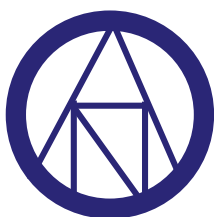


# Ben Ledi View

Aug/Sept 2023

Issue 331



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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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Cover Photo by Chris Coull  
 Canmore Trust Street Ceillidh 2022



Hello Readers,  
 This edition rightly acknowledges the enormous amount of good work that has been done by Anne Docherty for Callander over the last 30 years. I met Anne whilst working in the Visitor Information Centre. Anne was an essential part of keeping that facility open, as the town had started to welcome tourists again after the worst of Covid was over. She thoroughly deserves her recent award.

As I write this, much of Southern Europe is experiencing a record-breaking heatwave with temperatures hitting the mid-forties centigrade. I certainly don't envy the thousands of fellow Brits that are holidaying there at the moment. It's 17°C and sunny intervals in Callander today, fine by me! Southern Europe's difficulties bring home to us the serious problem that climate change is having on us all. We deal with how this can affect Callander on page 5 and page 9 of this edition. Flooding is one expected negative effect of climate change. Page 5 details how Stirling Council has abandoned the idea of building a wall in the Meadows car park, as it would only protect a limited number of properties. New plans need to be drawn up and the Callander Flood Group would like more local input into ideas for this. See the article to find out how you can contribute. Another serious issue for Callander, made even worse by climate change, is forest fires. We are blessed to have so much beautiful woodland surrounding our town. However, the hot, dry weeks of June this year culminated in a significant fire on the western edge of the Craggs, quite close to houses on Tulipan Crescent and Leny Feus. The fire brigade spent much of the last Sunday in June putting it out. The Callander Resilience Group is looking at ways that such fires can be prevented. Please get in touch with them with ideas that you may have.

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On a cheerier note, two events to look forward to. 19th August sees Callander's 2023 Street Ceilidh organised by the Community Friends of The Canmore Trust. It takes place on Ancaster Road and I can't think of a much better way of spending a Saturday evening in August than dancing to some traditional Scottish music in aid of a very good cause, so see you there! Secondly, at the end of September, one of Callander's highlights of the year happens, the Jazz and Blues festival. It's great to report that it will be over four days, up from the usual three. Sixty gigs in ten venues, super! Be sure that you invite friends and family up to Callander to experience a great music festival, they'll love it!

On the subject of obtaining your views, we detail news about Callander's Local Place Plan on page 7. It's really important that as many local people contribute to this plan as possible, so please follow the links to see how this can be done.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who give up their valuable time to produce and deliver the Ben Ledi View. If you want to join us and/or have any comments about the magazine please contact me at [convenor@benlediview.org](mailto:convenor@benlediview.org).

*Steven McGowan*

### Contents

Community	Pages 3,5,7
Announcements/ Recipe	Page 8
Environment	Pages 9-11
Charities & Clubs	Pages 12-17
Young People	Page 18
Health & Wellbeing/Recipe	Page 21
Dr Strang	Page 22, 23
Pets	Page 24
Sports & Leisure	Page 25,26
Whats On	Page 28,29
Arts & Entertainment	Page 30,31
Puzzle	Page 32-33
Local Info	Page 34
Planning	Page 35



### Callander's Unsung Community Champion Receives Top Award

At the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs earlier this week, Anne Docherty received a special Chairman's Award in recognition of her selfless service to the community of Callander for the past 30 years.

Anne moved to Callander in the 1990s, after retiring from a career in education, but immediately became involved in various local community groups and has never stopped working, until she recently retired from the role of company secretary of Callander Community Development Trust.

In her role with the Development Trust alone, she held the administrative and financial reins over a time of great achievements for the Trust, including the Community Hydro Scheme, the construction of the iconic Bracklinn Bridge, appointing and managing a town coordinator, and developing four Community Action Plans and a Place Plan.

She also led many successful projects such as setting up Creative in Callander and Summerfest in which she organised all the music events, bringing Phil Cunningham & Ali Bain, Dougie McLean, Scottish Opera and Scottish Chamber Orchestra and many more to Callander.

More recently she was instrumental in keeping the Visitor Information Centre open after Visit Scotland's departure and supported its day-to-day running by volunteers in many practical ways.

Anne previously was a Director of the National Park Community Partnership, edited the Ben Ledi View paper for more than a decade, organised Callander Chimes Handbell Group and still organises the Craigard Club, a weekly lunch club for senior citizens.

For many years she has also kept the public toilets open in the evening, as the local keyholder for Stirling Council.

James Fraser, the outgoing Chair of the Friends, said: "Anne is a truly remarkable lady who has done so much on a voluntary basis over a prolonged period for the benefit of Callander residents and visitors and we were delighted to recognise her selfless efforts with a special award. She has enriched the lives of many thousands of people and over the years has strengthened the appeal of Callander as a visitor destination through her boundless efforts on many fronts. I am pleased she will be continuing to use her organisational skills to support the Craigard Club which plays an important role in the well-being of senior citizens in the Callander area."

*Friends of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs*



### BBC Repair Shop

The BBC Repair Shop recently posted on the Callander Discussion Group Facebook page, saying they are planning a Christmas Special and want to feature Scottish items. Their message was: "We want your festive fixes - BIG or small. If it is in need of repair and means something to you then get in touch. Do you have a Christmas family tradition or perhaps there's a community event which needs our help? It could be something that's been in your family or community for generations, a well-played game, a decoration, some sleigh bells, a carol book, a handwritten but worn Christmas recipe, a memento from a trip to see Santa, perhaps an old, cherished Christmas card or a letter, something from an annual ski trip, a Christmas panto prop!"

It would be great if they could feature several items from Callander, both personal and part of Callander's heritage.

If you have anything with a Christmas background, can you contact us with details and hopefully a photograph. We will then put the ideas to the BBC and see if they are interested. Send details to:

Richard & Mary Johnson  
31 Lagrannoch Drive,  
Callander,  
FK17 8LE

or email :  
[rcjohnson9@aol.com](mailto:rcjohnson9@aol.com)

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| Callander | Gartmore   | Lochearnhead |                |
| Deanston  | Killearn   | Strathblane  |                |

Further new build developments are being planned for Killeon, Balmaha, Croftmac, and Drymen. Please let us know if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us to plan for the future. For a downloadable application pack please visit our website [www.rsha.org.uk](http://www.rsha.org.uk).

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## Callander Community Council Update

The new Callander Community Council (CCC) was inaugurated on 12th June at a meeting run by Stirling Council, when the officers were elected. We then held our first public meeting on 19th June, where we were delighted to see a number of the community present. We now have 13 councillors, five of them being newly nominated.

Your community council members are: Ruth Barrie\*, Paul Fraser\*, Loucas George, John Kennedy\* (Vice-Chair), Fiona Kerr\*, David King, Robert Maclean\*, David Moore (Secretary), Marilyn Moore (Chair), David Shearer, Olga Watkins, Ray Watkins, John Watson (Treasurer). (\*New members)

We had an interesting and informative presentation from Lee Turnock, Group Commander for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, about wildfires, recruitment of new on-call firefighters (a national challenge) and fire statistics (reducing over last year). We are hoping that our Callander fire station will soon be up to strength again with some fresh recruits to support the town.

We introduced the new microgrant facilities available from the Braes of Doune Community Fund (formerly Airtricity) primarily for unconstituted groups or individuals who are involved in supporting the community in charitable or social enterprise events and need small amounts of money (up to £250) to help them in the organisation.

Details are on the website here: [https://incallander.co.uk/ccc\\_grants](https://incallander.co.uk/ccc_grants).

This facility is wholly managed by CCC and so there is no window for applications. They can be made at any time with a relatively short turnaround time. The normal fund is still available for constituted organisations with the next 3-month window opening for applications from the beginning of August.

We have a lot to do over the next few years. CCC has a joint initiative with Callander Community Development Trust to support the Local Place Plan (LPP) which is being validated by the National Park and Stirling Council. Callander was one of the first towns in the country to finalise its LPP and it contains the important projects that we would like to see fulfilled over the next few years. If you haven't seen it, you can find an online version here: <https://callandersfuture.uk/ourplaceplan>.

A communication plan is being put in place now and you can read more about it elsewhere in this edition of the BLV. If you have any queries or wish to get in touch with any of your community councillors, please email to [callandercc556@gmail.com](mailto:callandercc556@gmail.com), post in the CCC box at the library. or send a private message on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ourcallandercommunitycouncil>  
We look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at our regular meetings.

Marilyn Moore

Chair, Callander Community Council

## Callander Flood Group – Update on Flood Protection for Callander

In October 2019 Stirling Council informed the community that the Callander Meadows Car Park Flood Alleviation Scheme would protect only 10 properties (1 residential and 9 businesses) from river flooding, by constructing a flood wall across the car park. Over the past years the community has been campaigning for a more appropriate and inclusive flood protection scheme for all of Callander.

At a recent meeting with Callander Flood Group, Stirling Council stated that their preferred scheme was outdated, would create a barrier in the town and would be unsympathetic to the local environment. There was no indication that Stirling Council, had developed a new option for flood protection for Callander, would do so in the future, or would continue to work through the various other proposals put forward over the previous three years.

Callander Flood Group continues to develop links with Callander Community Council, Callander Resilience Group and Callander Enterprise, to represent the community in ongoing engagement with Stirling Council.

Callander Flood Group is looking for more residents and local businesses to engage with the group, either to have your voice heard or to keep up-to-date with information on flooding in Callander.

For further details or to express willingness to get involved or to receive information, please contact via email at [Callanderfloodgroup@gmail.com](mailto:Callanderfloodgroup@gmail.com)

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## Local Place Plan Progress Update

Back in December 2022, the Callander Local Place Plan was formally submitted to Stirling Council and Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park for review, being one of the first in Scotland to do so. Conversations with both organisations are ongoing as each works through their validation process.

### What is a Local Place Plan?

A Local Place Plan (LPP) is a plan for how a community wants to see its place developed. It is about the town, the land around it and most importantly the community that lives there. For us, this means Callander and its local environment. Further information about the work to date can be found at [www.callandersfuture.uk](http://www.callandersfuture.uk).

### What's Next?

It is now time to deliver the solutions identified in the Local Place Plan to ensure Callander is a thriving place to live, work and play in the future. To help with this next phase we are being supported by social enterprise Imagine If, founded by Chiara Fingland who has grown up in Callander and is back living in the area. One of the first actions is to improve ways of finding out what's going on in the town. A way of communicating which has a physical presence in the town, can be easily updated, and doesn't rely on having a phone or laptop. A one stop shop where you can find out about Callander's groups/activities, upcoming events, town project updates (such as LPP) or live consultations on which you can have your say.

### How can you help to shape this?

We are very keen that this is designed with and for the residents of Callander and would be grateful if you could help us shape this by answering a short survey (it takes less than 2mins, promise!). Paper copies of the questions will be available in the Visitor Information Centre. The online version can be found here <https://forms.gle/YCChNPGua24GCpCJ7>

## Christmas Lights

The Christmas lights and decorations display in North Ancaster Square last year was very successful. The Christmas tree in the centre and the ones around the Square were covered in lights and we had the artificial trees on the St Kessog's steps and South Ancaster Square.

The evening when the lights were switched on was a great success with Santa's Sleigh parade along Main Street, brass band music, mulled wine, mince pies and cakes, fancy dress competition and two reindeer who eventually arrived. We have never seen such a big community gathering for the lights switch-on and it was so well supported that we completely blocked the road, giving some health and safety concerns.

This year, we are planning a wider display which we hope will extend around South Ancaster Square, along Main Street and down Bridge Street. The display will be strings of icicle lights and by the time this is published, we should have contacted all the shops and houses to see if we can hang lights over their windows and doors. The existing lights are good quality lights so will last many years, but we need to buy more for the extra display. At last year's switch-on we rattled buckets and raised £700, we had a fund-raising day in Ancaster Square when we raised £1100 and through on-line crowd funding we raised another £550. These funds will go towards the new lights and this year's event.

This year we also hope to have entertainment in the Square before the parade arrives, with carol singing and some 4-legged friends should be arriving.

Thanks again to all who help with the lights, Christmas tree, decorations, food and drink and everyone who has donated to this year's display.

### BLV Retiral

One of our Ben Ledi View distributors - Angie Stallard of Gullipen View - has recently retired from her drop-off and delivery duties after many years delivering our magazines in all weathers. We would like to thank Angie very much for her sterling service to the BLV.

### Jessie Pate



My mother is called Jessie Pate. She had lived at 2 Marshall Crescent, Callander, from 2008 to April this year.

She was in Ashlea Care Home for four months, and owing to the closure of this home, she is now in Oakeshott House Care Home in Stirling.

She was a regular member of the Craigard Club, and on 22nd June Jessie was treated to a special lunch at their usual venue, the Callander Hostel. She thoroughly enjoyed catching up with old friends, being spoiled with flowers and gifts and she even made a thank-you speech. Through the Ben Ledi magazine Jessie wishes to pass her sincere thanks again to the Craigard Club for this lovely event.

Three days later, family and friends celebrated her 100th birthday with a party in her new care home, where donations to the British Heart Foundation on the day came to £150.

### Fraser(Bud) Allan

Sheena, Scott, Ross and families would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards, flowers and support received on the sad loss of Fraser (Bud) Allan.

A total of £438 was raised by donations and given to Parkinson's UK.

Our thanks to Ross Anderson, Funeral Director and his staff for their support and professionalism. Many thanks to Celebrant Irene Gardner for the fitting eulogy, also to Gillian for the beautiful flowers and the Old Rectory for a lovely tea.

The family would also like to express their appreciation to everyone that cared for Fraser during the final months.

### RSA Schools Art Awards

#### Success by McLaren High

#### Art Department

High school students across Scotland have been recognised for their creativity and artistic talents in the annual Royal Scottish Academy Schools Art Awards competition.

The awards ceremony, which encourages artistic skills of technique, observation and interpretation, held on Monday 12th June 2023 at Brodies' Edinburgh office, Capital Square, saw prizes go to 27 students including entries from two special schools. The awards received over 800 entries from 70 schools across the country, with Bannerman High School and **McLaren High School** winning awards for Inspirational Art Departments.

This year, the theme for the Chair's Challenge was 'this is important to me' which encouraged entries to focus on something very small or expansive but with personal importance.

UK top 50 and leading Scottish law firm Brodies LLP continues to sponsor the RSA Schools Art Award for the eighth consecutive year.

### COOK'S CORNER by Audrey Corrieri

#### Rhubarb and Marzipan Cake

Serves 12

#### INGREDIENTS

- 150g butter, softened
- 150g caster sugar
- 150g marzipan
- 3 medium eggs
- 50-75g plain flour
- 3-4 stalks of rhubarb
- 30g granulated sugar, plus extra for dusting the tin
- 10 sprigs of lemon thyme, rinsed and roughly chopped

#### METHOD

Preheat oven to 170<sup>0</sup>c/ Fan 150<sup>0</sup>c / Gas no 3

Cream the butter, caster sugar and marzipan together until smooth.

Then add the eggs, one at a time, until combined

Fold in the flour and stir.

Meanwhile grease a spring-form cake tin 20cm dia with a little butter, then sprinkle the inside of the tin with some sugar so that it sticks all the way round. This helps the baked cake to slip from the tin and gives it a caramelised surface.

Pour the cake mixture into the tin.

Cut the rhubarb stalks into 1-2 cm chunks and place in a bowl. Toss the pieces in the granulated sugar, then spread the rhubarb on top of the cake mixture, pressing a few pieces down into the batter. Sprinkle the lemon thyme over the cake and bake for 30-35 mins.

Remove from oven and allow to cool before serving.



## The June Forest Fires – Any lesson learnt?

We had nearly 4 weeks without rain this June which was also one of the hottest on record. And with it came several small forest fires in the woods surrounding Callander. Massive thanks to the Fire and Rescue Service for their brilliant work to successfully contain those fires and keep us safe. But what lessons can we learn from this that will help Callander be more resilient to the risk of forest fires in future?

The risk of flooding can usually be forewarned by the SEPA Flood Alert system, but wildfires spread lightning fast, changing direction, jumping to and from other areas. So our first thought is that Callander should have a plan of how it will effectively sound the alert to warn people. We are wondering whether Facebook is sufficient for this purpose or whether we ought to return to a more noisy approach – sounding a recognised horn or church bell?



Callander Crag Wood before and after photos C McGowan



We can do more to remind people not to light any fires during dry periods, and especially visitors from urban areas who will have no experience of wildfires. For example, Callander could have its own set of signs ready to be installed at key locations. This could be supported by the National Park whose camping permit rules say “fires must only be lit when there are no active fire risk warnings issued by the Park Authority or other relevant bodies”. But we are not sure whether there was an active fire risk warning in place in the National Park this June. Forgive us if there was, but we never saw any warning signs around nor were there any very obvious posts on social media.

It's no mean coincidence that all of the June woodland fires started on Friday and Saturday nights, when we had more visitors and more local parties. So have we done enough to educate ourselves about the risk of fire in Callander and the dangers of building dens in the woods in dry conditions? The photos show a burnt out den from the most recent fire on the Callander Crag. Perhaps we should be running another campaign on fire safety when schools return this Autumn?

There is currently a shortage of on-call fire crew volunteers in Callander right now and a national recruitment drive is underway. So maybe a Callander campaign on fire would help raise awareness and encourage people to think about volunteering?

In the longer term, should we be planning more fire breaks? Lovely as Callander looks with the houses tucked into the trees, maybe it's time to have a rethink about just how close those trees are and whether the fallen deadwood from Storm Arwen and on-going larch clearance could help fuel the problem.

We feel there is much we can do to better prepare ourselves in future. We are hoping this article promotes debate. There is a small group of us who are starting to think about making Callander more resilient to the impact of climate change and all those interested in this article are welcome to come and join us: Callander Resilience Group. Please contact us via [climateactioncallander@gmail.com](mailto:climateactioncallander@gmail.com).

Callander Resilience Group

## The Greener Callander Train is in the Station!

Callander's first railway station opened on 1st July 1858 on the Dunblane, Doune and Callander Railway. This was taken over by the Callander and Oban Railway, running initially to Glenoglehead then extended to Oban on 30th June 1880. However, during the 1950s, although summer tourist travel continued, local use of the line declined heavily so winter usage was low. Beeching's cuts therefore included closure of the line between Dunblane and Crianlarich from 1st November 1965, the through traffic being diverted over the West Highland line and the Crianlarich connection to Oban. The last excursion train over the line was planned for 27th September 1965, but in the small hours a rock fall took place in Glen Ogle. The blockage was considerable, and after engineering assessment it was obvious that re-opening for a few weeks was impracticable so it was closed immediately. (courtesy of Wikipedia).

Today the only trace is the name of Station Road and its car park where the station stood. However, Greener Callander gardening volunteers have maintained a nod to its history. In 2015 George Walker rescued a wooden train from a neighbour's garden and restored it as a planter, filled with summer and winter bedding. Unfortunately, 8 years of Callander weather meant it had reached the end of the line, hit the buffers and finally fallen off the tracks!!

We were therefore thrilled that Steve Willett responded to an advert for



photo Lesley Hawkins

'Wooden Train Engineers' to make a replacement. A bit like Santa, Steve had a secret helper for the construction phase before completing the final build and painting. As a steam train enthusiast, details were observed, including the colour scheme of the Caledonian Railway. On 30th June we gathered for its formal



Steve Willett with Greener Callander Volunteers photo L Hawkins

naming ceremony and, despite the dreich weather it was a fun event with the final unveiling of the engine name of Ben Ledi View. Appropriate to its location, this also recognises a financial donation from Callander's local news magazine. We are also extremely grateful to The Crafty Barrel Company for gifting the 3 barrels (Hoggins), recognised on the brass

plaque at the front of the engine. Now you can tell its story to admiring/quizzical visitors.

The changing summer weather is proving challenging for hanging baskets and other planters, initially hot and dry with scorching wind followed by weeks of daily rain! Hopefully, our change to more resilient plants with better water wicking (hanging baskets lined with sheep's fleece) will work.

Watering of hanging baskets is contracted out to Empardio but many thanks to the individuals who have watered other containers during the hot weather.

Efforts to find funding to resurface the Community Garden continue but meanwhile are continuing to replace worn items piecemeal. In 2022 we installed the new raised bed; in 2023 we replaced four barrel planters. Now we have procured money from Stirling Council's Common Good Fund to replace the worn three wooden benches with recycled plastic ones, hopefully in August.

Thanks to all who supported our fund-raising stall on 20th May, donating prizes for the tombola, helping on the day and, vitally, spending money! The money raised will cover the costs

of plants, compost etc for the next year BUT we need more people to continue looking after so many beds and planters. We meet once a month throughout the year for a couple of hours for general garden upkeep plus extra sessions for planting summer and winter bedding. If you can help please let me know on [mlhawkins@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mlhawkins@tiscali.co.uk).

Lesley Hawkins

## Forestry and Land Scotland - *Phytophthora ramorum* update



Over the last few years *Phytophthora ramorum* (*P. ram*), a fungus like disease which affects a number of tree and plant species, has been spreading throughout Scotland including the Trossachs. Once infected, it can kill larch (the tree species most badly affected) within a year. As it can't be eradicated, the only way to slow down the spread of the disease is to fell the infected trees and those surrounding them, to stop the spores spreading and infecting other trees and forests.

We have recently identified some suspect larch trees in Coilhullan Wood and are awaiting further results from helicopter and ground surveys identifying new possible infections around the Trossachs. Lab testing will then be carried out and if the disease is confirmed we are then issued with a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN)



Bochastle photo Steve McGowan

requiring us to fell specific areas of larch within a defined timescale. The Trossachs currently falls into Scottish Forestry's Priority Action Zone so we have to act quickly to fell the infected trees, plus their buffer zone, in time.

We are currently working on a number of outstanding SPHNs around the Trossachs including finalising work plans for an SPHN issued near the Falls of Leny adjacent to the A84. This one in particular is proving complex and involves working alongside BEAR and geotechnical

engineers.

It is likely that we will be issued with more SPHNs later this year, once all the surveys and testing have been completed. The increase in felling activity may require new forest roads to be built and existing roads to be upgraded, as well as

harvesting facilities to be constructed. We appreciate this will have a big impact on the landscape and our visitor trails and facilities. Visitor trails and car parks will only be closed when there is no other option and will be reopened as soon as is practically and safely possible. We will aim to update our webpages with any works which impact on our trails, car parks and visitor sites and appreciate your understanding during this time.

Nik Cox Forest and Land Scotland  
e: [Nik.Cox@forestryandland.gov.scot](mailto:Nik.Cox@forestryandland.gov.scot)

## Callander Woodland Group Update

Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) has announced the awful news that Larch Disease (*Phytophthora Ramorum*) has been found in Coilhullan Wood (see above) and felling has to be done before the end of the year.

The Callander Woodland Group will continue to hold volunteer days, working outside of the affected area as we have been doing previously in anticipation of this happening. Until machinery actually moves in, we will be able to take out non-native species and shrubs/trees in the wet areas along the path to the caravan park, to maintain a wet habitat for amphibians.

Once felling starts, we will also be able to work in the beech wood area along Mollands Road (designated for long-term retention in the new 10-year management plan), trying to keep it tidy for use by the Nursery. Also keeping open the well-used 'arboretum loop' to the north of the



Callander Crag Woodland photo C. McGowan

main path. In the new 10-year plan, this area is designated for 'minimum intervention', mainly periodic thinning.

From September, once bird-nesting

has finished, we hope to start clearing out the five enclosures along the loop. These were planted with tree species from five continents (not Africa and Antarctica) in a Community project between FLS and McLaren High School almost 20 years ago. However, without maintenance, the specimen trees are now hidden by birch trees and other self-seeded species. If achievable, this could become one of the more ambitious but rewarding projects to provide points of interest and educational benefit along a posted route.

Of course all plans rely 100% on getting enough volunteers, expertise not essential, just stamina. If you are willing and able to join in, please get in touch via [callanderwoodlandgroup@gmail.com](mailto:callanderwoodlandgroup@gmail.com).

Lesley Hawkins

### Callander's Street Ceilidh

The Community Friends of The Canmore Trust would like to invite you to Callander's 2023 Street Ceilidh on Saturday 19th of August 7pm – 8pm on Ancaster Road, on behalf of The Canmore Trust. This event is free and for all the family- see the link below to book your space!



Last year we created a "Sea of Blue" with the bringing together of our Community to welcome John & Isobel Gibson through their home town of Callander during their monumental Lands End to John O'Groats walk. They were raising awareness throughout the UK of the need to provide safe spaces for lives impacted by suicide following the tragic death to suicide of their son, Cameron in 2019.

The inaugural Street Ceilidh held on 10th of August 2022 was a huge success. It raised over £3,000 for The Canmore Trust through just giving donations and collections on the day. Unfortunately at the last minute both Isobel & John contracted COVID and could not attend in person, instead Malcolm & Eilidh Gibson represented the family. Fortunately, Garry Fingland

managed to set up a live stream of the ceilidh direct to the Gibsons' home to ensure nothing was missed and John managed to thank the supporters by a live stream back to the post event gathering at the Callander Youth Partnership Hostel. John was able to update all guests on the present position of the Trust and shared real life stories of lives touched throughout the miles travelled so far.

This year the Ceilidh will be held on Ancaster Road on Saturday 19th of August. A procession from Ancaster Square will be led by a piper along Glenartney Road and up to the ceilidh on Ancaster Road at 6.45pm with the hour long ceilidh being held from 7pm till 8pm.

We are again looking to create our "sea of blue": if you still have your t-shirt from last year, please wear it. We also have new 2023 t-shirts for sale through links on our social media pages with profits going to The Canmore Trust or you can wear your own blue top!



E-tickets for the event can be booked for FREE at [www.eventbrite.com/e/callanders-street-ceilidh-tickets-666304934997](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/callanders-street-ceilidh-tickets-666304934997)

From 1pm on the afternoon of the ceilidh, we are hosting a stall on Ancaster Square where pre ordered t-shirts can be collected and to hold fundraising activities.

From 4.30pm -6.30pm we are inviting local wellbeing groups to "Gather" in the Square and mix and chat with all present to raise awareness on what activities, groups and organisations we have in and around Callander, promoting mental and physical well-being.

Please find us on Facebook and Instagram as '[The Community Friends of The Canmore Trust](#)' where you will find links to the event booking page and to The Canmore Trust Just Giving page, as well as more details of the day's events. There will also be an opportunity to donate to the Trust through collection buckets during the day's events.

**SAVE THE DATE, SATURDAY 19TH OF AUGUST 2023.**

*Joyce Burnett, Kirsty Fingland, Christine Collie, Richard Underwood*



### Callander & District 41 Club

The 41 Club is an organisation established in 1945 for retired members of Round Table. The age limit for Round Table is 40 years so the 41 Club is for those people who want to maintain friendships and continue with community events. The Callander & District 41 Club is affiliated to the UK branch and has a small but active membership.

The aims of the 41 Club are to organise community events and to support individuals and groups in the Callander, Doune, Deanston and Thornhill areas. Events are organised for the enjoyment of local people and visitors and they also raise funds to support the communities.

The Callander Round Table will probably be best remembered for the Highland Games and the Santa's Sleigh. The pandemic and problems with a suitable venue resulted in the Highland Games being cancelled for the past few years but the 41 Club is looking to organise this event in future years. But the 41 Club has kept Santa's Sleigh and this coming Christmas it should be a bigger and better sleigh.

We have recently linked up with Richard and Mary Johnson in Callander who organise the Callander Seniors Christmas Party, the Christmas Lights and other events. This arrangement means we can look to organise events in other communities, coordinate events and ensure events are carried out safely with the necessary insurance. Future Callander events will still include the Seniors Christmas Party and Window Wanderland but also a bigger Christmas lights display and switch on, a charity Ceilidh with a Summer Fun Day and D-Day 80 commemoration next year.

Following last year's successful Santa's Sleigh we have funds available for local people and groups to apply for. Grant applications can be made for equipment, travel or other items which will help with a local event or project.

For further information about the events we are planning or to contact us for a grant application form, please contact us through our web site:

[www.CAD41Club.co.uk](http://www.CAD41Club.co.uk)

Richard Johnson

### Messy Church



Messy Church will meet on Saturday 30th September and Saturday 28th October at 10.30 am

In Callander Kirk Hall, South Church Street.

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

.....  
If you would like to know more about Messy Church please feel free to speak to Lara Rawson on 01877 339324

### Callander and District Arthritis Club

We start back after the summer break with a talk by Lynn Brice – A District Nurse and Farmer's Wife - on September 12th at the Kirk hall at 2pm.

I hope you all had a good summer and are raring to get back into the swing of things.

Fiona Snow, Secretary

### Callander u3A



#### AGM and Enrolment Day

The Annual General Meeting of Callander and West Perthshire u3a will be held on Thursday 24th August 2023 in the McLaren Leisure Centre at 2pm.

No longer working full time? Looking for new interests? Come and join us to find out more about what's on offer and meet the group leaders from 3.30 – 4.30 pm.

There will be the opportunity to sign up to groups and pay subscriptions, as well as have a cup of coffee.

We look forward to seeing you there. Bring along a friend too.

Joy Henderson

### Chas

Open garden at Easter Gartchonzie.



I should like to send a huge thank you to all friends, neighbours and relations who gave so much of their time and efforts to make the day a success.

The stars of the day were the Callander Brass Band who gave us all so much pleasure. The joint efforts raised an amazing £1090 for CHAS and put a smile on all our faces.

Fiona House.

# Callander Heritage Society

### May Report

At our meeting on May 17th Dr Peter McNiven talked about the Formation of 'The Earldom of Menteith.' This was made up of the lands around Aberfoyle, Callander, Doune, Kilmadock, the Perthshire part of Kippen, Port of Menteith, Blairdrummond and Kincardine in Menteith.

The Earls were invested by the Bishop of Inchmahome. Their main residences were at Inchtalla and Doune Castle. The ancient Earldoms or Mormaerdoms were Pictish titles. They were created to help support the Crown by collecting taxes and leading armies against raiders and rebels.



Although it had probably been in existence long before then, the earliest mention of the Mormaerdom of Menteith is in a charter of 1164 when Gille Crist (Gilcrist) was made Earl of Menteith. The Earl of Strathearn had been punished for rebelling against King Malcolm IV by having part of his earldom confiscated to create a separate earldom of Menteith.

Probably the best-known Earl of Menteith was Robert, Duke of Albany, grandson of Robert the Bruce. He gained the title when he married Margaret, Countess of Menteith. Their main residence was Doune Castle which Robert had extended and modernised. For many years Robert was Regent of Scotland while James I was imprisoned in England.

On his death the title passed to his son Murdoch. On his return to Scotland, James had Murdoch executed and in 1427 James made Malise Graham the Earl of Menteith. The Grahams continued to hold the title until 1694 when William Graham died without heirs and the title became extinct.

### June Report

At our meeting on 21st June, society member Peter Mehta gave a most interesting talk on 'Clocks and a link to our Heritage.'

As a hobby, Peter repairs and restores clocks. He enjoys researching the makers of the clocks he works on because by taking a closer look at old clocks we can find out a lot about the past. The earliest clock Peter has repaired dates from 1695. He has also repaired clocks from the 18th and 19th Century and researched their makers. There were many local clockmakers in Dunblane, Stirling, Alloa and St Ninians. He has repaired many clocks for local people helped by Ann Thompson, a local clock dial restorer.

Peter told us that the oldest clocks were water clocks and sundials as used by the Egyptians and Romans. At the foot of South Church Street there is the sundial given to Callander by Lord Esher of the Roman Camp, in memory of the soldiers who died in World War 1. The sundial was made in 1753 and restored in 2001. A plaque beside the sundial shows how to use it.

Christian Huygens, a Dutch scientist and inventor, introduced the pendulum clock to London in 1695. Early clocks only had one hand showing the hour, minutes were not regarded as important. These were introduced later when more accurate timekeeping was needed. Early clocks were difficult and expensive to make. They were treasured possessions and passed down through the family.

Originally everywhere had 'Local Time' which varied across the country. The coming of the railways and the introduction of railway timetables meant the end of 'Local Time.' 'Railway time' was introduced in 1847 and GMT adopted nationwide in 1880.

The first public clock in Callander was on St Kessog's Church in 1860. Time was taken from church clocks on Sunday and then used to set house clocks.

There are no meetings in July and August. Our meetings resume in September when Dr Neil Clark will talk on 'Tracking Dinosaurs on Scotland's Jurassic Isle'. It's on September 20th in the Masonic Hall, Callander 7pm for 7.30pm.

*K. Millar*

## Rotary in Callander

The new Rotary year started at the beginning of July when outgoing president Mike Kay handed over the reins to incoming President Jen Shearer. This is Jen's third time as President and members all hope that she enjoys it as much as the last two.



The start of the summer has been a quiet time for the club but the diary is now filling up. On 12th August the club will be at the Thornhill Gala Day with some children's games and to provide information about Rotary membership. Then, on 19th August we shall be stewarding at the Canmore Trust Ceilidh in Callander.

The next event, on 26th August, will be Highland Dancing in Ancaster Square Callander with the Liz Campbell Dancers, and then there is a break until the Bottle and Bric a Brac stalls in Ancaster Square on 30th of September. Finally, we hope to present two defibrillators to Callander Police early in September. We also hope to be able to arrange a demonstration and training session in Callander. Details will be on our website and Facebook page.

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*

## Callander & District Horticultural Society



### A celebration of 150 Years of the Society

The Callander and District Horticultural Society was established in 1873, during Queen Victoria's reign. This is the same year as the formation of the Scottish Football Association and the Scottish Rugby Union Association and long before well known events such as the Tay Bridge disaster of 1879 and the opening of the Glasgow Underground in 1896!

As we prepare to celebrate 150 years of the founding of the Society, the Committee hopes to encourage and inspire more people to enter some of the many classes at this year's Annual Show. You can enter as many classes as you wish, or just one – that cactus that everyone has always admired or your best geranium – the more the merrier. We want to make this a year where the joy of gardening is celebrated and the difficulties we have all faced over the past few years are put behind us.



We hope to see as many well-known faces and as many new ones as possible. As an added incentive, most of the committee will be dressed in Victorian costume on the day, to celebrate the history of the Society - you may even catch a glimpse of one of us in plus fours! The Annual Show is on Saturday 19th August 2023 (please note this is a week earlier than in previous years) at East Torrie Farm, Callander, FK17 8JL. Doors open to the public at 2pm (Entry by Donation). The prizegiving is at 3pm and the exhibition finishes at 4pm.

If you are entering exhibits, please refer to our Schedule for information, which can be found at [www.cadhs.co.uk/schedule](http://www.cadhs.co.uk/schedule). Paper copies of the Schedule are available if you have no internet access at Willow Houseplants, the Post Office and D. Campbell & Son Butchers. The Show is open for entries from 6pm – to 9pm on Friday 18th August and from 8am to 10am on the day of the Show. Friendly faces will be on hand to offer advice and support on how to display your entries.



This year the Show will form part of a wider programme of events aimed at bringing the community of Callander together on the 19th August. The programme will also include a swim in Loch Venachar, a community showcase in Ancaster Square and a street ceilidh in the evening. Entry to the photography and garden competitions is now closed, but winners will be announced at the Show.

We would like to thank the Braes of Doune Community Fund for supporting the Society in our 150th anniversary celebrations.

*The Committee*

# Ripple Retreat

Hi everyone, it's Susan from Ripple Retreat here with some summer news!

When a child is diagnosed with cancer, the whole family has a lot to deal with and a lot of mental anguish too. When Lynne and Ian McNicoll set up It's good 2 give in 2010 they wanted, at some point, to create a Retreat where one family at a time could spend quality time together, away from the beeping machines and bright lights and noise of a busy hospital ward. A peaceful place where the family could be together. Fast forward to today and the Ripple Retreat allows families some very special time together in the most beautiful surroundings – a place of peace and beauty. The feedback we get from families reassures us we are getting it right. I attach a quote below from a recent family: "We loved the house well, just as ALL those who created and care for Ripple Retreat have loved us well too. Thank you for all of it, you loved us so well."



It takes a lot of people to look after the Ripple Retreat and keep it in the most pristine condition. (Remember too that some of our young guests are immunocompromised so our standards of hygiene are very high indeed). We are fortunate indeed to have good housekeeping, maintenance, and gardening teams to help us achieve our aims.

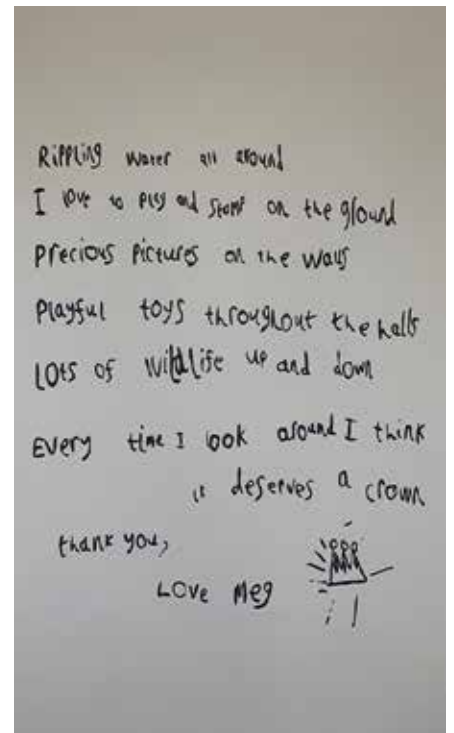
Most of these tasks are carried out on Thursdays and that also allows us to have visitors by appointment on a Thursday – individuals or businesses who may be considering supporting our charity for example.

This is what Stephanie and Simon who own Westcot Guest House in Callander did. Having walked past the Retreat many times they contacted Lynne, who invited them to have a look around. When they stepped through the front door, they instantly understood the level of thought and detail that has gone in to ensuring that families

have the most relaxing and memorable stay during what can be challenging times. This was backed up for Stephanie and Simon when they read some of the poignant messages in the guest book and poems on the walls from previous guests. Stephanie and Simon wanted to support the charity and took a collection tin along with some leaflets which they are now displaying in their guest house, asking guests to make any donation they can. This support is hugely appreciated; they are on their second tin already.

Perhaps you have a business that could help us by taking leaflets and a collection tin or provide a prize for raffle or auction at our fundraising events? If that is the case, do let me know and I can deliver to you!

The extensive grounds require ongoing maintenance throughout the year. In addition to our gardeners, we also have volunteers who add valued expertise and hours of work enhancing every area of the garden.



*continued on next page*





SCV planting

Stirling Conservation Volunteers (SCV) and Savills Forestry Division visited the Retreat in March. We were delighted when they donated and then planted over 150 saplings. In May SCV came back to the Retreat to sow seeds in our new wildflower area. This is a welcome addition to the Ripple Retreat garden and we hope that families visiting during the summer are enjoying seeing the flowers swaying in the breeze!

'Wildflowers provide bees, butterflies and other pollinators with food throughout the year. On a single day in summer, one acre of wildflower meadow can contain 3 million flowers producing 1 kg of nectar sugar. That's enough to support nearly 96,000 honeybees per day.'



Wild flowers

We are keen to balance our carbon footprint by planting trees in the grounds around the Retreat and would like to thank Callander Rotary's outgoing president, Michael Kay, for making a £200 donation towards this activity. He chose The Ripple Retreat as this fits in with the Rotary themes for this year, namely Rotary Legacy. Thanks again.

Thank you to Callander Brass and Callander Chorale who held an 'at home' on Thursday 15 June raising £1000 which was split equally between It's good 2 give and The Canmore Trust.

We all hugely appreciate this varied support and really would love to show you round Ripple Retreat on a Thursday in the future.



Susan Milligan, Ripple Retreat Manager  
It's good 2 give [susan@itsgood2give.co.uk](mailto:susan@itsgood2give.co.uk)

### German-Speaking Group in Callander

Wir haben vor, am SONNTAG 13. August noch einmal bei Peter (Coilhalla House, Invertrossachs Road, FK17 8HW) zusammenzukommen. Das vorgeschlagene Diskussionsthema für das Treffen ist folgendes:

Wir leiden alle unter steigenden Lebenshaltungskosten. Welche Haushalts- oder andere Kosten haltet Ihr für wesentlich und auf welchen Luxus musstet Ihr in den letzten Monaten verzichten? Wie stark hat sich die wirtschaftliche Situation auf Eure Lebensweise ausgewirkt?

Wenn Ihr es vorhabt, mitzumachen, sagt mir bitte erst eine Woche im Voraus Bescheid, damit wir wissen, wie viele Teilnehmer zu erwarten sind. Falls jemand bis jetzt an unseren Treffen nicht teilgenommen hat, aber jetzt mitmachen möchte, schicken Sie mir bitte eine E-Mail, um die Einladungen zu unseren zukünftigen Treffen zu erhalten: [jenshearer@gmail.com](mailto:jenshearer@gmail.com). Wir freuen uns darauf, Sie alle im August bei Peter wieder begrüßen zu können.

NB Das übernächste Treffen findet am Sonntag 17. September statt. Die näheren Angaben darüber und ein Diskussionsthema werden wir im Voraus allen Mitgliedern per E-Mail schicken.

Jen Shearer

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD REVIEW

This session we have seen a return to the full award programme for Duke of Edinburgh following the disruption caused by Covid. A huge team of staff has worked mentoring participants and taken part in loads of expedition support, giving up a huge amount of free time which is much appreciated by organisers (especially Mr Richardson who manages our expedition activities) and participants alike.

We were oversubscribed, with 36 S3 pupils signed up to take part in the Bronze award, and as I type, 4 awards are ready for approval and many others are very close to completing this step. We have seen all sorts of interesting and exciting work done by the Bronze participants across their 3 activities, from working at an animal rescue centre to gardening and 'young child after school care' to giving music lessons in the Volunteering Section. Physical and Skills activities have also seen all sorts going on, from swimming to ballet and acting to cookery! It has been great to hear stories of interesting people met and worked with and real life lessons learned from a number of participants!



The Silver Award also saw a great uptake, with the added bonus of inclusion of a group of pupils from Balforn High School to the team. These candidates await their final qualifying expedition, which is scheduled for the 2nd last week of term, but have already worked hard across a similarly varied range of activities in the other sections of the award.

Applications have been opened for the next levels, and it is hoped that healthy numbers will sign up for both the Bronze and Silver awards offered this year and indeed we hope to see a Gold Award group return to McLaren next session. Anyone interested in either taking part or parents keen to assist with either fundraising or delivery of the award should get in touch with Mr Milligan, preferably via email to [milligank04s@glow.sch.uk](mailto:milligank04s@glow.sch.uk). He'll be delighted to hear from anyone!

### STATEMENTS

- "My experience on my Silver Duke of Edinburgh was truly amazing. I had a great laugh with my friends which I will treasure for a while, and it's all thanks to Ben Ledi View who supported our DofE programme financially to help us get the equipment to be able to go on our expedition. Thanks to Duke of Edinburgh I have had an amazing opportunity to give back to my local community and nearby communities as I volunteer with a local Brownie unit in Bridge Of Allan as part of my volunteering section. I have been able to help small children have a safe space to have fun with their friends and take them on exciting trips and camps. Thanks Ben Ledi View for allowing me to take part in this brilliant experience!"
- DofE has allowed me to give back to my community as I am now helping out at the local hockey club (Trossachs Tigers). I hope it will inspire young hockey players and will brighten up the community spirit. It has allowed me to gain valuable experiences for the future. I have gained skills that will allow me to be more confident if I was to go on an expedition outside of school."
- "Silver DofE was easily one of my highlights of the year so far. Through my volunteering and physical section I was able not only to improve my own hockey skills, but also improve the skills of the under 12's that I coach. The expedition was greatly improved as we had new equipment such as tents, which were much appreciated during rainy weather."
- "The money donated to McLaren's DofE group has hugely helped our expedition go more smoothly and make a big difference in our overall experiences. This means that more people are likely to go forward with the next award, be it Silver level or Gold level. At the same time more individuals are volunteering and getting involved with their local community, for example I was helping out with the hockey coach at Trossachs Tigers and this allowed me to grow my confidence in leading groups and encourage younger children to continue on with sports."



- DofE was a wonderful experience which helped lots with my school life. The expedition was on an excellent trail, and the equipment the school was able to provide worked great. The tents were easy to set up, and there were no problems with the cooking equipment. While I've not yet done my volunteering section, I'm sure it will allow me to help a class in my school or get other qualifications too. The skill and physical sections are also great for keeping me fit and teaching how to follow healthy habits.

**TALK TO US**  
If things are getting to you

Talk to us any time you like, in your own way, and off the record – about whatever's getting to you.

116 123 FREE  
This number is FREE to call

07725 90 90 90  
Standard UK numbers

jo@samaritans.org  
samaritans.org

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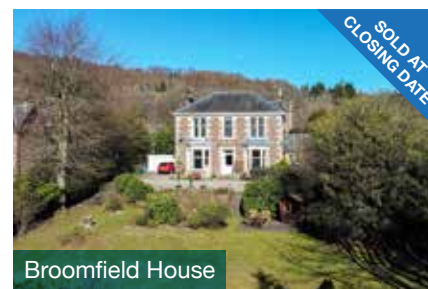
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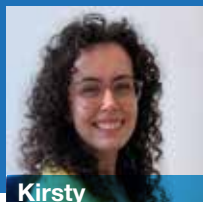
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Mental Health Awareness Week - 13<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023



Dear community,

What an amazing week for our 1<sup>st</sup> Mental Health Awareness Week!

Thank you to our residents, tourists, Callander businesses, community organisations: Callander Community Development Trust, Callander Community Council, Ladies Tangent, Callander Youth Project, Girl Guides, Scouts, Rotary, pupils from McLaren High School, the Crown and Waverley Hotels and the Braes of Doune Grant Fund for making this week possible.

The Mental Health Awareness event on the square, quiz nights and green ribbon donations have allowed us to give £750.03 to each of our nominated charities: Rookie Rockstars, Action In Mind & The Canmore Trust, to help those in our community & beyond with mental health support and prevention. Together we have made a difference!

We look forward to doing it all again next year from May 11<sup>th</sup>- 19<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Our grateful thanks to you all.  
Callander Mental Health Matters



Walk in the Park - Health Walk

Time: Departs at 10.20am, every Tuesday (weekly)

Location: Ancaster Square (8th August will depart from the Medical Centre).

Walk in the Park welcomes people living with dementia, and their carers on our walks. Routes identified with the Dementia Friendly Walking logo are suitable for most abilities. No need to book, just turn up. Walks are followed by optional refreshments in a local coffee shop/hotel

For more details of routes visit the Countryside Trusts website [www.trustinthepark.org](http://www.trustinthepark.org) or contact e: [fiona@trustinthepark.org](mailto:fiona@trustinthepark.org)



Callander Kirk Community

Food Larder

Donations of food/toiletries (see below) for our Larder, located outside the Kirk Hall for members of our community to uplift anything they need, will be gratefully received. Please remember to check the best before date on any gifted items.

Food Items - instant meals (pot noodle, mug shot, pasta in sauce), cup a soup, tinned soup, cereal bars, cereal, tinned pasta (spaghetti, ravioli, mac cheese), dried pasta, pasta sauce, rice, jars of fish/meat paste, oat cakes/crackers, tea bags, coffee, tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, tinned veg, tinned fruit. Other non-perishable food items also welcome.

Toiletry items - toilet roll, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, shower gel, etc

Surplus Garden Produce - can be left in the basket beside the Larder.



The Community Hub is open on Wednesdays between 12.30-2.30pm in Callander Kirk Hall, South Church Street, Callander, FK17 8BN.

Gail and her volunteers have a light lunch and a warm welcome for all every Wednesday, an opportunity to catch up with friends old and new.

Pop in anytime between 12.30-2.30pm

Advisors from Citizen Advice and other support organisations will also be on hand to provide information and advice on benefits, housing, energy costs and healthcare.

For more information contact Gail on 07951 013470 [gail@startupstirling.org.uk](mailto:gail@startupstirling.org.uk) #workingtogether #cuppaandchat



Come along to Callander Kirk Hall 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 from 2.00pm - 3.30pm  
2023  
No meeting - April  
8<sup>th</sup> May  
12<sup>th</sup> June  
No meeting - July  
14<sup>th</sup> August  
11<sup>th</sup> September  
9<sup>th</sup> October  
13<sup>th</sup> November  
11<sup>th</sup> December

For more information please contact:  
Ann Ross ☎  
07720 887720  
or  
Anne McLachlan ☎  
07743 125966

## Dr Graham Strang M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.. Glasgow 1983



Graham with his Father and Grand Daughter

Monklands, Hairmyres, Bridge of Earn and finishing of with six months in obstetrics and gynaecology in Stirling Royal Infirmary. The soup at Hairmyres and the fly fishing from the back of Bridge of Earn Hospital are particularly well remembered.

His final year of GP training was carried out with the GP practice in Tarbert in Argyll and Bute. By then his father had moved to running a one doctor practice in Callander which by then warranted another half time doctor, He joined the practice in 1991 as a half time GP, filling his time with various posts within the Health Board. His father was keen, as was he, in developing a new Medical Centre and amalgamating the two practices in Callander, and had been promised that this would happen. With these promises in mind, he came to Callander. It took rather longer than he thought to get the Health Centre built and with two practices joined, but it did eventually happen.

We asked what was the biggest difference in the job was now from when he joined the practice and he thinks it is that they can treat conditions now that would have just been left previously, as they were considered untreatable. Practices are a lot more proactive on more conditions now and more self-sufficient in treating rarer conditions. When working in a small town, and therefore in a small practice, you get to know people better: you know family history- and have a more holistic approach. There have been changes in the community over the years – a wider age range with the new housing - but it has happened gradually and therefore it has not been difficult to adapt.

There are disadvantages to a small practice in that the practice is paid relative to the number of people registered with it but a small practice has the same overheads as a large practice i.e practice manager, nurses, receptionists etc. This means that money is much tighter in a small practice. This is a problem which is specific to rural practices and which has been raised with governments on a number of occasions, and means that small rural practices are more difficult to make financially viable.

As you will know, Graham has retired from Callander Medical Practice after 30 years serving the people of Callander. As well as being one of our local doctors, he has also been a trustee on the Youth Project and a member of Killin Mountain Rescue Team.

At his invitation, we put 20 questions to Graham about his career and other matters and this article is based on his answers.

Graham is a Glasgow boy, brought up in the West End and then the Southside, as his father whom the older members of our community will remember as a Callander GP, moved practices in and around Glasgow. He was schooled at Glasgow Academy, both junior and senior school, and did his medical degree at Glasgow University.

In his younger days, his ambition was to be a pilot in the Royal Air Force, but due to being a sufferer from hay fever he was deemed to be medically unfit to be a pilot, so this was not a possible route. He could have been a navigator, this did not have the same appeal and Medicine beckoned. Not having been a pilot is probably his big regret in life.

He originally did surgical orthopaedics, but found that working full time in a hospital and studying for the necessary qualifications to be a surgeon was too much and a rethink was necessary. After time mulling over his future he took a temporary position working in Radiography and found that he enjoyed the patient interaction, which you don't get as a surgeon, and decided to follow in his father's footsteps and become a GP. He did his GP Rotation (required training for a GP) which requires the trainee to have experience in a number of different disciplines in Oban,



His biggest frustration in the practice was computers, a necessary evil, and patients coming in with more than one problem for a single appointment which causes delays for other patients. His biggest joy was seeing newborn babies for their first check-up. Although computers were a frustration they were also a large step change in the way GP practices operated. As far as the doctors are concerned the loss of night work, by the setting up of out of hours, was also a great step forward. He himself wrote off his car when overtired on a night call-out and knows the dangers this causes (GPs supply their own car, fuel etc.) – It was therefore an expensive 'night call'.

One of the big pluses of having a practice in a small town is that it made things much easier to deal with events such as Covid as everyone seemed to understand and follow the rules to try to get through it. The way that the volunteer services came together to assist during the epidemic was very good and was an excellent example of a community pulling together. The epidemic also brought forward the use of telephone consultations, which he believed was a good thing and which he hopes will continue and expand.

His proudest moment was when as a member of BASICS (British Association for Immediate Care) he, along with the GP from Doune and the ambulance from Callander, was called on and was amongst the first responders to the terrible shooting at Dunblane Primary School. This is something he still thinks on and he always attends the annual memorial service.

On a personal side, his main interest is motorbikes, especially classic motorbikes. He has been the proud owner of a number in the past and still has a Kawasaki 900 which he has owned for 47 years so far. He is in the process of building a 'special' from various makes. This has taken 2 years and more so far and it is only half built! And it is likely to be even longer before it is finished as his two grandchildren are now occupying more and more of his time. His father was a classic car enthusiast and liked restoring them and he has owned a 1969 Corvette, but his real interest is in motorbikes.

His other interests are flyfishing for trout, although this has been a couple of years since last active, and he used to enjoy fishing at Cambusmore and on Loch Tay where his father had a cottage. He does own golf clubs, but that is about as far as that goes.

His holiday ideal is to immerse himself in the local scene, to get out and meet the local population and to become as much as possible a local for the time he is there, and he has a couple of holiday places of choice where he can do this. One is in Tenerife and the other is on the Greek island of Poros where his knowledge of Greek and Spanish comes in handy, although he tells me he is better at French and German. Other than that, it is to set off with his pals on a motorcycle tour over Europe and up the west coast of Scotland. He enjoys Europe for his holidays with no great desire to head for the far east.

I asked if he had a 'bucket list'? He said he has a sensible car, but he would have loved an Aston Martin DB7 and he has a sensible motorbike but would love a Kawasaki Z1. They are not so much of a 'bucket list' as a 'wish list'.

Being a GP has opened many doors for him, has brought him to Callander, has enriched him and made him a more tolerant and less selfish person.

His plans for retirement are to finish his 'special' motorbike, take more trips abroad and go to South Africa, where his wife was brought up, and take 'The Blue Train' From Johannesburg to Cape Town.

His impression of Callander is that the folk are very kind, welcoming and generous, and he would like to thank them for the many messages of support and the gifts he received on his retirement. He, however, will be back as he will be doing locum work for one day/week for Dr Scott.

**The Ben Ledi View , and I am sure all the inhabitants of Callander, would like to thank Graham for all the work he has done over the last 32 years keeping us healthy. This, although at times it may have not seemed so to him, has always been appreciated. We wish him a long and happy retirement and hope that he gets on his 'Blue Train' trip and gets his 'special' motorbike finished. We hope to see you one day riding it up Main Street, Graham**

*John Nelson*



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Worship Service in Callander Kirk  
Sunday 24th September  
at 11.15am

featuring Callander Kirk Junior Choir

Followed by a soup Lunch in the Kirk Hall  
at 12.30pm

*All Welcome*

Please contact the Church Office if you would like to attend the soup lunch and inform them if you have any dietary requirements, so we can cater for everyone - thank you

Email: [callanderkirk@btconnect.com](mailto:callanderkirk@btconnect.com)  
Phone: 01877 331409 (Tues & Thur 10.30am - 1.00pm)



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Can you believe it? Our beloved community facility recently turned 25! We had an absolute blast this summer as we celebrated this exciting milestone with a myriad of thrilling events and activities for our community members and visitors to enjoy. In honour of our 25th birthday, we pulled out all the stops and organised a total of 25 exciting events over four months. It was a whirlwind of festivities that left us with unforgettable memories. From exploring the beauty of local trails to engaging in lively activities designed for kids, we made sure there was something for everyone to enjoy.

As we reminisced about the humble beginnings of our facility, we couldn't help but marvel at how far we've come. The growth and success of our community hub filled us with immense pride, knowing that we have built a thriving centre for fun and recreation through the collective efforts of our community members, staff and Board of Directors.

Throughout the summer, we hosted a diverse array of events catering for various interests and age groups. Fitness enthusiasts had a blast participating in the Rig FIT Games, where friendly competition and teamwork took centre stage. For those seeking adventure, we organised community walks up majestic Ben Gullipen and the captivating Bracklinn Falls. And to test the mettle of our local kids, we created the exhilarating 'Birthday Escape' challenge, where they had to navigate through mind-boggling obstacles and thrilling climbs on our climbing wall while solving riddles and unlocking mysteries.

Our younger community members were not forgotten either. We hosted special days filled with exciting games and activities that left them beaming with joy. The sound of their laughter echoed through the facility, creating a truly magical and memorable experience for everyone involved.



As the sun shone brightly this summer, families flocked to our facility, seeking respite from the heat by taking refreshing dips in our pool that provided a perfect oasis for relaxation and enjoyment.

Our facility is more than just a place for leisure; it is a vibrant hub that fosters connections and cultivates community spirit. Inclusivity and unity were at the forefront of our events, encouraging diversity and bringing people closer together. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the community for the unwavering support we've received over the past 25 years. Without your enthusiasm and participation, none of this would have been possible. We invite all of you to join us in celebrating this significant milestone and continue to be an integral part of our journey towards a brighter future.

As autumn approaches, we reflect upon the incredible memories we've created and eagerly anticipate what lies ahead. While our 25th birthday celebration has concluded, the fun and excitement never cease at our facility. We have an exciting line up of events and activities planned for the upcoming months, ensuring that there is always something to look forward to.

So, head over to our website to find out more, mark your calendars, spread the word, and let's continue making memories together. Thank you for being a part of our community facility's remarkable journey, and here's to the next 25 years of fun, adventure, and endless possibilities.

Rachel Mclean



# Callander Target Sports Club



### CLUB NEWS

The prestigious winter leagues may have drawn their curtains, with the sporting members of Callander Target Sports Club (CTSC) revelling in the afterglow of some splendid successes. But sports fans can rest assured there's no time for laurel-resting at this bustling hub of sharpshooters - not with the summer competitions on the horizon, and the club already abuzz with the thrill of the chase.

It's been a time of growth, both in prowess and in ranks, with new faces joining our crew and adding to the vibrant tapestry of CTSC. The summer leagues are underway, with our members encouraged by a healthy set of winter league results to take them through the summer.

### BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

Showing us all how it's done, Bronwen Livingstone emerged victorious from the British Open Airgun Championships, competing with precision and poise to win the Air Pistol Disabled category at the national competition.

Her victory serves as a powerful reminder that with determination and practice, any target can be hit, no matter how challenging. Bronwen, we salute you.

### SCOTTISH LEAGUES

In the Scottish Target Shooting Teams league, Callander TSC stood tall amidst the competition. Our lads clinched the 4th spot in the top division, a commendable feat among six teams. It's not every day that a team makes its mark on the Scottish League, but stalwarts Gordon Motion, Cliff Ogle, Gordon Winch, and Mike Buchanan did us proud, ranking in the top 20 of a whopping 131 firers. Good work, chaps!

### CUMBRIA LEAGUES

Right young prospect Mark Griffiths rose to the occasion in the Cumbria & Northumbria leagues, hitting the bullseye with a first place finish in the 50m benchrest division seven and a close second in the 100m division 2. Not to be outdone, Raymond McKay claimed the top spot in the rapid-fire rifle division 3, and Willie Jenkins put up a good show with a strong second-place finish in rapid-fire rifle division 2.

### PERTSHIRE PRONE RESULTS

Callander A and B teams made waves in the Perthshire Prone leagues, with Callander A grabbing first in Division One and Callander B securing second in Division 4. Special mention goes to Mike Buchanan and Allister McLean who emerged victorious in Class A and Class C respectively in the 2023 End Of Season Postal Shoot, with Allister winning the Brough Cup for his efforts.

### PERTSHIRE BENCHREST RESULTS

In the Perthshire Benchrest leagues, our members continued to showcase their shooting prowess. William "Bill" Thomson and Chris Miller finished first and second in Division 2, while David Thomson grabbed the second place in division 4 and Iain Bruce and Malcolm Scotland outperformed the competition to come first and second in division 5.

For further club details, please contact secretary Tony Ashford on [07446 824918](tel:07446824918).

*Iain Bruce*

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## What's On for August and September

### REGULAR MEETINGS

#### 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 Express 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 21st August then every week until October
- HIT Circuits 7.00-7.45 McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit 6.00-6.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Indoor Cycling 8.00-9.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit 8.00-8.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Guides 6.30-8.00pm St Andrew's Church Hall
- 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](tel:01877339074))
- Aqua Therapy 9.30-10.30am McLaren Leisure
- MumFit 11.00-12 noon McLaren Leisure
- Yoga Basics 12.30-1.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Gentle Yoga 2.00- 3.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Strength and Balance 3.00-4.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Body Fit Express 5.00 - 6.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Power Fit 6.00-6.45pm McLaren Leisure
- Beginner Line Dancing 6.30pm - 8.00pm St Andrews church hall
- AquaFit 7.15-8.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Badminton Club 7.30pm McLaren

Ben Ledi View Issue 331

Leisure

- Evening Yoga 7.30-9.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Taekwondo 7.00-9.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Song Squad practice 7.00-9.00pm Callander Fire Station

#### Wednesdays:

- Cycle Fit 7.00-7.45 am McLaren Leisure
- Active Life 9.30-10.30 McLaren Leisure
- Baby and Me Yoga (for carers and babes up to crawling) 9.30-10.30 Fire Station ,contact Sian Lucas at [www.momoyoga.com/seasonalbalance](http://www.momoyoga.com/seasonalbalance)
- Seasonal Yoga 11.00-12noon Fire Station book at [www.momoyoga.com/seasonalbalance](http://www.momoyoga.com/seasonalbalance)
- Citizens Advice Bureau 10.00am-12.30pm Callander Library
- Teapot Café 10.30am Callander Kirk Hall Library
- Start-up Stirling Community Hub 12.30-2.30pm Kirk hall
- Body Fit Express 1.00- 1.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Core Fit Express 5. 30-6.00pm McLaren Leisure
- Bowling club 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
- Bingo Session 2.00- 3.00 (doors open 1.45) Callander Hostel Contact Jen Shearer [01877 0446](tel:018770446) or [07710 232908](tel:07710232908) for transport
- Power fit 6.00-6.45pm McLaren Leisure
- 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 9.00-9.45 am McLaren Leisure
- MumFit 11.00- 12noon McLaren Leisure
- Power Fit Express 1.00-1.30pm McLaren Leisure
- Cycle Fit Express 5.30-6.00pm 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

#### Sundays

- Redtooth Poker League at Lade Inn 6.00pm all welcome

### August

#### Saturday 5th

- Guided walk Samson's Stone and Hillfort 10.am-12.30pm free but booking required email [scotland@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:scotland@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm & for information.
- Ramblers Ramble Tigh nam Bodach, Glen Lyon (11miles) 8.30am start

#### Saturday 12th

- Ramblers LDP FCP(11) Forth Bridge to Crombie (8.5 miles) 8.30am start

#### Sunday 13th

- German-speaking group meet 2.30pm at Coilhallan house, Invertrossachs Road, Callander FK17 8HW

#### Monday 14th

- Music and Memories Kirk Hall 2.00-3.30pm

#### Saturday 19th

- Ramblers Hill Meall Ghaordaidh (1039m) 8.30 am start
- Callander Horticultural Society Show open to public 2.00-4.00pm East Torrie Farm FK17 8JL
- Canmore Trust street ceilidh 6.45pm start Ancaster Square

#### Thursday 24th

- Callander U3A AGM & enrolment 2.00pm McLaren Leisure



**Saturday 26th**

- Rotary supports Highland Dancing in Ancaster Square with Liz Campbell's dancers 3.00pm

**Wednesday 30th**

- Ramblers Stroll Gargunnoch Loops (5.5 miles) 9.30am start

**September**

**Friday 1st**

**Copy deadline for Ben Ledi View**

**Monday 4th**

- CAOS rehearsals start McLaren High. Time tba

**Wednesday 6th**

- Ramblers Ramble Great Cumbrae inner circle (7.5 miles) 9.30am start

**Monday 11th**

- Music and Memories Kirk Hall 2.00-3.30pm

**Tuesday 12th**

- Arthritis Club talk 2.00pm Kirk Hall

**Wednesday 13th**

- Ramblers Hill Creag Ruadh , Glen Tarken (712m) 9.30am start

**Saturday 16th**

- Ramblers LDP FCP(12) Crombie to Kincardine 8.30am start
- Callander's Future : Meet and Make 11.00am-4.00pm Venue tba



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**Sunday 17th**

- German-speaking group meet 2.30pm Coilhallan House, Invertrossachs Road, Callander FK17 8HW

**Wednesday 20th**

- Callander Heritage Society talk. Dr Neil Clark - Tracking Dinosaurs on Scotland's Jurassic Isle 7.00pm for 7.30pm Masonic Hall

**Saturday 23rd**

- Ramblers Ramble Pitlochry and Killiecrankie circular (10 miles) 8.30am start

**Sunday 24th**

- Harvest Thanksgiving in aid of Start Up Stirling Worship service from 11.15 am ,followed by soup lunch in Kirk Hall from 12.30pm (book via church Office [callanderkirk@btconnect.com](mailto:callanderkirk@btconnect.com))
- Tree Medicine across the Seasons – Autumn with Hawthorn - £40 (excl

booking fee) : <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/events/tree-medicine-across-the-seasons-autumn-with-hawthorn/>

**Thursday 28th**

- Jazz & Blues Festival Starts
- **Saturday 30th**
- Ramblers Stroll Killlearn and Endrick Water (5 miles) 8.30 am start
- Rotary Bottle and Bric a Brac Stalls from 10.00am Ancaster Square
- Coppicing workshop – more info to come please check Woodland Trust event website page. Most likely from 10am till approx. 3pm with hands-on experience on hazel coppice, followed by making birch shrink pots.
- Messy Church 10.30am Kirk Hall

**Friday 29th**

**Ben Ledi View published**

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FK17 8BN

**When**  
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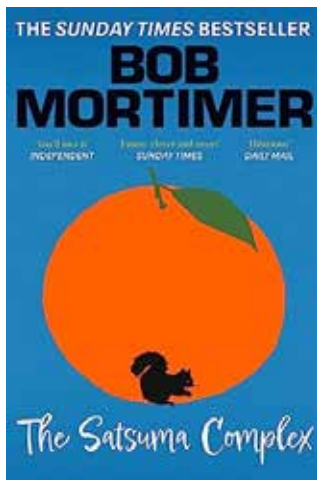
**Stop Press**

**Susan Holden**

With sadness, we have to report that Susan Holden, former Chair of Callander Community Council and member of Callander Community Development Trust, passed away peacefully on Friday 21st July, after a long illness, in Forth Valley Royal Hospital. Funeral arrangements will be announced by the local funeral director, in due course.

## Book club review

This issue's book review title is *The Satsuma Complex* by Bob Mortimer (Gallery Books UK: 2022).



Most people of a certain age will be familiar with the author of this month's book review title. Bob Mortimer has been a steady presence in UK popular culture since the 1980s. He is most noted for his television work; his comedy duo with Vic Reeves; being a regular guest on numerous gameshows, and more recently, as presenter of a BBC programme about fishing. His memoir in 2021 became a bestseller of that year. I've not read it myself, but it won many awards for best non-fiction. *The Satsuma Complex* is Mortimer's first novel.

The book is from the perspective of main character, Gary Thorn. Gary is a legal assistant with a firm of solicitors in South London. He is a forgettable conformist who wears drab, ill-fitting suits, lives alone, is dullishly ordinary and has very few friends. He has also not had a girlfriend for some time.

So, when a Doc-Martin'd attractive female strikes up a conversation with him at his regular pub, he can hardly believe his luck. He is instantly smitten. Even her fast exit cannot deter him and he sets out to find her and declare his love. However, there are many obstacles to overcome along the way, including fake police officers, violent ex-boyfriends,

missing colleagues and an unencrypted dongle.

The old adage 'write what you know' really applies to this book. Mortimer was a defence lawyer in the 1980s prior to becoming a comedian. He also lived in and around the estates of South London, where this book is set. Unsurprisingly, Mortimer's characters all have a surreal quality, including the main character, Gary, having regular in-depth conversations about his love life with a squirrel. I'm unsure why this was in the novel, though it wouldn't have been out of place in an episode of *Shooting Stars*.

I regret to say that the plot of *The Satsuma Complex* is a bit flimsy, but fans of Mortimer may enjoy the comedic value of the book, which certainly is unique - just like its author.

The next BLV book club review will be *Young Mungo* by Douglas Stuart (Piccador: 2022).

Maggie Magor



## Thornhill Players

Advance notice - don't miss this! Thornhill Players will be presenting two whacky comedies in October.

- The dates are: Friday 20th October in Callander Kirk
- Saturday 21st October in Thornhill Hall.

More details to follow in the next issue of the Ben Ledi View.

These two comic plays are definitely worth seeing so put these dates in your diary so that you don't miss these shows!



I am pleased to announce that our show for 2024 is going to be *Carousel*, so put Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd March 2024 in your diary! We will also have the same brilliant production team - Mhairi Stewart (producer/director) and Linda Cantlay (musical director) - so the show will follow the success of *Calamity Jane*.

The cast are looking forward to rehearsals starting at McLaren High School on Monday 4th September and would love to be joined by new members - there might be wine and nibbles to help tempt you along! It really is a great way to spend a Monday evening through the long, dark winter. We will also start practicing for the annual Christmas Concert on 1st December and, with auditions in October, it will be a busy and exciting few weeks. We hope to hold a 'Family Ceilidh' towards the end of September to help raise funds to cover the costs of the show. Details will be on our website and Facebook page nearer the time.

As production costs continue to increase, fund raising remains an important part of our activities and we are grateful for our supporters, be it for their time, patronage, advertising or sponsorship. The Community Council has also been very supportive. If you are interested in supporting CAOS please get in touch - details are on the website ([www.c-a-o-s.org.uk](http://www.c-a-o-s.org.uk)).

Looking forward to another great production in 2024!

Steve Murphy for CAOS



### Callander Jazz & Blues Festival

We are pleased to announce that this year's 17th Callander Jazz & Blues Festival has been extended by another day and will begin on Thursday 28th September, through to Sunday 1st October, making it a four day long weekend of great music. Covering 10 venues throughout the town, 48 bands or solo performers will be playing 60 gigs, with a total of 175 musicians participating in one of the biggest music festivals across Scotland. Earlier in the year, we were honoured to have been nominated in the Top 20 UK Blues Festival Of The Year category, alongside some of the UK's major Blues Festivals at the annual UK Blues Awards for 2023. A great accolade for all associated with the festival and a wonderful recognition of why the public and performers enjoy their annual Autumn visit to Callander and the Trossachs.



THU 28 SEP 23  
SUN 01 OCT 23

www.callanderjazzandblues.com  
@callanderjazzandbluesfestival



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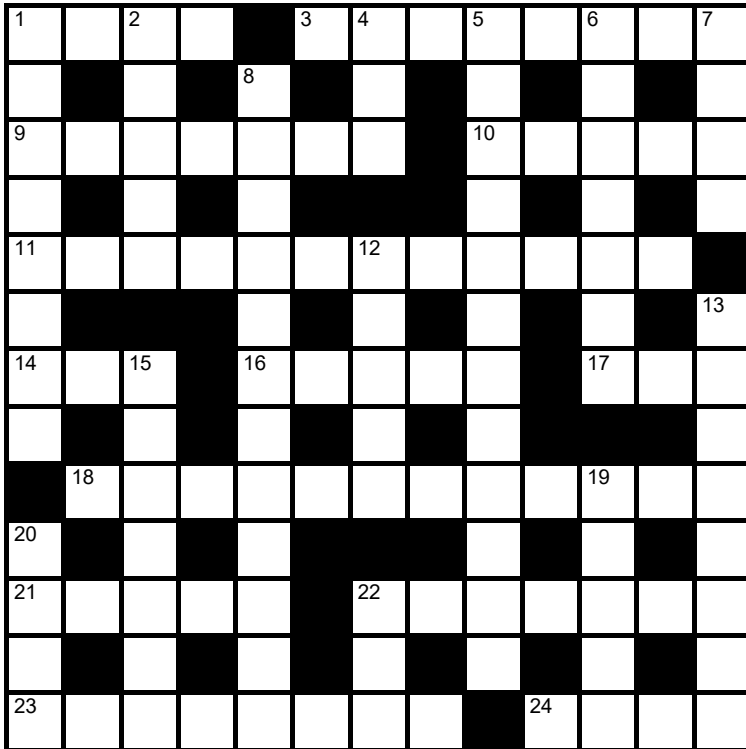


### Festival Gig Guide

	TIME	LOCATION	PERFORMER	GENRE	COST	
THURSDAY 28	4.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Outi & Nico	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	5.00pm	Crown Hotel	The Gator	Blues	Festival Donation	
	6.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Tenement Jazz Band	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	7.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Best Dressed Blues Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	7.30pm	Lake of Menteith Hotel	Jazz Pack Band	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	8.00pm	Crown Hotel	Andy Taylor Group	Blues	Festival Donation	
	9.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Greig Taylor Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	FRIDAY 29	4.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Andy Taylor Group	Blues	Festival Donation
		4.30pm	Callander Hostel	McLaren Jazz Orchestra	Jazz	Festival Donation
5.30pm		Old Bank	Lee Signey	Blues	Food & Drink	
6.00pm		Crown Hotel	Tenement Jazz Band	Jazz	Festival Donation	
6.30pm		Ben Ledi Cafe	Al Hughes	Blues	Food & Drink	
6.30pm		Callander Hostel	Rob Tognoni Band	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
7.00pm		Dalgair House Hotel	KWAK	Blues	Festival Donation	
7.30pm		Lake of Menteith Hotel	Stirling Crisis	Jazz	Festival Donation	
8.00pm		Waverley Hotel	Danko	Blues	Festival Donation	
8.30pm		Riverside Inn	Marianne McGregor	Jazz	Festival Donation	
9.00pm		Crown Hotel	Brian Rawson Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
9.30pm		Callander Hostel	The Revolutionaires	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
10.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	The Bad Day	Blues	Festival Donation		
SATURDAY 30	11.00am	McLaren School	Rock Til U Drop	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	1.00pm	McLaren School	The Revolutionaires	Blues	£12 Door Ticket	
	1.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Lynsey Dolan Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	1.00pm	Callander Hostel	Kitti	Jazz	£8 Door Ticket	
	2.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Jed Potts & Hillman Hunters	Blues	Festival Donation	
	2.30pm	Crown Hotel	Allan McKeown Quartet	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	3.30pm	Ben Ledi Cafe	Lee Signey	Blues	Food & Drink	
	4.00pm	McLaren School	That Swing Sensation	Jazz	£12 Door Ticket	
	4.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Tommy Bentz Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	4.00pm	Callander Hostel	Rob Tognoni Band	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
	4.30pm	MacNabs Bar	Dave Toule	Jazz	Food & Drink	
	5.00pm	Old Bank	Michael Woods	Blues	Food & Drink	
	5.30pm	Crown Hotel	The Bad Day	Blues	Festival Donation	
	6.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Figiro Quartet	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	6.45pm	Callander Hostel	Redfish Blues Band	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
7.00pm	McLaren School	Swing Commanders	Jazz	£12 Door Ticket		
8.00pm	Riverside Inn	Ali Affleck	Jazz	Festival Donation		
8.30pm	Lake of Menteith Hotel	Dave Toule Trio	Jazz	Festival Donation		
9.00pm	Crown Hotel	Fraser McDonald	Jazz	Festival Donation		
9.30pm	Waverley Hotel	Cafeorchestra	Jazz	Festival Donation		
9.30pm	Callander Hostel	Gerry Jablonski Band	Blues	£8 Door Ticket		
10.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Alex Hamilton Band	Blues	Festival Donation		
SUNDAY 01	12.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Jazz Pack Open Mic	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	1.00pm	Callander Hostel	Swing Commanders	Jazz	£8 Door Ticket	
	1.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Gerry Jablonski Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	1.30pm	MacNabs Bar	John Taylor	Blues	Food & Drink	
	2.00pm	Crown Hotel	Blue Milk	Blues	Festival Donation	
	2.30pm	Lake of Menteith Hotel	JazzMain	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	3.00pm	Waverley Hotel	Bison Hip	Blues	Festival Donation	
	3.30pm	Old Bank	Nico	Jazz	Food & Drink	
	4.00pm	Callander Hostel	Nicole & the Backup Crew	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
	4.30pm	Ben Ledi Cafe	Michael Woods	Blues	Food & Drink	
	5.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	Redfish Blues Band	Blues	Festival Donation	
	6.00pm	Crown Hotel	SUS4	Jazz	Festival Donation	
	7.00pm	Callander Hostel	Deke McGee Band	Blues	£8 Door Ticket	
	8.00pm	Dalgair House Hotel	The Real World	Blues	Festival Donation	
	8.30pm	Riverside Inn	Jonny & Leo	Blues	Festival Donation	
9.00pm	Crown Hotel	Dennis Smalley's Blue Horiz	Blues	Festival Donation		

Please note that times and performers may be subject to late changes due to unforeseen circumstances

## BLV #151 Adult Crossword



### Across

- 1 Below a duke (4)
- 3 Polite (8)
- 9 Impedes Trade (7)
- 10 Nosey (5)
- 11 Searchers for Skilled Sports People (6,6)
- 14 Genetic Information (3)
- 16 R2D2 (5)
- 17 Tree (3)
- 18 Legal Control over an area (12)
- 21 I can't have done it (5)
- 22 Resolution (7)
- 23 Match Played at opponent's ground (4,4)
- 24 Give on a temporary basis (4)

### Down

- 1 Olde World PM (8)
- 2 James Dean (5)
- 4 Much Fuss about Nothing (3)
- 5 Electricity Blocker (3,9)
- 6 Italian Dish (7)
- 7 Old Christmas (4)
- 8 Mixing Alcohol with vehicles (5,7)
- 12 Reprimand (5)
- 13 No. Zero please, Mr barber (8)
- 15 Found in many types of rock (7)
- 19 Acclimatise (5)
- 20 Bad Romance (4)
- 22 Reverse an Apple Mac (3)

I urge everyone to give it a go, as the winner will be selected at random, so everyone has a chance to win the £5 prize.

*Good luck everyone John Keeling*

**Your Contact Info for either prize draw. Closing Date: Fri 1st Sept 2023**

Name: ..... Age: .....  
(for Junior crossword)

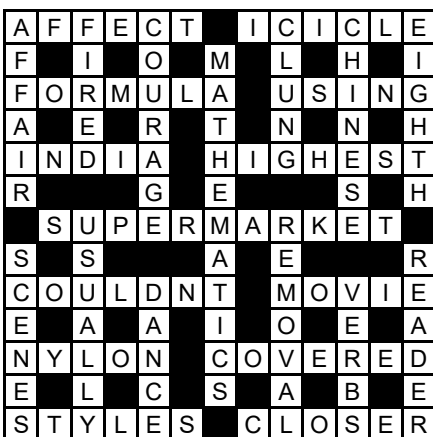
Address: .....

Postcode: .....

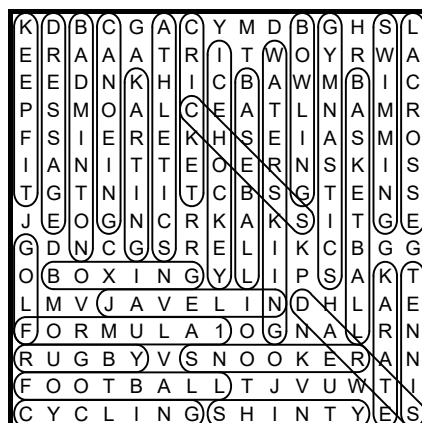
Either

E-mail your completed crossword to [editor@benlediview.org](mailto:editor@benlediview.org) or return it to: The Library, South Church Street, Callander

### Solution to BLV #148 Adult Crossword



### Solution to BLV #149 Junior Word Search



**Solution:  
"Running"  
was not in  
the puzzle**



## Junior Circuit Breaker Puzzle #152

Our new EV car needs some circuit boards fitted into it so it can run. Can you help piece together the different components for the three boards.

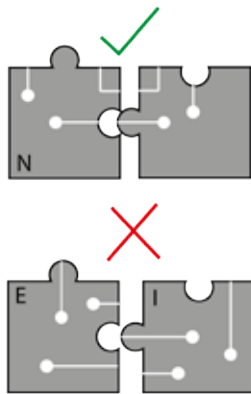
A complete board is made up of four jigsaw pieces connected together. The car needs three boards to work. For two jigsaw pieces to fit together, all the white lines that show the circuits need to match up. The jigsaw pieces do not need to be rotated.

While everyone can try this puzzle, to enter for the £5 prize you must be 12 or under.

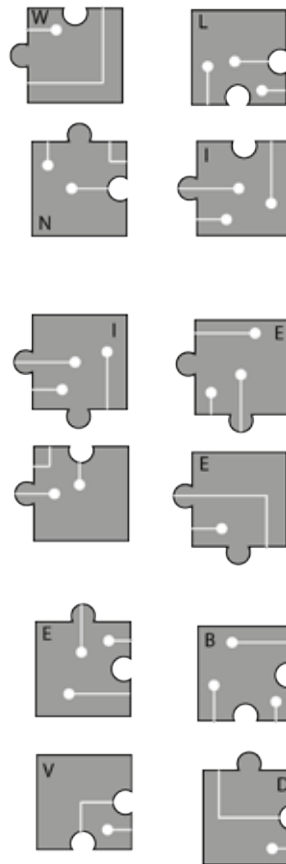
[editor@BenLediView.org](mailto:editor@BenLediView.org) with an attached picture of your solution. Happy Puzzling.

*John Keeling*

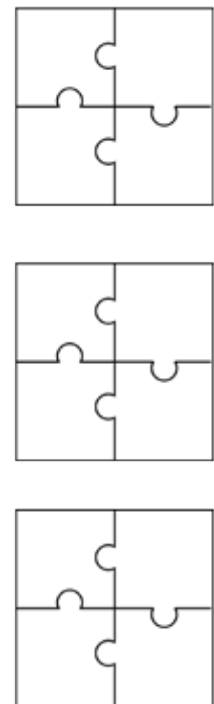
### Example....



### Jumbled jigsaw pieces



### Blank Circuit Boards



**Your Contact Info** **Closing Date:**  
**for either prize draw.** **Fri 1st Sept 2023**

Name: ..... Age: .....  
 (for Junior crossword)

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Either  
 E-mail your completed crossword to [editor@benlediview.org](mailto:editor@benlediview.org)  
 or return it to: The Library, South Church Street, Callander

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# Local Information

## Emergency Services: 999

### Callander Police: 101

Local Council Office & Registrar:  
01877 33004

Social Work: 01786 471177

Post Office: 01877 330267

Stirling Council: 01786 404040

### Councillors

Martin Earl - [earlm@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:earlm@stirling.gov.uk)

Gene Maxwell - [Maxwellg@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:Maxwellg@stirling.gov.uk)

Elaine Watterson-[wattersone@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:wattersone@stirling.gov.uk)

### MSP

Evelyn Tweed - [evelyn.tweed.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:evelyn.tweed.msp@parliament.scot)

### National Health

Callander Medical Practice 01877 331000 (Prescriptions (10.00am till 3pm))

District Nurse 01877 330150

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

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

### Chemists

Farrens **M-F** 9-6 **S** 9-5 01877 330132

Trossachs **M-F** 9-1 2-6 01877 330016

### Vets

Callander: 01877 381213

### Schools

McLaren High: 01877 330156

Callander Primary: 01877 331576



## Callander Kirk

The Church of Scotland,  
South Church Street, Callander

Please join us every Sunday 11.15am also livestreamed on facebook and on Youtube channel

24th Sept 11.15am featuring Callander Kirk Junior Choir followed by soup lunch in the Kirk Hall at 12.30pm

Rev Jeffery McCormick BD

[jmccormick@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:jmccormick@churchofscotland.org.uk) 01567 820247

Church Office/Hall Bookings:  
[callanderkirk@btconnect.com](mailto:callanderkirk@btconnect.com)

## Bin Collections

Bins are now collected on a Saturday or a Tuesday.

The dates are

### August

	Tues	Sat
Grey/Blue	1st/29th	19th
Brown/Green	22nd	26th
Brown/Blue Box	8th	12th

### September

Grey/Blue	19th	16th
Brown/Green	26th	23rd
Brown/Blue Box	5th	9th

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

## Lagrannoch WRC Opening times

- Monday - Friday 5.00pm to 7.30pm
  - Saturday 10.00am-1.30pm
  - Sunday closed
  - Lagrannoch depot 01877 330492
- Also for sandbags and grit
- Stirling Council Main number 08452 777000 (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 Rector of linked charges of St Andrew's Callander and St Mary's Aberfoyle h: (01877) 382887 m: 07983 897 841 or

Liz Balding Secretary to St Andrew's Vestry m: 07825 635 428  
[www.standrewschurchcallander.co.uk](http://www.standrewschurchcallander.co.uk)

Hall for hire by the hour - contact 07795 244333

## Recreation

Rail Enquiries: 0845 7484950

Bus Station (Stirling): 01786 446474

Travel Line Scotland: 0870 6082608

Leisure Centre: 01877 330000

Library: 01877 331544

Visitor Information Centre: 07727 288 585

## Floods & Environment

SEPA emergency: 0800 807060

SEPA website:

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

Floodline: 0845 9881188 Select option 1 followed by: 06213 121 (the Teith at Callander)

Scottish Water emergency information re flooding from mains or sewers: 0800 0778778

## 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



## St Joseph's Catholic Church

Glen Artney Road,

Callander

Website: [stfdac.co.uk](http://stfdac.co.uk); Phone: 01877 330702

Email: [stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjosephcallander@dunkelddiocese.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Rev. Leszek Wieceaszek SAC

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Callander

Tuesday & Thursday Holy Mass at 10.00am

Sunday Holy Mass at 11.30am



We warmly welcome you to join us in worship on a Sunday afternoon. This takes place in St. Andrew's Church Hall at 4.00pm each week. Our weekly prayer meeting is on a Monday evening at 7.30pm on zoom/in-person. Please contact: [admin@callanderchristianfellowship.org.uk](mailto:admin@callanderchristianfellowship.org.uk) for further details.



## New Planning Applications

### Demolition and replacement single storey extension

Toll House Kilmahog Callander FK17 8HD

Ref. No: 2023/0249/HAE | Received: Wed 12 Jul 2023 | Validated: Thu 13 Jul 2023 Status: Current

### Prior Notification for Forestry-related Building Works (Non-residential)

Various Locations North And North West Of Bochastle Hill Kilmahog Callander

Ref. No: 2023/0243/NOT | Received: Fri 07 Jul 2023 | Validated: Fri 07 Jul 2023 Status: Current

### Lawful implementation of planning permission

ref. 2006/0306/DET (for alteration and extension to dwelling including reconstruction of roof and formation of new access)

Coilantogle Farm Callander Perthshire FK17 8HP

Ref. No: 2023/0239/LAW | Received: Tue 04 Jul 2023 | Validated: Wed 05 Jul 2023 Status: Current

### Erection of replacement conservatory to side elevation

Craig Villa Leny Road Callander FK17 8AW

Ref. No: 2023/0229/HAE | Received: Wed 28 Jun 2023 | Validated: Wed 28 Jun 2023 Status: Current

### replacement of existing septic tank and failed soakaway

with proprietary sewage treatment plant and discharge to the Keltie Water Land Adjacent To Keltie Bridge Callander FK17 8LH

Ref. No: 2023/0221/DET | Received: Mon 19 Jun 2023 | Validated: Thu 29 Jun 2023 Status: Current

### Insertion of vertical flue and alterations to north west gable window

Trossachs Tryst Callander FK17 8HW

Ref. No: 2023/0220/DET | Received: Wed 14 Jun 2023 | Validated: Tue 27 Jun 2023 Status: Current

### Change of use from class 3 (food and drink) to class 9 (dwellinghouse)

21-23 Ancaster Square South Callander FK17 8BL

Ref. No: 2023/0212/DET | Received: Thu 08 Jun 2023 | Validated: Fri 14 Jul 2023 | Status: Current

### Erection of porch

9 Venacher Avenue Callander FK17 8JQ

Ref. No: 2023/0209/HAE | Received: Wed 07 Jun 2023 | Validated: Thu 08 Jun 2023 Status: Current

### Lawfulness of use of residential annex as holiday accommodation

Frennich House Glenfinglas Road Brig O Turk Callander FK17 8HT

Ref. No: 2023/0206/LAW | Received: Tue 06 Jun 2023 | Validated: Wed 12 Jul 2023 Status: Current

### Erection of single storey extension

Luib Ancaster Road Callander FK17 8EL

Ref. No: 2023/0195/HAE | Received: Tue 30 May 2023 | Validated: Thu 08 Jun 2023 Status: Current

### Erection of extension

Gartchonzie Barn Invertrossachs Road Callander FK17 8HW

Ref. No: 2023/0171/HAE | Received: Mon 15 May 2023 | Validated: Mon 15 May 2023 Status: Current

### Further application (under section 42) for planning permission for alterations to approved layout of existing caravan park to site a maximum of 247 caravans including a minimum of 99 touring caravans for the variation of Condition 1 to allow year-round operation period

Callander Woods Holiday Park Stirling Road Callander FK17 8LE

Ref. No: 2023/0144/DET | Received: Tue 25 Apr 2023 | Validated: Thu 18 May 2023 Status: Current



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## BLV DEADLINES

The next issue of the Ben Ledi View will be published on **Friday 29th September 2023.**

### 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 30th September 2023** 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 1st September 2023.**

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

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As you probably know the Ben Ledi View is hand delivered to every household in Callander for free.

We are only able to do this because all of the many people who produce and distribute the magazine do it as unpaid volunteers.

We are currently in need of some additional volunteers and I'm sorry to announce that if we don't get them, we may struggle to publish the magazine in the future.

If you think that you are able to help please contact the convenor:

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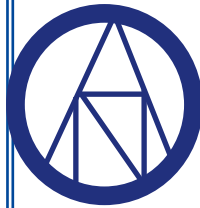
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# Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS)

are seeking applicants interested in becoming an

## ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER

SFRS is delighted to invite applications for the role of On Call Firefighter within our Callander and Doune Community Fire Stations.

On Call Firefighters are a vital part of the SFRS, providing a professional emergency fire and rescue service in remote and rural communities across Scotland. We recognise and celebrate the vast diversity of the local communities of Scotland that we serve and aspire for this to be reflected within our workforce. We encourage candidates from diverse backgrounds, experience and beliefs, who share "Our Values" of Safety, Teamwork, Respect and Innovation and want to make a difference in the community, to consider working for us.

On Call Firefighters undertake a range of activities that contribute to the protection of people and to making communities safer;

- **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES** – Educate the local community on fire safety and carry out home fire safety visits / deliver fire safety advice and identify potential risks within the home, delivering important water safety and prevention of wildfire advice.
- **OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES** – Attend all types of emergencies, e.g. fires, road traffic collisions, rescue of persons, floods, incidents involving hazardous materials as well as supporting partner agencies when required.
- **NON-OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES** – Develop and maintain skills by attending drill nights, training courses and exercises.

No previous experience is necessary as full training will be provided, but you must meet the following criteria;

- *eligible to work in the UK.*
- *18 years of age or over (at point of application).*
- *readily available to attend station within a specified time of an emergency call out.*
  - *have a good level of physical fitness.*
- *meet the required standard of vision and colour t*

The role of an On Call Firefighter is not a full-time role and if employed, you must have the express permission of your employer to allow you to be released for On Call Firefighter duties. We can help you talk to your employer to explain the commitment required.

You can expect to receive payment for all operational incidents attended and time spent on training nights, courses and community engagement. Gain new skills and most importantly will make a positive difference supporting the local community. Have access to a wide range of benefits, excellent training and career opportunities and a variety of supportive health and wellbeing provisions.

For further information on how to apply visit

[www.firescotland.gov.uk/careers/on-call](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/careers/on-call) or email [E.SCF.OnCallRecruitment@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:E.SCF.OnCallRecruitment@firescotland.gov.uk)

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