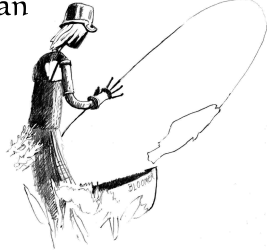


I I2 I3 Welcome Signs

2 Postman on Bike



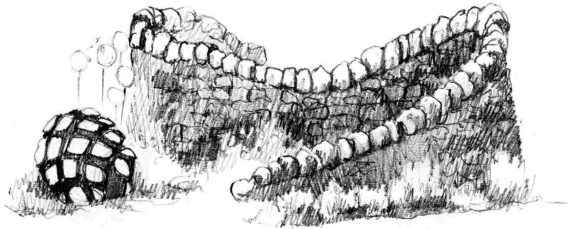
3 Fisherman



4 Nanny with Pram



5 Petit Jardin



6 Carpet Bed

7 Flower Seller



8 Station Porter



9 Wildlife Garden

10 Armoury Park

11 Memorial Gardens



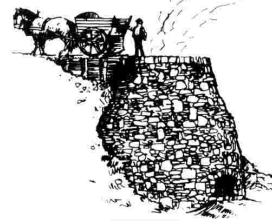
Moulin Kirk

1



The Black Castle

2



Limekiln

3



Festival Theatre

4



Sunnybrae Cottage

5



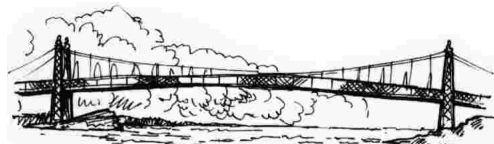
Bonmethill Road

6



Blair Athol Distillery

7



Suspension Bridge

8

Site of Reading Room

9

Red Squirrel
Areas where you are likely
to see red squirrels



RHS
Britain
in Bloom
Finalist 2009



PITLOCHRY IN Bloom Welcomes You Local Roots Town Map



5. Petit Jardin – Highland Jewel. Pitlochry in Bloom were invited by BBC Scotland's Beechgrove Garden to create a show garden for Gardening Scotland in 2001. In conjunction with Scottish Natural Heritage, this Garden for Life, reflects the natural beauty of Pitlochry and its surroundings. The garden utilises natural materials with its central feature, a kissing bench made of local stone and timber, symbolising the romanticism of Victorian Pitlochry. Railway sleepers represent the historic importance of the railway to the town, and Scots Pine, Heathers and Silver Birch the native species.

6. Carpet Bed – each year the bed represents a different theme for the town. A local business, organisation or charity or special celebration or event is depicted. Perth & Kinross Council are responsible for maintaining this feature.

7. Victorian Flower Seller – another of Morag's commissions for the Bloom in 1996, she originally sat in the small garden opposite the Bank of Scotland, she moved to her present site between the banks in 2003.

8. Station Porter- the most recent of Morag's sculptures, complete with luggage trolley was placed at the Station in 2003.

9. Pitlochry Wildlife Garden was formally opened by Walter Gilmour of the Beechgrove Garden on Midsummers Day in 1999. A completely natural wild garden, it is looked after by the local branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust. A mini "Ben Lawers" habitat was added in 2006, in memory of Meg Dunn, who was the inspiration behind this garden.

10. Armoury Park – formally opened by John Swinney MSP in 2002, this park was created by Pitlochry in Bloom from derelict waste ground behind the Railway Station to enhance the approach to Pitlochry Dam & Fish Ladder.

11. War Memorial Gardens- these award winning gardens are maintained by Perth & Kinross Council and Pitlochry in Bloom, the gardens have won numerous awards from the Royal British Legion Scotland, locally and at national level.



Red Squirrel

The red squirrel is native to Britain, but its future is under serious threat. Amidst fears it could eventually become extinct in the wild unless action is taken, the Scottish Government and a number of conservation organisations have announced a strategy to protect this iconic mammal. They plan to create a boundary line which runs across Scotland and through Highland Perthshire. This will become the frontier line against the introduced American grey squirrel as it expands its range north, carrying a virus which can be fatal to the reds.

Red squirrels are seed eaters. They favour pine cones, but also eat larch and spruce. Their diet also includes fungi, shots and fruit of shrubs and trees, and sometimes birds' eggs. Red squirrels build large nests, called dreys. They are the size and shape of a football and are always found in a fork against the main trunk, high up in a tree. Look out for courtship displays in the trees and if you are very lucky you may see a female moving her young across the ground by carrying them by the scruff. Young squirrels are called kittens and can be seen from early February. Kittens are weaned off their mother's milk after about 8-12 weeks, when they have developed a complete set of teeth.

Here in Pitlochry there are a number of sites where you may catch a glimpse of these beautiful animals. At the Atholl Palace Hotel, the Green Park Hotel and in Explorers Gardens there are squirrel feeders where we feed the squirrels in box feeders and they can be watched very closely at these sites. Red squirrels can also be observed in the Black Spout Woods and Bobbin Mill Wood behind Pitlochry Railway Station. Reds do not hibernate in winter, but they store fungi in trees and bury nuts to eat over the winter months.

We hope by our efforts the red squirrel population in our local area will be protected and allowed to thrive. For more information see www.perthkinrossredsquirrels.co.uk

Bloom Features

The many features and flower beds in the town represent the achievements of Pitlochry in Bloom and reflect the hard work and community spirit generated by local residents & businesses. Under the auspices of "Take a Pride in Perthshire", "Beautiful Scotland" and "Britain in Bloom", Pitlochry promotes the work of the "Bloom" movement to the many thousands of visitors who pass through this "Highland Jewel".

1. Welcome signs commissioned by Pitlochry in Bloom enhance the three main entrances to the town. They were designed and constructed by David Wilson, the famous Perthshire outdoor artist in 2007. The upright slabs are Caithness stone, each piece had to be lifted into position.
2. The Victorian Postie on a Penny Farthing bike was made by Morag Cumming of Keltneburn Smithy to enhance the entrance to the new industrial site and the Sorting Office. It was unveiled by "Queen Victoria" during the Atholl Festival in 1997.
3. The Fisherman was the first of Morag's sculptures commissioned by Pitlochry in Bloom in 1995 and used to sit near the Boating Station, a new boat was made for him in 2004 after he was moved to his present site. He reflects the great fishing tradition of the Tummel and Tay rivers in Perthshire.
4. The Victorian Nanny & Perambulator were designed for Pitlochry in Bloom in 2000 to enhance the entrance to the Atholl Palace Hotel who hosted the Beautiful Scotland in Bloom awards that year.

Pitlochry

–“Highland Jewel” ...

History - Local Roots

Pitlochry is situated in the heart of the stunning scenery of Highland Perthshire. Famous as a holiday resort, rich in Victorian Heritage, Pitlochry started life as a smaller neighbour to the older settlement of Moulin, just to the north. The development of the town began in the 18th century, when General Wade's Great North Road – built to allow military access to the Highlands- was routed through Pitlochry rather than Moulin. New inns were built to cater for travellers, and the transformation of the town was completed by the arrival of the railway in 1863. Queen Victoria visited the area several times, following which it quickly developed into a popular holiday destination.

Pitlochry today is justifiably proud of its Victorian heritage and tourism traditions, and offers visitors much to enjoy. Pitlochry in Bloom have been pleased to play a part in this celebration of the town's heritage and their attractive displays have become a focal point for visitors and locals alike.

Whether you wish to stroll along the main street- Atholl Road- with its wide array of shops, restaurants and fine Victorian architecture, or visit one of the town's many attractions you will not be disappointed. For the more energetic, there are many fine walks in and around the town and a host of other activities from golf, fishing, boating, Highland Games and the Enchanted Forest.

A wide range of accommodation is available within easy reach of the town centre.

Pitlochry is the ideal holiday destination for those who love Scotland's hills and heritage, while its central position and easy accessibility by road, rail and bus, make it a perfect touring base for visiting Scotland's other delights – a real Highland Jewel!

Historical Points of Interest

Moulin Kirk is the oldest church site in the area. The current building was rebuilt on the site of previous churches which were both destroyed by fire. It is now run as a Museum by Moulin Kirk Trust and houses the research centre for the North Perthshire Genealogy Group. The kirkyard is particularly interesting and worth exploring, not least for its ancient gravestones, including one known as the “Crusader's Grave”

The Black Castle, standing towards the middle of the field, was originally built on a crannog or man made island in the middle of a lochan. The castle, now a ruin, is thought to have been inhabited until the 1500s when its occupants were stricken with the plague, the Black Death, and all died.

The remains of a Lime Kiln can be seen in the garden of a private house, on Tom na Moan Road.

Sunnybrae Cottage is thought to be Pitlochry's oldest remaining building – it was the scene of a tragic accident which led to the death of John Stewart of Bonskeid. Currently undergoing conservation work by Historic Scotland.

Bonnet Hill Road was once inhabited by bonnet-makers who lived in small thatched cottages towards the bottom of the hill.

Dominating the south side of central Atholl Road is Fishers Hotel, named after its founder. The hotel's considerable former stables are still visible and have now been converted into the Kingfisher Bar- note the rounded mantle of the old doors. The hotel reputedly had some of the finest gardens in the country.

Behind the Co-op store was the Isle Mill, one time HQ of Macnaughtons, the well known local family firm established over 150 years ago who made tweeds and tartans for sale all over the world. Until 1980, when all production was transferred north, the whole weaving process took place at this site, from pure wool to finished cloth. On the opposite side of West Moulin Road can be seen the modern houses of Park Terrace, the former bleaching and drying field for the mill.

West Moulin Road climbs steadily up the hill passing both the Town Hall and the Church of Scotland on the right.

In 1991 this church became Pitlochry's only Church of Scotland, after Moulin Kirk closed in 1989, followed, by the East Church two years later. Adjacent to the church is a cross erected in memory of the Church of Scotland's

first missionary to India, Alexander Duff, who was born in Moulin. He founded a school in Calcutta which still exists today.

The Suspension Bridge links Pitlochry via Ferry Road with Port na Craig and Pitlochry Festival Theatre and Explorers, the Scottish Plant Hunters Garden. Explorers opened in 2002 and is a tribute to the many famous plant hunters who travelled the globe to bring back new species which we now grow in our gardens.

Pitlochry Station

The railway line linking Pitlochry with Dunkeld was opened on the 1st of June 1863. Pitlochry became a railway town, and the benefits to the growing tourist industry were quickly appreciated. Not only that, but Pitlochry folk could for the first time travel north to Inverness and south to England in a relatively short space of time. A new world had opened up.

The Station built in 1883 by Stuart Forbes and Jameson, a local builder, was completed on time, and for just over £504. The building is constructed in the Scottish Tudor style taking the form of an H-plan with ornamental gables and an awning filling the recess. Notice the attractive details that include tall chimneystacks, terracotta roof ridging and a variety of finials, the rose and the thistle amongst them. Look for a small niche in the main building. A beautiful brass bell stood in the niche and it was rung to attract the notice of passengers to the arrival of a train. A charming wooden pavilion occupies the site opposite the main station building.

In time the railway became a great source of pride for it was both dramatic and finely constructed. Taking advantage of this many well known people arrived at Pitlochry by train including R.L. Stevenson, the classical scholar Prof. John Stuart Blackie, always at pains to speak Gaelic, and William Ewart Gladstone who was a great supporter of the railway industry.



Detail from fountain at Pitlochry Station