non-collection of wheelie bins.)



## Saint Andrew's Scottish Episcopal Church

Leny Road, Callander

Sunday Worship 9.30 am

Midweek Worship at St Andrew's (BCP), Wednesdays, 10.30am.

For further information please contact:

Revd Jon Connell h: [01877 382887](tel:01877382887)  
m: [07983 897 841](tel:07983897841) or

Liz Balding Secretary to St Andrew's Vestry m: [07825 635 428](tel:07825635428)

[www.standrewschurcheallander.co.uk](http://www.standrewschurcheallander.co.uk)



## St Joseph's Catholic Church

Glen Artney Road,

Callander

Thursday Mass 10.00 am

Saturday Vigil Mass (May - Sept 5.30 pm)

Sunday Holy Mass 11.30 am

Registration is mandatory via website: [www.stfdac.co.uk](http://www.stfdac.co.uk) or call [01877 330702](tel:01877330702)

Rev Leszek Wicaszek S.A.C.

### Recreation

Rail Enquiries: [0845 7484950](tel:08457484950)

Bus Station (Stirling): [01786 446474](tel:01786446474)

Travel Line Scotland: [0870 6082608](tel:08706082608)

Leisure Centre: [01877 330000](tel:01877330000)

Library: [01877 331544](tel:01877331544)

Visitor Information Centre: [07727 288 585](tel:07727288585)

### Floods & Environment

SEPA emergency: [0800 807060](tel:0800807060)

SEPA website:

[www.sepa.org.uk/flooding/index.htm](http://www.sepa.org.uk/flooding/index.htm)

Floodline: [0845 9881188](tel:08459881188) Select option 1 followed by: [06213 121](tel:06213121) (the Teith at Callander)

Scottish Water emergency information re flooding from mains or sewers: [0800 0778778](tel:08000778778)

### Location of defibrillators

Dreadnought Garage

Callander Golf Club

McLaren Leisure Centre

The Post Office

Ancaster Square

West Dullater House and Grace's

Cottage Invertrossachs

Mobile unit based in Callander with Scottish Ambulance Service

## BLV DEADLINES

The next issue of the Ben Ledi View will be published on **Friday 7th October 2022.**

### Advertisements copy & artwork

Please send all advertisement copy for the **Oct/Nov** issue to our Advertising Co-ordinator Nina Taylor at:

[advertising@benlediview.org](mailto:advertising@benlediview.org) by **Wednesday 7th September 2022**

Full details of sizes for advertisement and artwork specifications are at [www.benlediview.org](http://www.benlediview.org) under the Advertise tab. Please call or email for advice if in doubt.

We request full payment before we can accept advertising material for publication.

### Editorial copy

All editorial contributions for the **Oct/Nov** issue should be emailed to [editor@benlediview.org](mailto:editor@benlediview.org) or handed in to the Callander Library by **Friday 9th September 2022.**

Items received after the deadline may be held over to next issue.

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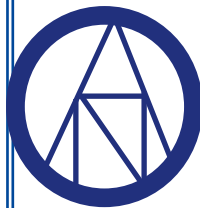
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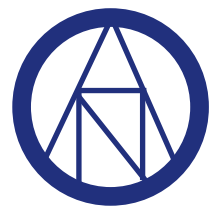
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