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**Rural schools respond
to council plan**

See page 2

**Top award to
Inveraray hotel**

See page 5

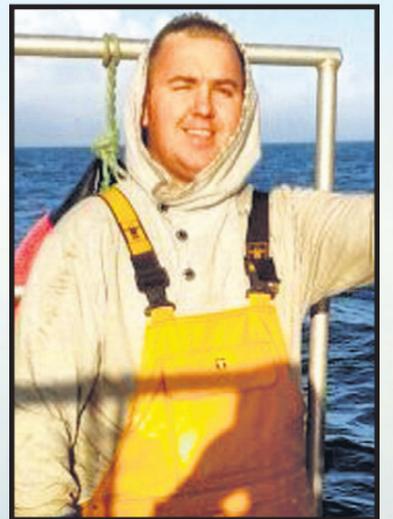
**Uncertain future
for choir**

See page 11

Dramatic sea rescue

**Friends are
sending
messages
of support
via facebook**

**'Yer doin
braw big fla.
Stick at it!'**



The Royal Navy search and rescue helicopter takes Sean on board for the flight to hospital.
Main photograph courtesy of Hannah O'Hanlon.

A YOUNG FISHERMAN is in hospital fighting to recover after a remarkable rescue from the sea.

His family and a small army of friends on his facebook page are all willing on dad-to-be Sean Taylor, aged 21, from Tarbert, every step of the way.

He was pulled over the side by an automatic creel shooter while fishing for crab on the *Blue Angel* off Gigha on Thursday. It has been estimated that Sean was under the bitterly cold water for eight minutes, at a depth of up to 50 metres.

The skipper Mark Sheldrick cut the gear ropes and got Sean back on board, made a Mayday call and the emergency services swung into action.

Clyde Coastguard organised a direct radio link with a

doctor to advise Mark as he worked to keep Sean alive and the boat headed to Tayinloan Pier; the Royal Navy's search and rescue helicopter 177 was scrambled from HMS Gannet, Prestwick.

Police and local coastguard teams went to Tayinloan Pier and the ferry for the Isle of Gigha cleared her berth at Tayinloan and stood off while the rescue took place.

Flown to hospital

Plucked from the boat by a helicopter winch man, Sean was flown to Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock.

When he arrived Sean's condition was described as 'critical' he was placed on a ventilator and his family and partner Natasha MacNaughton were called for.

Doctors said he would have died but for the fact that his

body all but shut down because the sea was freezing cold. And Sean has proved to be a fighter.

Speaking at the time of the accident chief inspector Marlene Bailie said: 'We are monitoring his condition closely. He is still in hospital and his condition is critical; his family are there with him.'

Slowly but surely his condition has been improving and by the time the *Argyllshire Advertiser* went to press, the hospital was saying Sean's condition was 'still serious but stable'. Sean and Natasha MacNaughton are expecting a baby soon and just about to move into their first home in Tarbert. Friends of the couple are sending messages of support via facebook, best summed up by one of them: 'yer doin braw big fla. stick at it.'

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Another new political group

ARGYLL and Bute Council has yet another new political group, formed amidst the uproar of proposals to merge and close rural primary schools.

Last year three councillors, Donald Kelly, Douglas Philand and John McAlpine formed Argyll First. Now councillors George Freeman, Lomond North, and Gordon Chalmers, Oban South and Isles, have registered a new political group within the council: 'The Argyll and Bute Independent Councillors Group'.

The move follows the expulsion of Councillor Freeman from the Alliance of Independent Councillors as a result of

what he described as 'anonymous and false allegations' following the council meeting on November 25 when a decision was taken by the new administration to support the proposals on school closures and he voted against the proposals. 'These allegations are lies but unfortunately no one now has the courage to stand up and admit that they are lies,' he said.

He said that there is no doubt in his mind that some councillors were most unhappy that he did not 'toe the line' and support the leader of the council in his support for the school closure proposals.



Protestors gathered at Kilmory when the rural school closures were discussed. 06_a01school03

Thank you for backing us!

We couldn't have done it without you say school parent councils

PRIMARY schools across Mid Argyll have breathed a sigh of relief that consultations have been put on hold for the merging and closure of a number of rural primary schools across Argyll and Bute.

And while readying themselves for the next round – the council is now looking at the whole of its school estate – the parent councils want to thank everyone who backed them in their fight to keep their schools open.

Minard Primary School, Brian Barker: 'A lot of time and public money has been wasted getting to this point. Carrying on in the face of so much evidence showing that the proposals were seriously flawed would have been even more embarrassing for the council.'

'As a parent council we are convinced that Minard should never have been proposed because of its excellent HMIE report and we will work hard to persuade the council that the school should not be in the next closure proposals.'

'We would also like to thank the many members of our community who have given their time and turned out in all weathers to support the school. Knowing how much they value Minard Primary School keeps us all going.'

Ashfield Primary School, Alka Foster: 'We trust that capacity calculations, community impact assessments, travel timings and viable alternatives will now be considered and reviewed for all schools in Argyll, enabling a fair and open process as promised.'

'We wish to give our heartfelt thanks

to all those who have supported the cause so far and hope in 2011 all our communities will continue to flourish despite the inevitable cuts ahead. One thing we have all learned is that there is little real saving to be made in closing the 'wee' schools.'

Achahoish Primary School, Fiona Drynan: 'In our opinion the proposal as it stood was inaccurate in terms of capacity, the effect of travel, educational benefit and community impact.'

We look forward to working with the council to see through any new proposal but we are convinced that the provision of education must be maintained within the South Knapdale area.

'We would like to thank all those who have supported Achahoish Primary and hope they continue to do so.'

Glassary Primary School, Gordon Parker: 'We are pleased that in view of the serious flaws in the proposals papers that councillors have voted to halt the current process of school closures. The evidence is clear in that it costs the council financially to close a rural school like Glassary and would have a detrimental effect on the community with the loss of the school as an important amenity.'

'Our hope for 2011 is that the council will examine viable alternatives to school closures and work to sustain rural communities throughout Argyll and Bute in a process that is both open and fair. We would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming support so far for the school and community at Glassary.'

Education minister's alleged interference in school closures to be subject of debate

ALLEGED interference into the proposed Argyll school closures by Education Secretary Mike Russell was to be the subject of a debate in the Scottish Parliament on Wednesday.

Mr Russell, who is to stand as the SNP candidate in Argyll at the next Scottish Parliament elections, has been reported to Holyrood's standards watchdog over allegations he intervened in local school closures for political gain.

A leaked e-mail revealed he had questioned Argyll and Bute SNP councillors about their support for several school closures in the area. The e-mail, sent from Mr Russell's parliamentary e-mail account, told councillors their reputations would be

damaged if they were seen to support the closure and also branded council officials 'obdurate'.

Mr Russell was due to make a statement on the matter yesterday (Wednesday).

Former Westminster parliamentary candidate David Graham, who unsuccessfully contested the Argyll seat for Labour last year, reported Mr Russell to the Scottish Parliament standards commissioner.

Mr Russell says his comments contained in the e-mail were part of a normal conversation between a minister and a councillor and refutes the claims he interfered with councillors' decisions.

Police presence at protest

DURING the Argyll and Bute Council meeting last Wednesday at Kilmory when possible closures and mergers of rural primary schools were discussed a group of protestors gathered outside

and a police officer from Lochgilphead was there to monitor the protest.

Trouble in Furnace

POLICE were twice called to the Bridge Terrace area of Furnace this week to deal with reported allegations of a man breaching the peace.

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Here for you

The reason the men fell into the water will never be known

A FATAL accident inquiry, currently underway into the deaths of four fishermen on Loch Awe, has conceded the reason the men fell into the water from their boat will never be known.

On the final two days of the inquiry, on Monday and Tuesday, procurator Craig Harris and solicitors representing the emergency services made their submissions to Sheriff Douglas Small.

Submission

The submission, given by Procurator Fiscal Craig Harris, outlined circumstances surrounding the deaths of Craig Currie aged 30, William Carty, 47, Stephen Carty, 42, and Thomas Douglas aged 36, after hearing hundreds of hours of evidence from more than 80 witnesses.

The solicitors admitted there

had been much speculation over what happened in the boat that would result in the men falling overboard.

Sheriff Small told solicitors: 'I don't think that is something we are ever going to know.'

Mr Harris said alcohol might have been a contributing factor in the deaths of the four men on Loch Awe on March 21, 2009.

He told the court last Monday that he believed the men got into a boat around 1.15am after drinking in Tight Line pub, Lochawe. Evidence suggested, he claimed, that the men who were generally 'sensible' about going out onto the water had decided to take the small boat out in a fog that was 'amongst the worst in living memory'.

Mr Harris continued: 'The alcohol the men consumed,

while in moderate quantities, was still enough to impair their judgement.'

Mr Harris asked Sheriff Douglas Small to record death by cold-water immersion. He believed the four men went into the water at the same time. Mr Harris told the court that he believed two men died instantly: Stephen Carty and Thomas Douglas. While the other two men, Craig Currie and William Carty, who were wearing more appropriate buoyancy aids, survived until as late as 5.25 am when their last recorded shouts were heard by emergency service personnel on the shoreline.

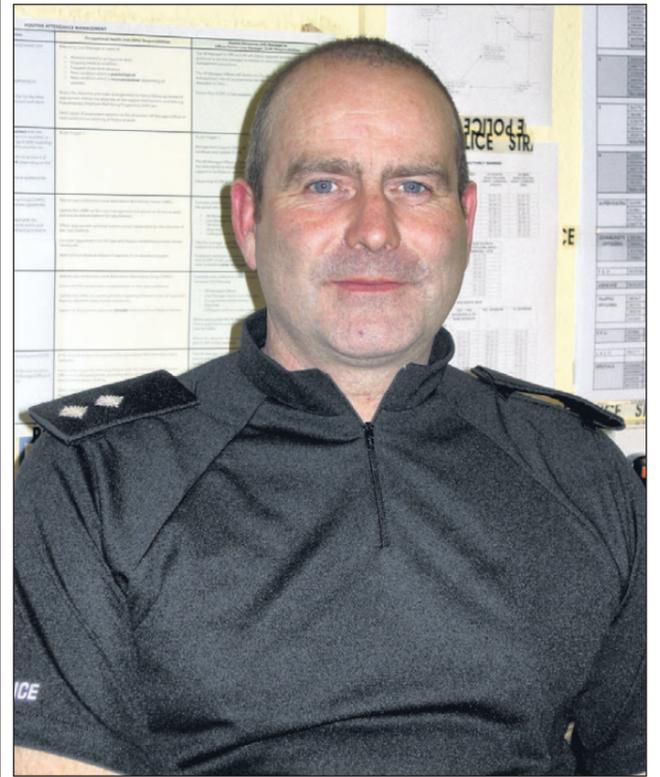
Mr Harris continued: 'I believe the men became disorientated on the water.'

Mr Carty's last phone call to Mr Colquhoun, a fellow fisherman who had stayed

behind on the shoreline, was at 2.13 am. The men were found with mobile phones in their pockets. Mr Harris suggested this inferred the men were not phoning in panic therefore he concluded that it was a quick emersion when the boat tipped, perhaps due to an 'internal movement in the boat' and the four men were plunged into the water.

Immersion

Solicitors representing Strathclyde Fire and Rescue, Strathclyde Police, Scottish Ambulance Service, Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Maritime Coastguard Agency all agreed the deaths were caused by cold-water immersion and that a new topographical survey of the loch should be carried out, as the last recorded survey was in 1908.



Alistair Davidson. 0_a02nsp

New police inspector

LOCHGILPHEAD has a new police inspector, Alistair Davidson has moved from Oban to take up the post.

Inspector Davidson, aged 45, has transferred from the role of detective sergeant with the CID based in Oban.

Originally from Glasgow he joined the force in 1991 and after service in various locations in the west end of Glasgow was promoted to uniform sergeant in Oban in 2005; there he served also as a community sergeant before transferring to CID.

Two hurt in car accident

TWO people had to be taken to hospital with minor injuries after a car accident on the A83 near Ardrishaig on Monday afternoon; a driver will be reported to the fiscal for allegedly careless driving.

Car fire

POLICE say that electrical problems were the cause of a car setting on fire in Church Street, Tarbert, on Wednesday night last week. The vehicle was badly damaged.

Snow joke as winter weather returns

THE RETURN of snow to Mid Argyll at the weekend, and the continuing freezing weather has brought trouble on the roads.

Saturday night's snowfall saw cars get stuck on Barbreck Hill on the Lochgilphead to Oban road.

In Minard nine cars were stranded north of the village and had to wait for the snowplough to come through to plough and grit the road before they could continue.

On Monday a car spun off the road near Inverneill but the driver was uninjured; the driver also escaped injury when a car left the road at Kennacraig a short time later.

But two people had to be taken to hospital with minor injuries after an accident on the A83 near Ardrishaig.

Domestic incident

A MAN from the Ardrishaig area has been reported to the procurator fiscal following allegations of a domestic incident during the early hours of Friday morning.

Alleged assault

POLICE are investigating an allegation that a 17-year-old student was physically assaulted whilst in school at the Lochgilphead Joint Campus on Thursday afternoon.

A spokesman for Lochgilphead police station confirmed: 'Inquiries are on going.'



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KINTYRE 2010

Nominations are invited for the recognition of good citizenship in Kintyre.

YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

The Norman and Phyllis Milne Fund will award a trophy and £200 to the most promising young musician of the year 2010.

Applications by letter in an envelope marked 'Young Musician'

are invited from young musicians in secondary education in South Kintyre or from other persons on their behalf stating name, address, date of birth, telephone number and musical experience.

Nomination forms are available at Keiths Newsagents, Main Street or by letter.

Application and nominations for both of the above should be forwarded in confidence to:

The Secretary
Rotary Club of Campbeltown
Argyll Arms Hotel
Campbeltown.

To be received by 5th February 2011.

Craignish residents to have their say

'The council has been very supportive'

RESIDENTS in Craignish are having their say on how they want their community to develop, creating their own community development plan.

A group of 10 Craignish residents, who created a community planning steering group under the area community council in January 2010, hope the Craignish plan will be adopted officially by Argyll and Bute Council when the next local development plan (LDP) is drawn in 2013.

The group is currently collecting responses to a questionnaire, which aims to get people's views on issues integral to community planning such as housing, transport and the environment.

The results of the questionnaire will be analysed and

used to create the Craignish Community Plan, which will be submitted to Argyll and Bute Council before the end of the year.

Mary Smyth, secretary of Craignish Community Council and a member of the community planning steering group said: 'The last Argyll and Bute Council Local Plan didn't reflect exactly what the community wanted for the area.'

Developing

'This is a bottom up approach. We are letting the council know what we want for the area as opposed to it telling us what it recommends. And that is the way it should be - residents having a say themselves on how they see the community developing.'

'The council has been very supportive of this project and I am confident that what we come up with will be accepted, perhaps with some small amendments.'

A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'This process will help inform the content of the council's emerging LDP and is a very good example of the council working in partnership with a local community to reach its full potential.'

Residents have up until January 31 to respond to the questionnaire, extended from the original deadline of December 31, 2010. Everyone in the area is urged to fill in their questionnaire so that the Craignish Community Plan reflects the views of all residents



Mrs Gilfellon from Furnace was the first tenant to pay her rent online. She is pictured (left) with staff members Lindsay Caulfield, Chris Tranter and Claire Lumb in ACHA's Mid Argyll office.

New web payment service for ACHA tenants

PAYING their rent has now been made easier for Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) tenants thanks to a new web payment service.

In recognition that more and more people are using on-line services, ACHA has launched the service enabling tenants to make payments via the ACHA website.

A spokeswoman for ACHA explained: 'While many tenants still prefer to use other

methods there is a growing demand to access services out with office hours.'

Mrs Gilfellon from Furnace was the first tenant to pay rent using the new on-line service.

Mrs Gilfellon said: 'It makes life a lot easier. I pay all my bills on-line so I will definitely be using the service again to pay my rent. It was so easy.'

Burns supper information wanted

THE WORLD will celebrate the birth of Scots poet, Robert Burns, on January 25.

Here at *The Advertiser*, we would like to hear from any groups organising a Burns supper.

Contact one of our reporters on 01546 602345 or email the date and time of your event to - editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

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'Best Bar in Scotland' award for Inveraray's George Hotel

THE ROYAL Burgh can now boast of having one of the top bars in the country after the George Hotel was awarded a 'Best Bar in Scotland' accolade.

The award comes from the Good Soup Guide, an online Scottish tour guide which recommends where to get good soup, good ale, and things to see and do in Scottish towns.

Described by founder of the Good Soup Guide Edward

Burns as 'stupendous' the bar was recognised for its relaxing ambience and atmosphere.

'The bar has lots of small intimate areas, there are three open fires and the range of locally-brewed ales and whisky all combine to create a great experience,' said Edward.

'It is gloriously dim and intriguing inside, with a warren of ancient wizen rooms that are most exciting to explore.'

The George Hotel on Main Street, Inveraray, is a family run business, which dates back to 1777.

Joint owner Chris Clark said the award was particularly special, as the hotel had not entered a competition.

'We do not tend to enter the hotel and bar for awards so if someone enjoys their time with us and we are given an award after that is great. We are really quite pleased.'

Placing the success of the bar and its food on sourcing good quality local produce, the George Hotel serves West Highland beef and lamb, seafood and fish from Tarbert Port and Loch Fyne salmon.

Right: Joint owner of the George Hotel Chris Clarke says the bar offers a range of real ales and more than 100 whiskies.

08_a02george01



Looking to the future

Views of community sought for Kilmartin Museum's future

RESIDENTS across Mid Argyll are being asked to give their views as part of a consultation into the future of Kilmartin House Museum.

An event, to find out people's views, will be held next Thursday (January 20) in the museum's café.

Kilmartin House Museum has been open to the public for 13 years and is beginning to outgrow its present buildings.

Dr Sharon Webb, director and curator, at Kilmartin House, explained: 'Many of the museum's artefacts are unable to be displayed due to a lack of space, and there is also a need to improve other visitor services.'

'To help solve these problems, the museum obtained funding from LEADER, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, and Museums Galleries Scotland to look at an options appraisal and development study.'

Jura Consultants, working with Malcolm Fraser Architects, have been commissioned to consider whether the existing buildings and site can accommodate the future needs of the museum.

These include the development of an enlarged exhibition space, education and workshop space, a larger collections store, and a better visitor route through the site. The aim is to create a venue wor-

thy of the internationally important archaeological landscape which the museum interprets.

Jura Consultants will host the consultation event from noon until 4pm and from 5-8pm. Paul Jardine of Jura Consultants will give a short presentation each hour, on the hour, on the options open to the museum.

Anyone who would like to comment on the proposals but is unable to attend the consultation can contact Jura Consultants by e-mailing admin@jura-consultants.co.uk (using Kilmartin Consultation in the subject line) or call Paul Jardine on 0131 440 6750.

Macmillan fundraising

RESIDENTS of ACHA's Cragroy Sheltered Housing Complex in Dunoon have contributed to a mammoth fundraising effort for Macmillan Cancer Support.

By holding a coffee morning, selling home-baking, having a bric-a-brac stall and a tombola, the residents were able to add to the total. Donations were made by ACHA and Dunoon-based builders, McNeas, raising the grand sum of £1,025.

The Arctic and Antarctic comes to Kilmartin Museum

NEXT month the Arctic will come to Kilmartin when a renowned BBC wildlife photographer drops in.

John Aitchinson will give a talk on the Arctic and Antarctic at Kilmartin House Museum on February 3.

For more information visit - www.kilmartin.org

MS Research 365 appeal

CHARITY MS Research has launched an appeal enabling its supporters to sponsor MS research for a day.

The 365 Appeal is looking for groups to raise £500, and for individuals to raise at least £250 each to fund MS Research.

A starter kit to help anyone with a fund raising idea can be found on the website www.ms-research.org.uk or from info@ms-research.org.uk or by writing to MS Research, Trym Lodge, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, BS9 3HQ.

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Planning your retirement

IF YOU'RE planning ahead for your retirement, you'll be more than aware that there's more to think about than just your leaving party.

Everything from getting the most out of your pension to how you'll spend all the extra spare time you'll have will be running through your mind - never mind where you'll go for your first retirement holiday!

Thankfully, whatever it is you seek, there are options aplenty.

Given the current economic climate, your most pressing concern is bound to be money. Pensions aren't exactly what they were and you may be thinking about revamping your finances to make life a little more comfortable.

But before you take a leap of faith, it's worth consulting the experts at Oban chartered accounts, R A Clements. They'll guide you through the pros and cons of the available options and help you squeeze every ounce of benefit from your assets.

Thankfully, they also have offices in Lochgilphead, Fort William and on Mull - so you won't have to venture too far to sort out your finances.

Once that's sorted out, you can start thinking about the fun stuff - what are you to do with your time?

What about keeping fit? Work is no longer an obstacle to getting down to the gym, so now would be the perfect time to give it a go. Energie Fitness, at Lochavullin Road, offer training programmes to suit all, including a personalised plan to get you moving at your own pace.

And because they offer a money back guarantee if you don't see positive results within six weeks, there's no reason not to give it a go.

If your body has been battered enough in your working life though, you may prefer some cerebral training. The University of the Third Age, then, should be your first port of call.

Not strictly a university by modern definition, the U3A is for those that are retired or who work part time and who are free during the day to take part in a variety of interests and

activities in informal, friendly surroundings.

The Oban branch meets at the Caledonian Hotel, Station Square, on the first Tuesday of every month at 10.30am and is the ideal starting point for anyone looking to get involved.

There are, of course, some good causes you may wish to invest your time in. Argyll and Bute Befrienders matches volunteers with children who find themselves in vulnerable positions. Put simply, the service puts volunteers together with children requiring care, with the focus on having fun and providing good, emotional support.

Homestart is another charity that looks for volunteers, this time those with parenting experience, to help families as a whole.

Volunteers effectively give parents a shoulder to lean on, helping keep families together when times are tough. Your time could make a world of difference to someone who just needs a helping hand.

Mind you, now is also the time you might be needing a wee helping hand yourself.

By the time you reach retirement age, you may find your eyesight is starting to falter. With that in mind, it would be wise to take a trip to Wallace Optometrists in either Oban or Lochgilphead at least once a year for an eye examination. All eye tests in Scotland are paid for by the Scottish Government, so it won't cost you a penny. If you do require glasses, you can rest assured that Wallace Optometrists offer highest quality Kodak lenses to match their unrivalled level of service.

Another reality of old age is that you may find making repairs and installing new appliances etcetera to your home can become more difficult. Again, there's no need to worry as Argyll and Bute Care and Repair are there to help. Their assistance is just a phone call away, so give them a call and see what they can do for you.

With all this to consider and more, you'll have your work cut out trying to simply sit down and enjoy a hot cup of coffee!



At R A Clement Associates our staff have spent many years advising clients on their best options for a happy retirement.

If you need some guidance through the maze of different possibilities, we can help you too. Just phone us to make an appointment.

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R A Clement Associates

We all hope that our standard of living will remain the same when we retire. To achieve this aim you need expert advice and forward planning. At R A Clement Associates we have experienced staff available to advise you on all aspects of retirement. We tailor our advice to suit each, individual client. For example, we can outline the various pension possibilities available to you and help you to decide which one would best suit your circumstances. For those of you running your own business you may want to start planning an exit strategy so that you can look forward to retiring when it best suits.

The draft 2011 finance bill will change pension legislation giving some savers more flexibility with their retirement money. The existing rules which oblige people to buy an annuity from an insurance company by the age of 75 will end in April 2011. There is also a reduction to the annual amount which people can add to their pension fund tax free.

If you want to know how this will affect you, or if you have any other retirement questions, please call us on (01631) 562643. We have friendly staff who are eager to help.

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CARE & REPAIR**

- Small repairs to your home such as changing a light bulb, installing security chains, flatpack assembly and minor decorating.
- Applying for grants to enable you to remain in your own home

For more information please contact _____
120 George Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5NT
Tel: 01631 567780 Fax: 01631 567486 Scottish Charity No SCO033875



Argyll & Bute Care & Repair

Argyll & Bute Care & Repair is a charity that helps the over sixties and/or disabled to remain in their own homes. The range of services offered includes free help with organising major renovations to adapt a home to suit an occupant's needs, to carrying out small safety works such as replacing alarm batteries, lightbulbs, etc.

Contemplating major changes at home can be daunting, but our Care & Repair Officers are there to help throughout the process. They can guide clients through drawing up designs, applying for grants, dealing with planning and building control, obtaining estimates and finding a contractor to carry out the work.

We also employ six Housing Support Officers who can carry out minor/small repairs that can make life so much better, for example changing tap washers, erecting a shelf, small plastering jobs, etc, for which a small charge is made.

We work closely with Argyll & Bute Council, NHS and the emergency services amongst others and cover the whole of Argyll & Bute, with staff living within the communities they help. To find out more about Argyll & Bute Care & Repair's services please contact the Oban office, 120 George Street, telephone 01631 567780.

Home START **VOLUNTEERS WANTED IN ARGYLL**
Support and friendship for families
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We are looking for volunteers to visit families all over Argyll.

Sometimes simply being a friend can make all the difference.

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CALL
01586 551140 for Kintyre, Islay, Jura, Mid Argyll, Cowal & Bute
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Home-Start

Home-Start is the UK's leading family support charity. We support thousands of parents who are struggling to cope. Our families need support for many reasons including post-natal illness, disability, bereavement, the illness of a parent or child, or social isolation.

Home-Start is looking for volunteers to visit families all over Argyll. Real people with real parenting experience can make a real difference to families struggling to cope.

Even if you only have a few hours a week to spare we would love to hear from you.

Home-Start provides support, friendship and practical help to families, helping to provide the best possible start for their children.

We don't need super nannies, we need real people like you.

Training is provided together with any expenses.

For further information about Home-Start services in - Kintyre, Islay, Jura, Mid Argyll Cowal and Bute call 01586 551140

Oban Area call 01631 566749



Thinking of trying on your dancing shoes?

FOR DETAILS OF A SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING CLASS NEAR YOU, CONTACT SUE PORTER ON **01631 563103**



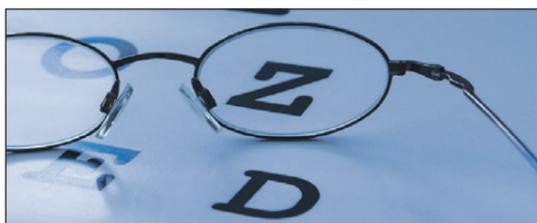
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You'd like to keep fit and active but want something more than that. An enjoyable evening out and the opportunity to make new friends? That's exactly what Scottish country dancing offers.

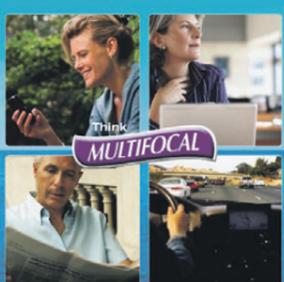
So forget any preconceived ideas you might have and give it a try. The enjoyment and friendship you'll experience for yourself when you join any one of the many clubs that meet throughout the week in the Oban area. Don't worry if you've got two left feet, we'll find the missing right one - we'll even find you a partner if you need one!

As for proof of the fitness benefits then look no further than the recent study carried out by the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences. To quote the study 'Not only is country dancing enjoyable and sociable but there also appears to be clear evidence that it's an effective recreational exercise for particular types of fitness in later life.'

So what are you waiting for? The Royal Scottish Country Dancing Society Lorn Branch meets in Oban each Monday night. All abilities of dancers, including beginners, will be made welcome. If you'd like to know more contact Sue Porter at 01631 563103.



Struggling with small print?



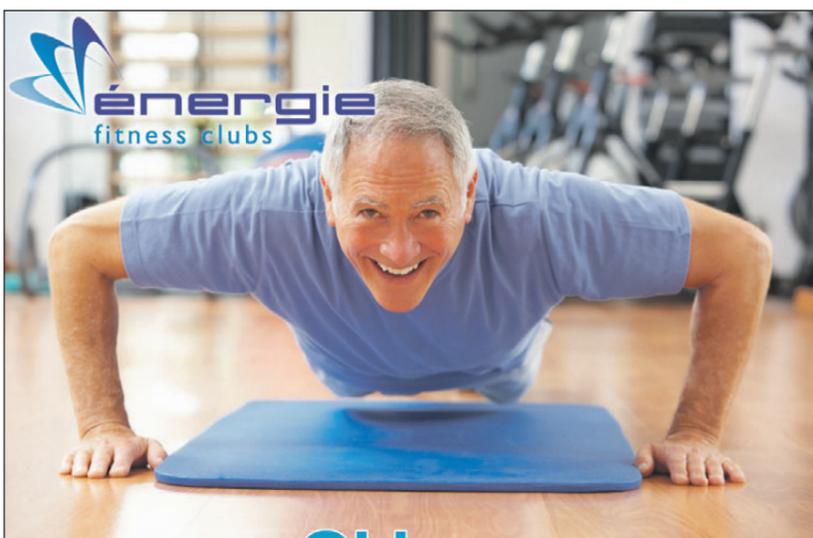
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www.energiefitnessclubs.com

ITS NEVER TOO LATE TOO EXERCISE!

As we journey through life, it's great to become older and wiser but why not also become fitter into the bargain?

Life can be a tough and lonely old business but here at Energie Fitness, we are committed to empowering you to transform your life for the better. There is a lot of research that tells us that the benefits to our health by starting to become more active are as high in our 50's, 60's and 70's as they are in earlier years. Of course, we are not trying to turn you into Olympic athletes, but it is nice to know your improvement gains achieved can be substantial.

Did you know that during the daytime it is much quieter and that we have specific studio classes designed for the over 55's? We have around 40 classes per week, many during the day, including Hatha Yoga, Pilates and BodyBalance all of which involve great stretching and postural strength exercises.

At Energie Fitness, we have a passion for amazing results and we can help you achieve the goals that you desire. It is important as we get older, especially for women, that we exercise our bones through resistance training to combat the effects of osteoporosis and we can offer you a tailor made programme guaranteed to bring you results.

Come and enjoy the comfortable atmosphere of the club and meet our highly qualified team who really do care about your exercise experience.

Clear Vision in Retirement By John Wallace

With the prospect of thirty or forty years of life left to enjoy retirement clear healthy eyesight is very important. With many retirees being as active in their retirement as they were when working vision correction solutions must take your lifestyle into account.

Perhaps you would be better with varifocals for general use and a separate pair of glasses purpose designed for your particular leisure activity. Contact lenses might be a better alternative if you participate in outdoor sports. Whatever your vision requirements Wallace Optometrists can offer you a fully customised solution.

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We have many daytime interest groups run by our enthusiastic members.

To find out more come to our friendly monthly meeting on the 1st Tuesday of every month in the Caledonian Hotel, Oban or consult our website www.u3ascotland.org.uk and follow the Oban link.



Some members of Oban U3A Geology Group enjoying a trip to Luings last Summer.

Oban U3A

The U3A is a national organisation for those who are retired or who work part time and who are free during the day to take part in a variety of interests and activities in informal, friendly surroundings. Each local group is independent and the activities are set up and run by its members based on their interests.

Oban U3A started in 2008. We now have more than 90 members and 13 interest groups. The current groups are: German, French Conversation, Scottish History, Craft Group, Reading Groups, Choreographed Ballroom Dancing, Playing the Recorder, Walk and Lunch, Personal Memories/Creative Writing, Geology, Poetry Reading, Jazz Appreciation, Beginners Bridge.

There is an informal open meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 10.30am in the Caledonian Hotel, Station Square, Oban. This is our monthly meeting; we chat and get to know one another over a cup of coffee. This is where we share information about interest groups, excursions, and talk about future plans. If you would like to know more about our U3A please come along to one of these Tuesday meetings - you will be made very welcome or visit www.u3ascotland.org.uk and follow the Oban link.

Befrienders
Because children's lives are never just black and white

Are you retired with some time to spare? We would value your life experience.

Please contact Cathi Bertin
01546 603144
cathibertin@btconnect.com
PO BOX 9576,
Lochgilthead, PA31 9BB




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Befrienders

Befrienders offers a one to one befriending service to vulnerable children and young people living throughout Argyll and Bute.

We are looking for more adult volunteers in your area.

As a volunteer befriender you would be matched with a child or young person within your own local area, this matching process is crucial to the success of your friendship so we would have in depth discussions with you prior to making a decision.

Our current befrienders come from a wide age range and also different backgrounds, some are parents and grandparents, and some are not.

The emphasis of befriending is about the quality and supportive nature of the friendship which develops between the child and their befriender, not about expensive treats and outings. (although we do pay volunteer expenses if you do go on trips out)

If you enjoy the company of children then do give us a ring and have a chat. Thank you.

Those Were The Days

The Argyllshire Advertiser
Friday 13 January, 2006

Lochgilphead girl's hero awarded

THREE BOYS who saved a Lochgilphead girl from death have received the Royal Yachting Association's young sailor of the year award.

And young Lochaber sailor Craig Paul is the first Scot ever to receive the accolade.

Seventeen year-old Craig, along with fellow sailors Sam Coombs from Clevedon and James Hopson from Wrexham, won the award for an amazing act of bravery - saving young Nell Hardie from certain death.

Sailing at the 29er championships on Loch Lomond in September the three boys rescued fellow sailor Nell after her boat capsized.

Nell was sailing with Craig when the boat capsized, trapping her underneath with a wire round her neck.

During the incident the boys kept their heads, remained calm and managed to bring Nell safely to shore and resuscitate her before she was taken to hospital.

The awards were presented by Her Royal Highness, the Princess Royal, at the London Boat Show on Saturday, January 7 after a ceremony at the media marine awards in Old Billingsgate in London.

Forestry Commission seeks apprentices

MID ARGYLL'S young men and women have been urged to apply to an apprenticeship scheme to help them begin a career in forestry.

The Forestry Commission's Lochgilphead Office is to advertise the scheme in the next few weeks, with the positions to be filled locally.

Those who successfully apply for the two-year apprenticeship scheme will be trained to NVQ level three given full training in operating the machines used in the forestry industry.

Iain Wilson, who runs the harvesting apprenticeship said: 'We have received funding from Argyll and the Islands Enterprise to provide training for machine operators as there is a shortage of qualified youngsters coming through. It will be an intensive course.'

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shelden



WE were in Glenbarr woods and it was a winter wonderland indeed!

The snow wrapped itself round every branch and twig and the trees reflected on the frozen river below. It was beautiful!

One of the things I love is the silence, the stillness, the softness in the air when it snows. There is a magical feel about it and we can all become children again in the whiteness.

I was also amazed at how much light it gave, as the white blanket, which covered the fields, seemed to banish the darkness of night.

Dunaverty Golf Course was adorned in the same white blanket and little icicles clung to the burn at the end of the 17th fairway. Maybe I should play the course now and my ball, which inevitably finds its way into that burn, might just bounce out again on the ice!

There wasn't a single footprint in the snow and I didn't want to spoil it. The sun created mini starbursts and with snow-covered Sanda and Sheep Island in the background, the whole scene made the perfect photograph.

I looked at my solitary footprints and the marks they made. Did they spoil perfection, or did they represent life? Did their path have a purpose or were they just meandering through life? As I looked at them, I wondered what footprints we leave throughout our lives.

A short distance away is the footprint of Saint Columba. On top of a wee hill this footprint overlooks the small graveyard where other faithful saints from our own community are at rest.

Like Columba, they have followed in the footsteps of the one who is The Way and have found how, in his company, they too could banish the darkness of night.

There are some footprints worth following.



Down Memory Lane

How much has happened since this photograph was taken! This Week's Down Memory Lane was taken from *The Advertiser's* archives and shows the land at Baddens, Lochgilphead before the Mid Argyll Swimming Pool was built. The photograph was taken by a former Squeak reporter in June 1993. To submit a photograph to this section of the paper, email our news desk – editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk or drop it into our office at 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead

Schools decision welcomed

Sir

I welcome Argyll and Bute Council's decision to abandon the consultation process on school closures and to go back to the drawing board. These closure proposals, drawn up by the former SNP/Independent administration, were fatally flawed.

However, it is important to remember that the main cause of the council's financial problems is the decision by the SNP Government that Argyll and Bute Council should be the victim of the biggest cut in grant of any council in Scotland.

The SNP is cutting Argyll and Bute's grant for next year by £5,500,000 more than the Scottish average. To give an idea of the scale of this loss of income, closing all the 26 schools on the council's original hit list would have saved £2,000,000 a year.

I find it astonishing that Mike Russell and Jim Mathew are in agreement with this cut. Mr Russell's response was to hand the council a secret list of eight to nine schools he thought they

Letters to the Editor

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Argyll PA31 8NB
e-mail: editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Telephone: 01546 602345
Fax: 01546 602661
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

should close.

If Mr Russell had not interfered in Argyll and Bute in order to boost his chances of re-election to the Scottish Parliament, he could, in his role as Education Minister, have saved as many of our schools as he wanted, because he would have been the final court of appeal.

Mr Russell, Mr Mather and their SNP colleagues are responsible for slashing public expenditure in Argyll and Bute. On behalf of the people of Argyll and Bute, I appeal to them to think again and give us our £5,500,000 back.

**Alan Reid MP,
Argyll and Bute**

Paying our council tax

Sir,

I had no difficulty in walking from sea level to altitude 400m on Tarbert Mealldaroch private housing estate.

Gratitude must be accorded to moaning resident, letter published December 17, other householders and manual

workers of the council roads squad as by December 19 the private road had been well gritted.

In his/her letter he/she asks 'what are we paying our council tax for?'. My reply is 'principally for grossly inflated salaries and platinum pensions provision. Don't you know?'

This Sunny-Craig man has no kitchen, no bathroom, no water, no electricity, no heating and no cooking facility yet uncivilised, uncaring Argyll and Bute Council year in, year out, extorts monies on the basis of council tax 'Band E'.

**Duncan Iain MacDougall,
Sunny-Craig,
Tarbert.**

Impose a bank tax

Sir,

I know we are in difficult economic times. But there is one easy decision that could spare a lot of the 'tough ones'.

A tax on the banks could

raise £20 billion in the UK to help those hit by the financial crisis in this country and around the world.

For every cut I hear the Government announce I keep asking: could a tax on the banks have paid for that?

The situation we find ourselves in started in the financial sector and we spent £1.4 trillion bailing them out.

We are all paying for a party we weren't quite invited to.

I want to see my MP and leaders start fighting for a tax that would make Robin Hood proud.

Locally this would ensure that small local schools would not be facing closure and health services would be protected, ensuring that the sick and elderly need not worry about the reduction in nursing staff and wards.

**James McSparran,
18 Dewar Avenue,
Lochgilphead.**

Credibility doubt!

Sir,

Now that 'our' council has now changed its mind on school closures, following the now unreliable reports as quoted by Argyll Rural Schools Network surely we need to doubt the credibility of one Clelland Sneddon, the Director of Community Services, Argyll and Bute Council as he laid out the closure case in the December 24 edition of this newspaper.

Sadly a majority of the council members supported this case even though this would in all probability result in the extinction of many small and marginal communities throughout Argyll and Bute.

It should be remembered that community 'consultation' on the realities of this issue was at best minimal, and in the views of a majority of the population, could only afford a predictable, pro council outcome.

Where do we go from here? It now seems as if all schools are now to be subject to threat of closure. Were practical ethics to be involved in this debacle, the above gentleman, and all of the full time members who supported the closure motion would tender their respective resignations thus to render some semblance of accountability to the sovereign electorate. The members could of course submit themselves for re-election - if we so willed!

**Jolyon Small,
Ardrishaig,
by email.**

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press policy

WE AT *The Argyllshire Advertiser* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a weekly local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to the Senior Reporter, *The Argyllshire Advertiser*, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB, giving your daytime telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

The Argyllshire Advertiser adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

The views expressed in *The Argyllshire Advertiser* are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of no more than 200 words for publication on this page.

The Editor reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses must be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, are also appreciated. Anonymous letters cannot be considered. Please write to: Letters, *The Argyllshire Advertiser*, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB, or fax us on 01546 602661.

E-mail: editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk. E-mailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and telephone number.

Autism advice in Argyll

Talking to 'anyone who will listen' two Argyll women tell Edel Kenealy how they bring advice, help and support to people affected by Autism in some of the most isolated parts of the country

FRIGHTENED, relieved, shocked, all emotions that a parent may feel when their child has been diagnosed with autism or Aspergers syndrome.

But for the last 10 years one organisation has been helping Argyll parents deal with those emotions - Autism Argyll.

At the helm of this organisation are two mothers with family members on the autism spectrum, Autism Argyll coordinator Maureen Macintosh and chairwoman Alison Leask.

A lifelong neuro-developmental disorder - people with autism have trouble with communication, social skills and relationships.

'I just wanted to find out more about this condition,' Maureen says, remembering when her son was diagnosed with autism, aged four. 'I thought I want to help him, to be as equipped and as prepared as possible.'

'I was the same,' said Alison, when a family member was diagnosed as having Aspergers Syndrome.

Combined

This combined will to learn more about autism resulted in a meeting between the pair at an event in May 2000. That August Autism Argyll was born.

Together with seven other parents Alison, from Campbelltown and Maureen, from Lochgilphead, joined forces to support those living and working with people on the autism spectrum within Argyll and Bute.

From the nine parents who founded the initial support group, a charity has grown which boasts a membership of 158, a third of which is made up of professionals.

In the last 10 years, having given up work, gone to university, trained, studied and achieved post graduate certificates and a Masters qualification in Autism, the Autism Argyll dynamic duo is a force to be reckoned with.

As chairwoman of the organisation Alison has been involved in a number of national initiatives including The Autism Toolbox, an autism resource distributed to every school across Scotland,

and SIGN 98, the National Clinical Guideline providing recommendations for a wide range of professionals on assessment and intervention for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Alison is also a member of the Scottish Government external ASD Reference Group.

And world-renowned speakers such as Professor Tony Atwood, Wendy Lawson and

Ross Blackburn have all visited Argyll upon the invitation of the charity.

The Autism Argyll resource booklet, produced for parents whose child has recently been diagnosed with Autism, was also adopted nationally and distributed across Scotland in 2006.

The pair continue to provide awareness and education workshops across Argyll and Bute with the impact having



Autism Argyll committee members celebrate their 10-year anniversary

with a special cake. t41autism01 a lasting effect on parents and professionals alike.

Tricia Grey, a local area coordinator who works with people on the autism spectrum, said: 'It is good to have

the support of a local group with a national outlook and who appreciate the role of local area co-ordinators.

'The challenging behaviour training days led to a lot of follow on discussion with families. Because the families felt that others were experiencing difficulties it made my job easier.'

Discuss openly

Teacher Anne Brown, who became a member of Autism Argyll in 2003, said the organisation 'allows people to discuss openly and confidently some very difficult issues'. Looking ahead to the next decade of Autism Argyll Alison and Maureen.

'Many adults, some as old as 50, are now getting a diagnosis of being on the autism spectrum but what is out there for them? Very little at the minute,' said Alison.

'What has been highlighted in our most recent series of workshops is the significant

difficulties for adults across the authority, particularly those without a learning disability, in accessing appropriate services in health, support services, employment and housing.'

Maureen added: 'It is true that parents never stop worrying about their children no matter how old they are but that is even more true for parents of autistic children. They will always need someone to interpret the world for them even if they are capable in other ways. Negotiating the social world is very difficult for them.'

'Someone once told me professionals are sprinters and parents are marathon runners. We are here to help parents on the journey, to equip them with all the knowledge and tools available to ensure that both they and their child get the most out of life.'

For more information on Autism Argyll log on to www.autismargyll.co.uk



(L-R) Autism Argyll chairperson Alison Leask and co-ordinator Maureen Macintosh. 04_c18aut01

GRADUATIONS



Iain MacLugash recently graduated with an MSc in Actuarial Science with distinction at Heriot-Watt University. Iain is now a student member of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries and is working in York. Iain is the grandson of Duncan and Ann Hendry, Inveraray and the late John and Dolina MacLugash, Hillview Ardrishaig



Jenna Samborek graduated from the University of Dundee with a degree of Bachelor of Nursing (Child Nursing). Jenna is the Granddaughter of Mr and Mrs Alexander Samborek, Lochgilphead and the late Dr D Lamont and Anne McNab, Ardrishaig

Please note that insertions for graduations and wedding photographs must be submitted no later than Friday 4pm for publication the following week

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Fejes String Quartet

Snow fails to prevent a memorable concert of great distinction

THE music lovers who braved the snow last Saturday to hear the Fejes String Quartet in the Ardrishaig Hall were amply rewarded with a memorable concert of great distinction.

Led by Hungarian violinist, Tamas Fejes, the group began their programme with a very special Mozart quartet in D minor, the second of six dedicated to Jozsef Haydn, with the young Mozart aiming to emulate and develop the great quartets of the older composer.

Apart from Rachel Lee (cello), the quartet members played standing up, which seemed to give their playing great authority, and from the first bars of the opening *al-*

legro moderato, their close understanding and impeccable ensemble work was exemplary.

Eloquent

The following *Andante* was eloquent and sublime, with the trio was graceful and beautifully shaped and this lovely quartet ended with an *Allegro*, a theme and variations, which had the three instruments, particularly Mike Lloyd's viola, taking up the theme in turn, before the serene closing bars.

It was appropriate that Tamas gave a clear and musically erudite introduction to his fellow countryman,



Left to right: John Holt, secretary, MAAA; Mike Lloyd, viola, Rachel Lee, cello, Elita Bungard, violin, Tamas Fejes, leader, Sheila McCallum who chairs the MAAA. 06_a02maaa01

Bela Bartok, whose third quartet was the next work to be tackled.

A 16 minute non-stop masterpiece; challenging, percussive, rapid glissandos, dissonant chords, expressive rhythms, all of which made more sense after the helpful introduction.

A furious whirling coda brought this exciting work to a crazy finish. No more eloquent

ambassadors for this exciting 20th century work could be imagined and the audience showed their appreciation.

Circulated

During the interval, the quartet members circulated and chatted and discussion was lively, underlining the excellent rapport the quartet had established with their audience.

The second half was taken

up with Claude Debussy's influential and groundbreaking *Quartet in G minor* (1893), his only foray into this string format. This impressionist work, comprising four contrasting, perfectly balanced movements, revealed novel textures, daring rhythms and varied instrumental colours, and the quartet's passionate and eloquent playing captured the work perfectly.

The applause was great, and there then followed an exciting encore, the Finale from the Mozart *Divertimento in D major*, in which second violinist, Elita Bungard, excelled. To sum up, the finest MAAA concert by a visiting string quartet for many years, a view echoed by the Kintyre Music Club who hosted the Fejes quartet in Campbeltown on Monday evening. **JH**

Community Noticeboard

Do You Enjoy
Choral Singing?

Tarbert Gaelic Choir
Invites
New Members
Particularly Sopranos

Knowledge of Gaelic Not Required!

Weekly practice in Tarbert
Monday evenings

Further information from
Mary Macalister Hall
Tel: 01583 431233

Email: machall@torrisdalecastle.com

Dochas Carers Centre
Carers Training Sessions

25th January - Stress and Anxiety Management
22nd February - First Aid
29th March - Welfare Benefits
All sessions will be held at
The Dochas Carers Centre, Lochgilphead from
1.30pm - 3.30pm

Places are limited to book call Maggie on 01546 600022

SOUTHEND
BURNS SUPPER

Friday 28th January 2011

Argyll Arms Hotel, Campbeltown
7.30pm for 8.00pm

Names to the Committee or Telephone
01586 830256

Dalriada
Accordion and
Fiddle Club

Argyll Inn, Lochgilphead
Tuesday 18th
January 2011
Guest Artists
Ian Lockhart
Scottish Dance Band
7.30pm

Introduction to
Buddhist Meditation

Saturday 22nd January
10am - 2pm at Lochgilphead
Community Centre
Come along on the day or for
more details and bookings
contact
Lesley on 01546 600267
email artistlesleyburr@gmail.com

Royal British
Legion Scotland

Campbeltown Branch
Monthly meeting will be
held in the Masonic Lodge
on Friday 14th January
commencing 1930.
Any new members wishing
to join should arrive at 1900.
Medals may be worn.

Kintyre Antiquarian &
Natural History Society

'Trees of the Old
Farms'

An illustrated talk
by Peter Quelch
Wednesday 19 January
2011 at 7.30 p.m.
in Argyll Arms Hotel,

Highland Parish
Church

GATHERING WITH
JIMMIE MCGREGOR

on Friday 4
February 2011
in Kirk St Hall
at 7.30pm
Admission £5

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ALL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PREPAID

Make Anthony Nolan Weekend the best ever

HALF way through January is not too late to make a New Year's resolution, so make a vow to help make this year's Anthony Nolan Weekend in Lochgilphead the best one ever.

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue is joining in with the event this year, which will be from April 29 to Sunday May 1.

The Lochgilphead weekend to raise money for the charity and increase the number of bone marrow donors on the charity's register was set up by the late Johanna MacVicar, whose family was from Lochgilphead. Johanna campaigned for people to join the Anthony Nolan register but sadly passed away before a suitable donor was found for her. Her campaigning spirit and sense of fun live on in the weekend.

'We've set our targets at beating the 233 donors that we got in Oban and raising over £4,500 as this is the amount raised at the most successful

previous Lochgilphead weekend. Hopefully we can achieve them!' said John Sweeney, from the fire service.

The outline programme for the weekend has been unveiled and is still subject to confirmation.

Friday: kids football tournament sponsored by fire and rescue service; Donor clinic at Lochgilphead Community Fire Station, 4pm - 8pm; quiz night at Argyll Hotel, 9pm.

Saturday: coffee morning, church hall, 10am-noon; Donor clinic 9am-4pm, Fire Station; seven-a-side football tournament for SFR Johanna MacVicar Memorial Cup, 10am-4pm, Rope-work park across from Fire Station; Fire station open day, 1pm-4pm; Dance/Disco, venue to be confirmed. 8pm-1am

Sunday: Race Day and Karaoke, Argyll Hotel 2pm till close.

More details will be published in *The Advertiser* as plans unfold.

Get on the map!

AFTER a successful 2010, Artmap Argyll, the artists' group, is going from strength-to-strength and more artists are lining up to join for this year.

There is still an opportunity to be considered for membership of Artmap

Argyll but applications have to be made by the end of January.

As Artmap grows, the cultural life of the area is enhanced also, with more exhibitions and displays to attract residents and visitors alike; Artmap helps to reveal the wealth of artistic talent Argyll has to offer said George John Stewart who will chair Artmap during 2011.

Benefit

'Artists benefit from the collective strength of group exhibitions and access to a wider range of opportunities than is possible alone, while the wider community is offered access to the amazing variety of work to be found springing from this beautiful land,' said George.

For further information about joining Artmap contact reme1898@btinternet.com.



At the opening of Light, an Artmap Argyll Christmas exhibition in The Dochas Gallery in Lochgilphead.

Achahoish in harmony

THE PUPILS of Achahoish Primary School had a fun start to their new term with an afternoon of singing lessons.

All youngsters took part in the hour-long session with a host of classically trained singers and pianists last Thursday afternoon (January 6).

The world-renowned singers spent the week at Crear, Kilberry training with top musician, Malcolm Martineau, but took some time out to visit the Achahoish pupils.

The youngsters were given a personal performance from the top-class singers and returned the gesture by giving the musicians a rendition from their play *Oliver*.

A musical performance from all the classically-trained musicians rounded off their week at Crear on Sunday afternoon (January 9).

For more information on Crear Concerts visit their website - www.crear.co.uk



The professional musicians gave the pupils from Achahoish a fantastic afternoon of music last week.

Another good night beckons with the Dalriada Accordion and Fiddle Club

Next Tuesday marks the welcome return to the Argyll Inn of Ian Lockhart and his Trio from Stirling.

This also is Ian's personal return to the Accordion Club scene, as he has been concentrating on his career for the last two years, not leaving him much spare time. But, he says, he cannot wait to get back in front of Scottish music fans again, so this will make for an exciting night of music presented in his own special style, which we remember well.

Pleasure

In December once again, we had the pleasure to host Archie and Alec McAllister for the Dalriada Christmas

party and, as ever, they gave us a great selection of marches, jigs, reels etc to create a fine party

spirit. On Tuesday, with chairman John Hunt as host, the music gets underway at 7-30.



21st January 2011

Volunteering Extravaganza

Come along and talk to local voluntary organisations to find out what they can do for you

- Timebank café
- No obligations
- Move your career Forward
- Make new contacts

Lochgilphead Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead
10.30am - 2.30pm

info at www.argyllcommunities.org



Coisir Og Dhail Riata with their conductor, Fiona Munro (pictured centre) whilst in Ireland last year.

Uncertain future for Gaelic choir

MID ARGYLL'S Gaelic choir, Coisir Og Dhail Riata, have entered the new year facing an uncertain future.

The group has found itself in turmoil following the retirement of its conductor, Fiona Munro.

Mrs Munro, who joined the choir, more than five years ago, had to relinquish her role due to family commitments.

Secretary of Coisir Og Dhail Riata, Lena Ferguson, said: 'It's a huge loss to say goodbye to Fiona and we are now without a conductor.'

The group, made up of S1-6 girls, has won a cache of trophies since its early beginnings in 2000. At last year's National Mod in Caithness the choir took home the highest aggregate in music and they consistently gain very high marks in all competitions.

Its Gaelic tutor, Christine Johnston, will continue in her role. Lena said: 'The choir, committee and parents will meet at the end of this month to look at how we go forward. We have let people know of our situation by word of mouth but so far we haven't had anyone come forward as a replacement.'

Numbers for the choir continue to strengthen, with a number of new starts ready to come forward this year. Anyone who thinks they can assist the choir can contact Lena Ferguson on 01546 603552, Christine Johnson on 01546 602024 or treasurer, Margaret Litster on 01546 605239.

THE PICTURE HOUSE

Saturday 15 January for 6 days at 8.00pm

Unstoppable (12A)

Denzel Washington, Chris Pine and Rosario Dawson
1 million tons of steel. 100,000 lives at stake. 100 minutes to impact.
Please note children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult of 18 years or over

Coming Next
Saturday 22 January for 6 days

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of The Dawn Treader (PG)

Doors open thirty minutes before showing
Audio Reinforcement Available
All programmes subject to change without prior notice
Telephone Bookings 01586 553899
CINEMA CLOSED ON FRIDAY

www.weepictures.co.uk

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Synopsis: A massive unmanned locomotive, nicknamed The Beast and loaded with toxic cargo, roars through the countryside, vaporizing anything put in front of it. A veteran engineer and a young conductor, aboard another train in the runaway's path, devise an incredible plan to try and stop it -- and prevent certain disaster in a heavily populated area.

Visit the wee pictures website for more what's on and coming soon.

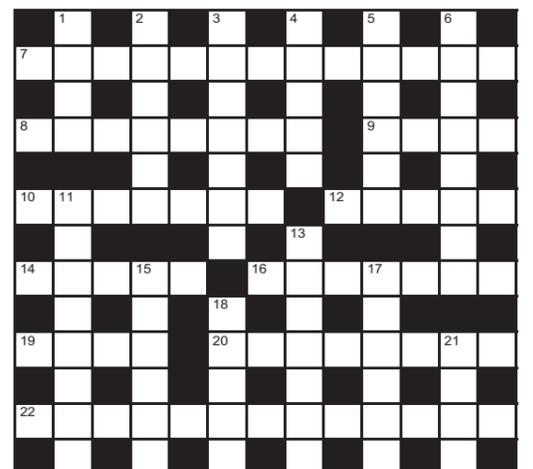
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Across

- 7 Time to tease? (5,5,3)
- 8 Make someone nervous (5,3)
- 9 Black (4)
- 10 Threesome (7)
- 12 Church assembly (5)
- 14 Analyze grammatically (5)
- 16 Impractical (4-3)
- 19 Jug. (4)
- 20 Most powerful (8)
- 22 Testing place (7,6)

Down

- 1 Composition (4)
- 2 Found in vitamin B complex (6)
- 3 Undies (1-6)
- 4 Direction (5)
- 5 Harden (6)
- 6 Write for pay rather than enjoyment (8)
- 11 Behind (8)
- 13 Feathers (7)
- 15 Endeavored (6)
- 17 Creamy yellow drink (6)
- 18 Food from heaven (5)
- 21 Sound muscles? (4)



Last Week's Solution



CAIRNDOW

CBE for Dr George Kerr

DR GEORGE Kerr who fronts The Scottish Salmon Company's healthy living initiative and has been awarded a CBE in the New Year Honours List. The Scottish Salmon Company has a base in Cairndow, as well as other farms around Loch Fyne.

Bill Hazeldean, Chief Executive of The Scottish Salmon Company, said: 'We are very proud of our association with Dr George Kerr in developing the company's healthy living initiative throughout the communities in which we live and work. This latest accolade is well-deserved and we would like to offer him our sincere congratulations.'

ACHAHOISH

Raising money for UNICEF

ACHAHOISH Primary School pupils will be raising money for UNICEF next month.

The youngsters will have a non-uniform day whilst learning about UNICEF's work. The charity campaigns for child rights worldwide, in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

KILMARTIN

Temperate rainforest

AN EXPLORATION of Argyll's temperate rainforest is just one of the events planned by Kilmartin House Museum.

Gordon Gray Stephens will give his audience an insight into Hazelwood trees on Tuesday night (January 18).

Jane Allan from Achnamara returns to the museum on January 29-30 to run a basket-making workshop. Only seven places are available so early booking is recommended.

STRACHUR

Post office future looks safe

STAFF at Strachur post office have said that the future of the village post office should be secure following a review of postal services in Scotland.

Ian Asher, who works at the post office, located in the village store, said following the closure of St. Catherines' post office last year there is not another postal service for 15 miles.

Patricia Watt, owner of Colintrave Hotel and village store echoed Ian's comments.

Patricia, who established the post office four years ago,



Dr George Kerr from Cairndow was awarded the CBE in the New Years Honours list

said: 'Given the proximity to the next post office I feel less vulnerable about possible closures. Port Bannatyne post office was closed last year so I do not envisage the service being taken away from Colintrave.'

Pantomime rescheduled

THE FESTIVE season is to be extended in Strachur this year as the village's annual pantomime has been rescheduled for January.

The All I want for Christmas production, performed by the Stars In Your Eyes Team, was due to be performed in December but was postponed due to ill health and bad weather.

The cast will now take the stage at Strachur Village Hall on January 21 and 22.

Tickets to the previous shows can be exchanged for the January dates at Strachur Post Of-

rice, Strachur filling station, Creggans Inn and Clachan Bar. Full refunds are also available.

Children can thank Santa

CHILDREN in Strachur will be able to send say a big thank you to Santa for their Christmas presents.

A special post box will be in Strachur Village Hall on January 21 and 22, where children can go along and post their thank you letters.

GLENDARUEL

Festive period water problems

RESIDENTS in Glendaruel and Colintrave experienced problems with their water supply during the festive break.

Problems with the water

supply began on Christmas Eve and whilst the majority of homes now have running water some people are still experiencing difficulty.

A spokesman for Scottish Water said: 'A small number of properties were intermittently out of water for several days. This was due to the volume of frozen pipes or burst pipes on private properties and in the public network.'

'Scottish Water got the affected customers back in supply by tankering water into the network, shutting down a number of private bursts and repairing about five bursts on the public network.'

ARDRISHAIG

Rare bird in Ardrishaig

RON MacInnes from Ardrishaig contacted *The Advertiser* after spotting a rare

visitor in his garden. Mr MacInnes from Kilduskland Road, explained: 'The Brambling is a winter visitor to our country but rarely seems to venture this far west. We have had at least three birds, two males and a female regularly over the last couple of weeks, one of which I have finally managed to photograph at the feeding area just outside our kitchen window.'

'The photograph shows quite clearly the winter plumage as illustrated on the RSPB website. With three here there must be more around, they seem to congregate a lot with Chaffinches and are of similar size.'

He added: 'This has been quite a good year for unusual sightings, only the other day I was photographing Waxwings at Linnet Court, also in Ardrishaig, not good enough to reproduce, but along with increased numbers of Goldfinches and Siskins, it all adds to the joys of life.'

KILMODAN

New tearoom dates announced

CHILDREN at Kilmodan Primary School have announced two further tearoom dates for this term after the success of the events held before Christmas.

The pupils opened the school doors to parents and the community and served up tea and homebaking in December, raising £259.35 for school funds.

The Christmas show and lucky programme prize raised a further £302.00

The money raised will be put towards a school trip to an activity centre at the end of the school year.



The rare Brambling photographed by Mr Ron MacInnes in his garden in Ardrishaig.

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ORMSARY

Blighted with potholes

THE LOCHGILPHEAD to Ormsary road has taken a real pounding in recent weeks. With prolonged ice and frost, the B8024 road is blighted with potholes, cracks and in some parts the carriageway is cracking.

Some parts of the road on higher ground are also heavily affected with ice and snow.



Potholes on the Ormsary to Lochgilphead road.

COLINTRAIVE

Burns' Supper

RESIDENTS of Colintraiive and Glendaruel will be descending on the Colintraiive Hotel on January 25 for their annual Burns' Supper.

The super, now in its seventh year, will be a traditional one for all the family with a fest of haggis, neaps and tatties.

Guests will be treated to an evening of song, music and poetry.

CRINAN

Duck shoot

A WORRIED member of the public contacted police at Lochgilphead on Saturday after seeing men with guns in the Crinan area.

Police attended and it was discovered that the men were all the legal holders of firearms and were out duck shooting.

INVERARAY

Co-op appeal for members

STAFF at the Co-op in Inveraray are appealing for members of the community to share their fundraising ideas and initiatives.

The call comes after the Co-op selected Enable Scotland as its charity to support throughout 2011.

The Inveraray branch aims to raise £1,000 before December 2011 and has already planned coffee mornings and a fayre with stalls selling a variety of goods.

Enable Scotland campaigns for a better life for children

and adults with learning disabilities and supports them and their families to live, work and take part in their communities.

Anyone who would like to get involved in the fundraising projects should make themselves known to staff at the Co-op on Main Street.

TIGNABRUAICH

Out of hours concerns

RESIDENTS in Tighnabruaich and Strachur have received letters from NHS Highland

stating that an out of hours medical service will not be delivered by local GPs.

The announcement comes after Dr Carle, the Kyles Practice GP, confirmed that he would be opting out of providing overnight and weekend medical cover for Tighnabruaich and Strachur from March 17.

It was hoped that a consortium of GPs from the Kyles, Strachur and Lochgoilhead practices could deliver the out of hours service seven days a week but residents have been told that is no longer an option.

Local GP cover formed the

basis of two proposals, which could be adopted as a response to urgent medical cover post March 17.

A Project Working Group, set up to appraise a range of options available to the NHS, says another five options remain.

In the letter NHS locality manager for Cowal and Bute, Viv Smith, said: 'The news that two of the options have led to being discounted is obviously disappointing for all of us but it does not detract from the fact that there are still a number of potential options that we will continue to investigate.'

Reward offered for recovery of stolen ring

A REWARD for the recovery of an ancient ceremonial ring stolen from a house in Argyll and Bute has been offered.

The Church of Scotland is offering a reward for the Moderator's ring, which was taken from his house in Helensburgh on Christmas Eve.

The oval ring is presented every year by the outgoing Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to his or her successor and is worn at ceremonial occasions.

It was stolen from the Right Reverend John Christie between 11pm on December 23 and 4.30am in the early hours of Christmas Eve.

The ring is gold with a large amethyst stone and bears the

church's Latin motto, *nec tamen consumebatur*, meaning, yet it was not consumed, referring to the biblical story of the burning bush.

Information

The Church has offered a three-figure sum of money for information that leads to the safe return of the ring.

The Moderator said: 'While this unique ring has a value, it is cannot be sold on. This is not my ring it belongs to the Church of Scotland. Everyone is hoping that the offer of a reward will encourage anybody who knows where it is to come forward.'

Anybody with information on the whereabouts of the ring should contact the Church of Scotland on 07854 785 051.

LOCHGILPHEAD

Voluntary gathering

EVER felt like volunteering and didn't know where to start?

The largest gathering of voluntary organisations ever held in Mid Argyll takes place on Friday January 21 in Lochgilphead's Community Centre from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Here you can meet local organisations to find out what services they offer and which volunteering opportunities are available. Organisations include Guiding, Kilmartin House Museum, Befrienders, the Youth Project, Blarbuie Woodland and CAB as well as at least another 12 exhibitors.

There will be a presentation on the advantages of joining a board of directors at 11am, and a workshop on Participation Skills at 11.45am.

Katie arrives just after the bells

AN OBAN baby became one of the first Scottish babies delivered in 2011, arriving 10 minutes after the bells.

Little Katherine 'Katie' Brown arrived eight days before her due date, at 00.10am on New Year's Day in Lorn and Islands Hospital, weighing 7lb 3oz.

Mother Ann Brown, who is originally from Tayvallich, said it was 'fantastic' to have had her daughter at New Year, her favourite time of year. In fact, it was Ann who noticed the clock strike midnight, while she was in labour.

Father Hugh said: 'Ann was the calmest person in the room and she wished everyone a Happy New Year. The maternity staff said she was a bit early but when they



Katherine Brown

15_01baby01

looked at the clock they saw she was right.'

Hugh, a diver based at Dunstaffnage, said: 'We both want to thank the maternity staff in Oban who couldn't have done any more for us. They took care of everything.'

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Store trade remains steady at Caledonian sale

CALEDONIAN Marts (Stirling) Ltd sold 389 store cattle and 17 young bulls, plus 768 store lambs and feeding sheep at Stirling on Monday.

Bullocks averaged 163.5p (+1.5p) and sold to 208p per kg for two 265kg Limousins from Wester Whin, Slamanan and £955 for a 630kg Limousin from Glenstockdale, Stranraer.

Bullocks from Lorn sold to 200p and to £435.

Heifers averaged 158p (+3p) and sold to 196p per kg for two 230kg Limousins from

Garrochtrie, Port Logan and £875 for two 490kgs Simmentals from Wester Braco, Airdrie.

Bulls averaged 143p and sold to 162p per kg for a 350kg Limousin from Craighead, Torrance and £720 for 510kg Limousin from Balcachie, Girvan.

Store lambs sold to £69 for Texels from Aberuchill Estates. Blackface lambs from Otter Estates sold to £59.

Ewes sold to £39 for Crosses from McBride, Auchenloch.

Prime sheep rates continue to rise as cattle drop back

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd., sold 74 prime cattle and 601 prime sheep at Dingwall when trade for sheep continued to rise while cattle were back on the week by an average of 4.5p per kilo.

Prime bullocks averaged 172.9p (-4.3p) and sold to 182p per kg for a 565kg Limousin cross from Drummond Farm, Evanton, and £1,245.60 for a 720kg Simmental cross from Tore Farm,

Culbokie. Prime heifers averaged 171.8p (-5.5p) and sold to 189p per kg for a 535kg Charolais cross from Easter Strath of Auchterflow, Killen, and to £1,160.65 for a 695kg Charolais cross from Mountrich Farm, Dingwall.

Lambs averaged 177.9p (+7.5p) and sold to 194.6p per kg for 41kg Texel crosses from Wester Craiglands, Fortrose, and £86.50 for 47kg Texel crosses from Pithogarty, Tain.

Prime sheep trade up at UA Stirling

UNITEDAuctions sold 3,726 prime sheep including 2,698 lambs averaging 171p/kg (+1.8p) and 1028 ewes and rams at Stirling last Thursday.

Texel lambs from Guardswell sold to £92, while Beltex from Luckenburn fetched £87.50 and to 201p per kilo from Coilavoulin.

Harsh winter weather and rising costs make for difficult start to 2011 for farmers and livestock



These Blackfaces near Inveraray eagerly await their supplementary feed to arrive. Weeks of hard frost and heavy snow showers have made for a difficult start to 2011 for west coast livestock farmers. Feeding of sheep and cattle has started early and with cereal prices at their highest levels for many years, the cost of all stock feed has shown a dramatic increase.

Milk price war is sending out the wrong signals

NFU SCOTLAND this week insisted that kicking off the New Year with a renewed supermarket price war on milk is sending out all the wrong signals both to Scottish farmers and Scottish consumers. Consumers shopping in the major supermarkets can purchase eight pints of milk for £2 at the moment, cheaper than some of their bottled water.

The history of price wars show that it is not supermarket profits that suffer the consequences, but those of their suppliers. While dairy farmer confidence in the future of the industry remains at an all-time low, the majority of major retailers are continuing to undermine the value of our Scottish milk industry by using milk as a loss leader to draw customers into their stores.

Chief executive of NFU Scotland, James Withers, said: 'The retailers have renewed their cut-throat battle for customers and we really fear that family farms, and ultimately shoppers, will pay the price.'

'With this drop in price, offering eight pints of milk for £2, in many supermarkets you can now buy milk far cheaper than bottled water.'

'Family farms are not looking for special treatment; just fair treatment.'

'The average milk price for a Scottish dairy farmer is three pence below the cost of production. And whilst they lose money on every pint produced, retailers are making millions on milk and other dairy products.'

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John takes top spot at Ronachan nursery trial

LARGIE'S John Casey took the top spot at the second nursery trial which was held at Ronachan in Kintyre last Saturday.

Judge for the day was I McConnell of Skipness with 10 dogs running in the first class competition and six in the second class section.

Results:
Class 1:

1 J Casey with Sam, Largie, 71pts,
2 B Strachan with Bill, Roy-bridge, 70pts,
3 B Strachan with Lark, Roy-

bridge 67pts outbye work,
4 P Clark with Jill, Stewarton 67pts,
5 B Strachan with Robbie, Roy-bridge 66pts,
6 A McCuish with Rock, Skipness 65pts.

Class 2:

1 B Strachan with Sweep, Roy-bridge 80pts,
2 J Casey with Moss, 77pts,
3 J Main with Roy, Largie 72pts.

The third nursery trial will be held at Ronachan, Clachan tomorrow, Saturday January 15.

Market reports

STIRLING United Auctions

Lambs

Guardswell (Tex) £92; Luckenburn (Btex) £87.50; Penston (Suf) £84.80; Ciar-mhor (Cha) and Bush (X) £79.50; Outerwards and Dalbrack (BF) and Airtloch (Che) £74. Lambs (2698) Coilavoulin (Btex) 201p; Kipperoch (Tex) 197p; Highholm (Suf) 188p; St Mungoes (BF) 184p; Hillhead (X) 175p; Airtloch (Che) 168p; Shearerston (Cha) 164p.

Ewes and rams (1028) Kilwinnet (Tex) £106.50; Kinloch (Cha) £97.50; Ardtormish (Tex) £96.50; Craigend (Suf) £91.50; South Cassingray (Che) £87.50; Penston (X) £83.50; South Flanders (Mul) £77.80; Middle Ballat (Btex) £71; Clunbeg (BF) £63.50.

STIRLING

Caledonian Marts

Bullocks:

0-250kgs £435 Lorn, 200p Lorn; 251-300kgs £560 Wester Whin, 208p Wester Whin; 301-350kgs £650 Easterton, 179p Mains of Burnbank; 351-400kgs £700 Mains of Burnbank, 180p Mains of Burnbank; 401-450kgs £825 Mains of Burnbank, 183p Mains of Burnbank; 451-500kgs £800 Dechmont, Glenstockdale, 170p Glenstockdale; 501-550kgs £880 Riccarton, 166p Riccarton; 601-650kgs £955 Glenstockdale, 151p Glenstockdale.

Heifers: 0-250kgs £450 Garrochtrie, 196p Garrochtrie; 251-300kgs £465 Easterton, 164p Garrochtrie; 301-350kgs £580 Mains of Burnbank, 166p Mains of Burnbank; 351-400kgs - £625 Glenstockdale, 164p Lorn; 401-450kgs - £680 Glenstockdale, 166p Glenstockdale;

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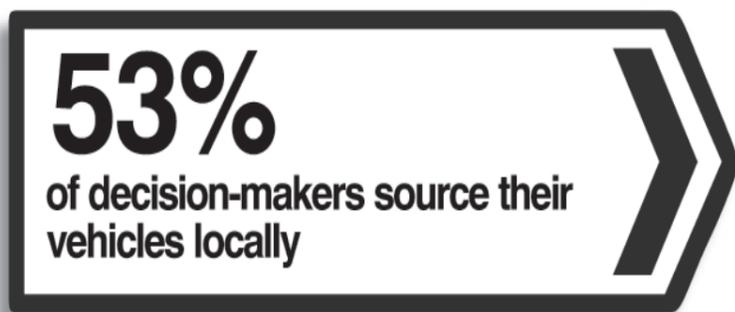
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Contact Peter, 07949569912 Oban

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- 59 Renault Clio Dyn, 1.5 DCI, 5Dr, Silver, 11,000 miles.....£9,950
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- 08 Renault Megane Sport Tourer Dyn Dci 130 auto, black, 21,000 miles.... £8,950
- 08 Renault Twingo Dyn 1.2, 3dr, black, 17,500 miles.....£6,550
- 58 Renault Clio Campus, 1.2, 5Dr, Black, 15500 miles£5,500
- 57 Honda Civic SE Vtec, 1.8, 5Dr, Silver, 44,000 miles£8,995
- 07 Renault Megane Senic Exp, DCI 86, Silver, 46000£6,750
- 07 Renault Megane Extreme 1.4, 5Dr, Hatchback, Silver, 18000,£5,650
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- 06 Renault Modus Dyn, black, 22,000 miles.....£5,550
- 54 Rover 45 1.8 auto, grey, 31,000 miles.....£3,350
- 04 Ford Focus Flight, 1.6, 5Dr, Grey, 70,000 miles.....£3,250
- 04 Ford Ka Style, 3dr, blue, 42,000 miles.....£2,650
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13 St Clair Way is a semi-detached house in walk-in condition and priced well below market valuation.

Accommodation consists of: Lounge/diner, kitchen, wc, 3 double bedrooms (master en-suite), family bathroom. Well kept garden to front and rear with off-street parking for 2 vehicles. Early viewing is highly recommended for this much sought after location.

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KILMARTIN HOUSE MUSEUM CONSULTATION EVENT

We want to provide the best possible Museum facilities for the community and for our visitors. We are considering a number of options to improve the service we provide and to help us identify these we have commissioned Jura Consultants and Malcolm Fraser Architects to carry out a Feasibility Study.

WE WANT YOUR VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF THE MUSEUM

Jura Consultants will be carrying out drop in consultation events so you can tell us what you think.
Drop in to Glebe Cairn café at Kilmartin House Museum any time on Thursday 20th January between 12pm and 4pm or between 5pm and 8pm
www.kilmartin.org museum@kilmartin.org 01546 510 278

Lochgilphead Soccer Centre EGM

Thursday 20th
January 2011
7.30pm

Community Centre, Lochgilphead
All welcome

Argyll (South) Branch of the Pony Club

AGM and parents meeting

Friday 21st January 2011
7.30pm
Cairnbaan Hotel

Campbeltown COURIER
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www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Argyllshire ADVERTISER
Tel: 01546 602345
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Lochgilphead Angling Club

AGM

Wednesday 26th
January 2011
7.30pm

Lochgilphead Community Centre

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll Bute COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES : EDUCATION

REGISTRATION OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS SESSION 2011/2012

Children who attain the age of five years between 1 March 2011 and 29 February 2012 should be registered for education during the week commencing 17 January 2011.
Parents concerned should take their children to the appropriate local primary school on one of the school days during the above week between the hours of 10.00am and 3.00pm.
Gaelic Medium Education
Gaelic Medium Education is available in the following schools:- Bowmore Primary School, Islay; Tisee Primary School, Tisee; Salen Primary School, Mull; Rockfield Primary School, Oban; Strath of Appin Primary School, by Oban and Sandbank Primary School, Dunoon.
The child's birth certificate should be produced. A leaflet providing information for parents on enrolment of children in school and giving details of placing request procedures (including under age placing requests) may be obtained from any school or from Community Services, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon, PA23 8AJ (Tel: 01369 708508).

CLELAND SNEDDON
Executive Director of Community Services

PLANNING

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX by the 04/02/2011

- **Ref No: 10/01948/PP**
Applicant: Mr Les Brodie
Proposal: Upgrading of access and formation of footpath
Site Address: Land South Of Caoruinn Carradale Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Carradale
- **Ref No: 10/02038/MFF**
Applicant: Anthony John Walker
Proposal: Siting of trestles for Oyster farming.
Site Address: Proposed Oyster Farm Site East Tarbert Bay Gigha Argyll And Bute
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Gigha
- **Ref No: 10/02046/PP**
Applicant: Mr David Adams And Ms Jean Bell
Proposal: Installation of replacement windows and front door
Site Address: 26 Shore Street Campbeltown Argyll And Bute PA28 6BS
Location of Plans: Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
- **Ref No: 10/02066/PP**
Applicant: J S Salmon Limited
Proposal: Installation of micro hydro power scheme
Site Address: Allt Mor Burn Clachan Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XL
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tarbert

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.
A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.
Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site. The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy. Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered.
Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

NOTICE OF DECISION

Gilkes Energy Ltd
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000

Further to the notice of an application for consent to construct and operate a hydroelectric scheme at Ederline Estate, Loch Awe, of 1.7MW.

Notice is hereby given that Gilkes Energy Ltd has been granted consent by Scottish Ministers to construct and operate a hydroelectric generated power station, together with planning permission under section 57(2) of the Town & Country Planning Act (Scotland) 1997.

Copies of the decision statement and consent documentation can be obtained from:

Energy Consents Unit
Scottish Government
4th Floor
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow
G2 8LU

Or by email to energyconsents@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Or on the Energy Consents website:
www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/business-industry/energy/energy-consents

Copies of the decision statement and consent documentation have been made available to Argyll & Bute Council to be made available for public inspection by being placed on the planning register.

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ARGYLL HOMECARE



Argyll HomeCare provides a professional, flexible, friendly & reliable service for those requiring Care at Home. We cover all aspects of personal and domestic care.

Campbeltown area – Homecare Supervisor

To support and supervise a small team of Homecare workers in the Campbeltown area.

Experience completing client assessments and implementing plans of care desirable

SVQ3 or equivalent, or willingness to undertake, essential

Campbeltown/Mid Argyll areas – Homecare workers

full time/part time & bank
Care experience is desirable but not essential as comprehensive training is provided.

A full driving license and access to a vehicle is essential for all the above posts.

For further information and an application pack please contact 01546 600333

Closing date: 28th January 2011

All staff are subject to an enhanced disclosure check

MEDICO

nursing and homecare

BRANCH MANAGER REQUIRED

OBAN

Medico Nursing and Homecare are a major player in Health & Social Care in the UK. We provide care services to individuals in their homes thereby enhancing their wellbeing. We are currently looking to recruit a Branch Manager who is driven, has a passion for quality, good people management and able to demonstrate effective leadership skills.

In return we will offer you a competitive salary package, career development plan and the support from a Central Support function.

The ideal candidate must have:

- Recent experience in a management position within the care at home and support services as a Registered Manager
- Awareness of current initiatives within the Social Care industry
- Expected to develop the branch and its commercial success whilst ensuring that a high quality service is delivered.
- A car driver is essential as this role covers the whole of the Argyll & Bute area and will be required to travel.
- Ideally you will hold an SVQ4/RMA or hold a similar professional qualification.

To apply email your CV to theresa.cull@nestorplc.co.uk

All applicants will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Disclosure. Part of the Nestor Healthcare Group, an equal opportunities company.



The Scottish Salmon Company

Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

We are currently recruiting for 3 Marine Operatives. Two are located at Toward, by Dunoon, and one at Portavadie, Argyll

2 x Marine Operatives – (Ref: MO/TD/11/2/C) – TOWARD

1 x Marine Operative – (Ref MO/PE/11/3/C) - PORTAVADIE

(Salary £15,221.75 based on 40 hours per week)

Candidates will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience in working within small, focused teams. Day to day duties will include fish welfare, sampling, grading and moving of the fish, site maintenance, net changing and boat handling. Previous aquaculture experience is desirable for this post; the company can offer further development and training opportunities through in-house training and also by external training providers. Preference will also be given to those candidates who can offer transferable, related skills and qualifications.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package including entry into the Company pension scheme after the qualifying period. A full, clean driving licence is also essential.

For an application form and job description, please contact:

HR Department, The Scottish Salmon Company Ltd, Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH

Tel. No. 01499 600 415

Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date for applications: 5.00pm 28th January, 2011

Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

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require a

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Must be over 25
Contact Catherine Robertson
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Housekeeper required for holiday cottage

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The Scottish Salmon Company

Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba

MARINE SITE MANAGER (Isle of Harris)

The Site Manager will be responsible for the management and development of the salmon sites at Grosebay and Stockinish which are currently being upgraded, plus the newly acquired site at Plocropool which will be developed from initial stages using the latest technology.

Our ideal candidate will be an experienced and enthusiastic salmon farmer with excellent fish husbandry skills, strong management and leadership qualities and proven organisational skills. Applicants must also have experience of automated feed systems, fish health, growth curves and feed management. The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate commitment to the safety and welfare of the staff for whom they are responsible, to the livestock within their control and to the environment in the local community and beyond. Current driving licence essential.

Job descriptions and application forms available from

The Scottish Salmon Company, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis HS2 0DB.

Tel: 01499 600622/600601

E-mail: sandra.macrae@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date Friday 28 January 2011



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Assistant Farm Manager Loch Arkaig

Salary - £23,283 - £25,400 per annum plus overtime

We are currently looking to identify a suitably qualified and highly motivated individual to undertake the role of Assistant Farm Manager at the Company's Freshwater site at Loch Arkaig.

Potential candidates should possess several years' salmon farming experience, have a sound understanding of fish husbandry and be conscientious in relation to recording and maintaining reliable data records. Good communication & planning skills and a high degree of computer literacy are also essential. It is also a requirement of the post that the incumbent be an effective deputy for the Manager as and when required.

At present, the farm has 20 cages with approximately 1.5 million smolts under its management. The post therefore brings with it significant responsibility and the appointed Assistant Farm Manager will be required to be flexible in terms of total hours worked, in order to satisfy the demands of the role.

If you feel you have the necessary skills to rise to this challenge, please apply in writing no later than Friday 21st January 2011 to: Vicky Ferguson, Human Resources Manager, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Limited, Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT.

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CKD Galbraith

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www.ckdgalbraith.co.uk

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to assist elderly disabled couple (Barcaldine area)

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Driving Licence advantageous

Contact: 07765904205

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Part-time position for knowledgeable and enthusiastic fisherman on West Coast property. Minimum 5 years' fishing experience required and trade skills beneficial. Good house available for rent on Estate. CV and covering letter to Box No 67, The Oban Times Ltd, P.O. Box 1, Oban by 31 Jan 2011.



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Project Engineer

Hydroplan undertakes the design, construction management and commissioning of small hydro stations throughout the UK. We are seeking an experienced Project Engineer to start in February 2011 at our offices in Fort William or Loch Lomond.

You will have a mechanical engineering background dealing with large plant/machinery. You will also be comfortable with civil and electrical interfaces and be able to assist with and manage commissioning. For more information visit www.hydroplan.co.uk

Assistant Home Help Organiser (Temporary)

£21,096 - £23,030

Mid Argyll Community Hospital & ICC Ref: CSC62073/R

Community Services - Adult Care

27 hours

Tel: 01546 604034

Grant Admin Assistant (Temporary)

£19,271

Rothessay Ref: DVE00064T

35 hours

Tel: 01546 604742

Closing Date: 28 January 2011.

To apply visit our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

INVERARAY CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF REQUIRED

Full/Part-Time

GUIDES/CASHIERS

An interest in Scottish history and foreign languages an advantage

TEAROOM ASSISTANTS

For further information, please apply to:-

Mrs J Young, Castle Manager

Inveraray Castle, INVERARAY PA32 8XF

E-Mail - manager@inveraray-castle.com

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Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2005

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Graduate Placements: Renewable Energy: Biomass Heating

HWenergy, based in Fort William, are Scotland's leading biomass heating specialists. Our growth plans within the exciting renewable heat sector require us to recruit the following:

Engineering Graduate: This is a varied role mainly encompassing design as well as project engineering, research and practical skills.

Marketing Graduate: This role will include setting up and implementing marketing strategy and working on business development.

The roles will at times require extensive travel throughout Scotland (A driving licence is required) The successful candidates will be offered fixed term 12 month graduate placements with a salary of £17,000 p/a. Please send a copy of your CV and covering letter to craig.sutherland@hwenergy.co.uk, or by post to HWenergy, Lochaber Rural Complex, Torlundy, Fort William, PH33 6SQ. Closing date for applications: January 26th 2011.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!' (1 Peter 1:2)

BIRTHS



CAREY

Neil and Kerry are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Aiden Alexander, on Hogmanay. First grandchild for Alex and Marion Russell. Thanks to all at the Maternity Unit, Campbeltown and Southern General Hospital.

MCCALLUM - WALKER

Christine and Kevin are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Eilidh Anne, on Boxing Day at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. Third grandchild for Raymond and Elizabeth, and second grandchild for Liz and Tom Glover, Helensburgh. Special thanks to Anna at Campbeltown Maternity Unit.

ENGAGEMENTS

CHALMERS - TRAIN - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Damaris, daughter of Martine and the late Bernard (formerly of Rhunahaorine), to Colin, son of Grace and Robert (Braidwood).

MCCULLOCH - RUSSELL - Both families have pleasure in announcing the engagement of Mairi, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J McCulloch, Carradale and Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs B Russell, Edinburgh.

MCKERRAL - MACDONALD - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Colin, youngest son of Donnie and Kate McKerral, Southend and Katherine, daughter of John and Christine MacDonald, Oban.

MILLAR - ARTHUR - Mr and Mrs R E Millar, Misty Law, Lochgilphead are delighted to announce the engagement of their son, Dr Eoghan R A Millar to Dr Laura Margaret Arthur, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Arthur of Braidwood, Carlisle.

PITT - SMITH - The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Dr Michael Pitt and the late Mrs Pitt of Shillingford, Oxon and Kirsteen, daughter of Dr and Mrs J Lister Smith of Ravelston, Edinburgh.

THOMSON - BROWNING - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Norman to Cara on January 1, 2011.

DEATHS

EVANS - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 7, 2011, John David Evans (Taff), in his 89th year, 10 Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Margaret Brodie, dearly loved father of Babs, Terry and Jackie and a loving and much loved grandfather and great grandfather.

MACKINNON - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 6, 2011, Margaret Low MacGregor, in her 74th year, 65 Tomaig Road, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Alasdair MacKinnon, much loved mother of Lynda and Marie and a dear mother-in-law and gaga.

MACNAB - Peacefully after a short illness, at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, on January 4, 2011, Irene MacNab, aged 87 years, of 7 Glenfyne Crescent, Ardrishaig. Beloved wife of the late Donald, loving mother of Paul and Iain, grandmother of Lisa and Megan, and dear sister-in-law of Lena, Malky and Myra. Funeral service was held in Ardrishaig Parish Church on Wednesday, January 12, 2011, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Forever in our thoughts.

MCKINVEN - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 8, 2011, William Hamilton McKinven (Willie), in his 82nd year, 164 Ralston Road, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Jenny McShannon and a dearly loved uncle and great uncle. Service in the Highland Parish Church, on Friday, January 14 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Highland Parish Church.

URQUHART - Sheena Mora (née Craig) (Edinburgh, formerly Minard and Arisaig), suddenly on January 3, 2011, at Castlegreen Care Home, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Matthew Craig, Minard, wife of the late Rev T C Urquhart, Arisaig, mother of the Rev John Urquhart, Edinburgh and sister of Elspeth, Matthew and the late Maisie and John. Sadly missed. Funeral at St Serf's Church, 280 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 3NP, on Friday, January 14, at 1.30pm, all friends welcome. No flowers please, but donations are invited to St Serf's and CrossReach. 'For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain'.

WLAJNITZ - Peacefully at home after a long illness, in Baltimore, Maryland, USA, Barbara McAlpine, née O'May, passed away on January 8, 2011 aged 63 years, beloved wife of Charlie, loving mother of Sandi, Tami, Tina and Charlie and much loved daughter of the late James and Agnes O'May.

ACKNOWLEDGE-MENTS

WILKIN - Nancy and family, wish to thank relatives and friends for the many cards, calls, flowers and help in so many ways, after their sudden loss of Alan. Our thanks go to the ambulance men for their kindness and efficiency, to Dr Lazarus and Gillian of A&E Department, to Dr Burschell and staff of Ward 56, Southern General Hospital, to Rev Burroughs for his visit and uplifting service and the Argyll Hotel for purvey, to Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for their

help and efficient handling of Alan's funeral. Last but not least, to everyone who attended church and graveside, although it was Christmas Eve, our heartfelt thanks. Retiral collection of £397.95 was donated to Campbeltown Hospital.

IN MEMORIAMS

CAMPBELL - Precious memories of our dear son, Kenneth, died January 14, 2006.

Today, tomorrow and forever, we love and miss you. - Mum and Dad

CAMPBELL - Precious memories of Kenneth, died January 14, 2006. Our brother and best friend Always in our thoughts. - David and Anne.

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of a special wee brother and big uncle, Kenneth, died January 14, 2006. You may not be here with us, but you are always in our hearts and thoughts, and never forgotten.

Missing you so much, Kenneth.

- Lots of love from James, Donna, Christopher, Chloe and Kyle xxxx.

MACDONALD - Remembering our parents, Liza Mitchell, died January 16, 1959 and Calum, died September 14, 1986.

Memories are forever. - From the family.

MACDONALD - Netta, died January 16, 2009. Loved and missed more than words can say In our thoughts each and every day. - From all the family.

MACLELLAN - Cherished memories of our parents and grandparents, Norman, who died on January 10, 1990 and Isabell, who died on January 17, 2008. - Sadly missed by Norma, Alex, boys and Alister and family.

MACLEOD - In loving memory of our dearly loved son, Douglas, who was accidentally drowned at the Marina, Largs on January 13, 2007. The call was sudden The shock severe To lose a son We loved so dear As thoughts drift back As they often do We cherish memories We have of you - Dad and Mum.

MACLEOD - In loving memory of my brother, Douglas. Gone but not forgotten. - Gordon and Kristine. My godfather Dougie Love and miss you. - Daniella.

MCGLYNN - John. In loving memory of my husband, brother, uncle and grandpa, who passed away on January 12, 2004. You are always in our thoughts and never be forgotten. - Margaret and all the family.

MCMILLAN - In fond memory of Norman, who passed away on Friday, January 15, 2010. A bright and joyful spirit, gifted with an élan and imagination. Equally, steadfast in courage and valour. Blessed with a warm heart and generous soul, he was thoughtful and caring of all. True friend, good companion, sweetheart forever. Love is the touch of intangible joy. - Ae fond kiss... Kate.

SMITH - In loving memory of Hugh D Smith, died January 11, 1982. Always remembered. - Inserted by family, Kilmichael Glassary.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 10.00 a.m. Breaking of Bread 11.15 a.m. Family Service with Sunday Club

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Jelly Tots Parent & Toddlers 8.00 p.m. Bible Discussion & Prayer

For details & other enquiries contact The Church Office

01586 551200
Pastor: Chris Holden
For Furniture Recycling Project call 01586 551547
SCO14646

www.springbankchurch.co.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 16th January 2011

Ford 11.30am

Rev Cliff Acklam

All are welcome

Tuesday 18th January Congregational Board Meeting, Church Hall, Kilmartin 7.30pm

SC002121

LOCHGILPHEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

All Welcome

Pastor Rev Derek Gibson

Sunday 16th January 2011

11.00am Morning Service

Jumpstart Group

Friday 10.00 - 11.30am

Tonight "The Edge" P1 - P7 6.30 - 7.45

Scottish Charity SC015187

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

Sunday 16th January 2011

11.00am

Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch

Speaker: Graham McLean

"A New Day is Dawning"

All welcome

CUMLODDEN LOCHFYNESIDE AND LOCHGAIR (Church of Scotland)

Scottish Charity Number SC016097

Sunday 16th January 2011

What is Poverty?

Cumlodden Church (Furnace) 10.30 am

Lochfyneside Church (Minard) 12 noon

Lochgair Church 3 pm

Ceud mìle fàilte All Welcome Rev. Roddy MacLeod

Highland Parish Church



SC002493

Sunday 16th January 2011

11.15am

Morning Worship

Creche (0-3yrs): Church

FunDay Club: 3yrs - P5 - Kirk St Hall

JaM: P6+ - Church

12.10pm Prayer: James Angus McKinven Chapel

Monday 17th January 7.30pm

Guild - Kirk St Hall

Tuesday 18th January

Badminton Club

6.30pm - 7.45pm: P1 - P4

7.30pm - 9.00pm: P5 - P7

Wednesday 19th January

Midweek Bible Study Fellowship

DVD series: "The Church" Time will be announced in church

Advance Notice

Next Stewarton Service: 23rd January at 6.30pm

Rev Michael J Lind

Everyone always welcome

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE

(SC010713) AND (SC010782)

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"

Sunday Services

Ardrishaig at 11:00am

Achahoish at 12:30pm

Registered Scottish Charities SC010713 and SC010782



Argyll Street, Campbeltown

St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown

Scottish Charity No SC023277

Sunday 16th January 2011

Second Sunday after Epiphany

8.30am Holy Communion

10.45am Family Communion

Details of services are on the church door

Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141

The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC011686

Sunday, 16th January

Morning Worship - 11:15 a.m. (Creche, Triple C and Bible Class)

(Rev. Philip Burroughs)

Monday, 17th January

The Guild - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 18th January

Mothers & Toddlers - 9:45 a.m.

Thursday, 20th January

Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, 21st January

Lunch Club - 12:00 noon

THE SALVATION ARMY Burnside Street, Campbeltown

Sunday Services

10.30am Morning Worship

5.45pm Prayer Meeting

6.30pm Evening Worship

Tuesday 12.15pm

Over 60's Luncheon Club

1.30pm Ladies Home League

Wednesday 7.00pm House Group

Thursday 11.30am Meet 'n' Eat Café

New to you Stall

7.00pm Bible Study

Major Dolores Thomson



LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH SUNDAY 16th JANUARY 2011

11.00 am Worship Service

Rev. Walter Ritchie

All Welcome

Further information (01546) 606218

www.lpchurch.co.uk

Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

Church of Scotland NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Morning Worship

Sunday 16th January 2011

Inverlussa Church 10am

Worship led by Rev Cliff Acklam

All welcome

MINISTER: Rev. Cliff Acklam

SC001002

Kirk Session

19th January 2011

Tayvallich Church 7.30pm

01546 606926

www.argyllcommunities.org/NKNAPDALECOFS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND KILBERRY LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYN PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 16th January 2011

Tarbert Church 11.30am

Sunday School 11.20am

Afternoon Service 3pm

Tarbert Arts and Leisure Centre

Margaret Sinclair

Interim Moderator

For all church inquiries and pastoral care

Telephone 01499 500633

Everyone very welcome

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Mid Argyll youngsters prepare for the finals

SPORTS Hall Athletics comes to Oban on January 15, when the contest for the Oban area takes place in the large games hall at Atlantis Leisure.

The competition is one of four similar area events promoted by Mid Argyll Athletic Club this winter and supported by all the athletic clubs in Argyll.

The Argyll Sports Hall programme includes local competitions at Campbeltown, Oban, Lochgilhead and Tobermory leading to an Argyll Final at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on

Saturday, February 26. Specialist equipment is used for various running, jumping and throwing events in small arenas and this indoor version of athletics brings the skills and excitement of track and field into sports halls giving youngsters a taste of athletics in a warm and dry atmosphere.

The organisers are hopeful that schools in the Oban area will encourage pupils to take part on Saturday. Competitors are reminded that the Oban contest starts at 12.30pm this Saturday and entries will be

taken on the day from noon at Atlantis Leisure.

Age-groups start from under-nine, under-11, up to under-17 with age taken as on the September 1, 2010.

There will be awards to fourth place overall in each age group for both boys and girls.

The entry fee is £2 per competitor or £5 for families of three or more members. Successful athletes will qualify to compete in the Argyll Final to be held at the same venue on Saturday, February 26.



John MacCrone in action.

Argyll rally driver destined for the top

A YOUNG Argyll rally driver is being tipped to be next Colin McRae after securing a place on the elite Team UK. John MacCrone, aged 21, of Dervaig, has been chosen as one of only three young British rally drivers on the team, which will offer the islander specialist advice and back-up as he prepares for a possible career in rally competitions. Team members will be

schooled in mechanics, equipment, sports psychology and safety, as well as racing techniques.

Sit a test

They will even have to sit a test with the Institute of advanced Motoring to see how they drive on public roads.

Glasgow co-driver Stuart Loudon is grandson of Boyd Tunnock, who heads up the famous biscuit compa-

ny, and has also been selected for the team.

He will be advised by Colin McRae's former navigator Nicky Grist and will rejoin John for the new season in the pair's Ford Fiesta R2. John is sponsored by Tunnock's, Palletforce and TSL Contractors. His first race of the new season is on February 24 in Bournemouth.



WIN

£700

JACKPOT

Spot the BALL

Competition



I enclose £1 (note) for 10 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 10, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish.
No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.

How to enter: **Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen.** Ten crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.
Crosses must not overlap

Name _____
Address _____
Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier,
Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners who each receive £25 are:
A Wylie, Meadows Avenue, Campbeltown and F Brodie, Meadows Avenue, Campbeltown

All you have to do
We have removed the football from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 10 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons. The game starts with a jackpot of £250 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball.

Entry will be void if crosses overlap. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday.

You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

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Flashback to the 2009 series; for this year's events 'exciting new developments' are planned.

A refreshed offering for Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series

'Over the last couple of years we realised that the event needed rejuvenating'

THIS year's Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series will see a refreshed offering, which will benefit competitors and spectators.

Organisers Clyde Cruising Club announced the exciting developments for the event that takes place over the bank holiday weekend from Friday May 27 to 30 in Tarbert.

Clyde Cruising Club's main aim has been to provide fresh challenges for competitors, which has prompted changes.

These included new courses for all fleets, providing variety to the standard windward/leeward course, the introduction of an Inshore Coastal (day-time) race for IRC classes, which will take place during the weekend and limitations to crew numbers.

This year's event will introduce a 'Laird of the Loch' event, an invitational competition between 2010 class winners in One Designs, which will take place immediately before the Series on Thursday May 26.

Commodore John Watson, who takes over the role from Howard Morrison for the 2011 event, said: 'This is an exciting time for us, the event and the competitors.'

'Over the last couple of years we realised that the event needed rejuvenating and thought it was time to give it a bit of a shake up. Our main aim in changing the event has been to inject more fun and

exciting elements of sailing to Tarbert. We hope that this refreshed offering will encourage more sailors from across the UK and further afield to consider entering the event and that past competitors will continue to return to the stunning waters of Loch Fyne.'

Further details and race entry forms for this year's event are available now from the Brewin Dolphin Scottish Series website www.brewindolphin.scottishseries.com.

Lottery numbers

KILMORY Camanachd Club lotto winning numbers this week were: 5, 6, 8, but there were no winners and so the jackpot for January 17 goes up to £400.

INVERARAY Shinty Club lotto winning numbers this week were 1, 7, 17. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £200 next week.

TARBERT Football Club lottery numbers for January 10 were: 9, 11 and 16. There were no winners and so the jackpot goes up to £500 for January 17.

SAFL fixtures

Premier Division Two - Port Glasgow OBU v Tarbert, referee Derek Milton.

NLochgilphead Red Star v Duncanrig B, referee John Scott.

Both games are scheduled to kick off at 2pm (weather permitting)

Lochgilphead group urges people to 'get jogging'

THE LOCHGILPHEAD Jogscotland group which meets on Thursday nights at 7.30pm has now re-started after a short festive season break.

Andy Law, one of the jog leaders, said: 'Starting out is easier than most folk think. The first thing to do is simply to get moving and make a bit of a habit of it. Those who are active through walking will find a transition to jogging and running can take a short number of weeks and people are amazed by how much ground they can cover in a short time.'

'This is not about competition, although many who have started by jogging do go on and complete 5ks, 10ks, half marathons or longer events.'

There is an extensive guide to the programme at www.jogscotland.org.uk showing various options for training and advice on kit. Anyone wanting to start/re-start just needs to turn up with a pair of trainers and comfortable jogging kit or if they need further information phone either Elaine McCann on 01546 600264 or Andy Law - 01546 605336.

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