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Don't risk lives to save cash, council urged

Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

ROAD safety in Argyll is threatened under council savings plans, an expert has claimed.

Facing a funding gap of £8.5 million in the next year, councillors tabled a series of potential policy savings in October. One of the measures is to axe the Road Safety Unit to save £84,000.

The unit is run by one full-time and one part-time officer, providing services including road safety awareness courses in primary and secondary schools, as well as bicycle training

Other planned savings

Other selected budget proposals:

- Closure of 36 of 57 public toilets - three posts lost
- Combining roads and amenity teams - six posts lost
- Cut centrally deployed education staff - eight posts lost
- Increasing pier and harbour charges
- Raising car parking charges

for pupils. The move, according to former Argyll and Bute Council road safety officer Carl Olivarius, would increase danger on the roads and undermine good progress in road safety. He also believes the council would be abdicating its statutory responsibilities, should the cut go ahead.

In a letter in this week's *Advertiser* - see page 6 - Mr Olivarius writes: 'The council has a responsibility to play a major role in road casualty reduction as contained in numerous publications, including Scotland's

Road Safety Framework to 2020, RoSPA National Road Safety Committee 'Making Road Safety Count' and the Road Traffic Act 1988.'

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council responded: 'All the budget proposals are in line with our statutory requirements. Year-on-year cuts to our funding mean that, like all councils, we must make changes to how we work.'

Mr Olivarius has received support from one of Argyll's best-known educators and from a Lochgilhead parent council.

Sine McVicar, former head teacher at Dunbeg Primary School, said: 'Staff always appreciated the delivery of important safety lessons by trained specialists.'

'I would therefore have very serious concerns should this train-



Jane Cowen and Sheila Campbell receive the award from Martin Jeffries.

Meet Tarbert's top citizens

JANE Cowen and Sheila Campbell have been presented with the prestigious Tarbert Citizen of the Year award for their contribu-

tion to community organisations. The winner is decided by a public vote. **More on a big night in Tarbert on page four.**

ing be removed from schools.'

In a letter to councillors, the vice chairman of Lochgilhead High School parent council Amanda Hampton

wrote: 'The work this unit does is vital to the current and future safety of Argyll and Bute's population.'

'We urge you in the strongest possible

terms to reject this proposal.'

Savings proposals will be decided at a council budget setting meeting in mid February.

Man charged after A83 crash

THE A83 trunk road was closed earlier this week after a multi-vehicle crash.

Police received a report at 10.20am on Tuesday January 16 of a four-car accident near the entrance to Fyne Ales brewery at Achadunan, Cairndow.

The road was closed while the injured were dealt with and vehicles were recovered. One lane re-opened at 1pm, with the road fully re-opening at 1.50pm.

A 60-mile diversion via Dalmally was put in place while the road was closed.

A man has been reported to the procurator fiscal for careless driving.

Snow strikes Argyll

TWO CARS left the A83 between Lochgair and Castleton in wintry conditions on Tuesday night.

Persistent snow showers led to treacherous driving conditions, with reports of compacted snow between Lochgilhead and Inveraray.



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Festive drink drivers caught in Mid Argyll

THREE drivers were charged and reported to the procurator fiscal for drink driving in Mid Argyll over the festive period.

On Saturday December 9 at 1.07am in Inveraray, a 43-year-old woman was arrested for being drunk while supervising a learner driver.

At 2am on Wednesday December 27 on Union Street, Lochgilphead, a vehicle was stopped and an 18-year-old man arrested and charged with drink driving.

A 56-year-old man was also arrested and charged for drink driving after being reported by witnesses on the Garval Road in Tarbert at 4am on New

Year's Day. Officers in the Highlands and Islands Division stopped a woman driver three times in eight days and found her to be over the limit on each occasion. She has been given an interim disqualification pending a court appearance.

The figures come as Police Scotland expressed dismay following the nation-wide results of a four-week drink and drug driving crackdown.

The campaign saw 15,771 drivers stopped during the 2017/18 festive period, with 567 (one in 28) detected for drink or drug driving. This is compared to one in 30 during the same period last year.

Of the 567 detected,

seven per cent were caught the morning after drinking.

Chief Superintendent Stewart Carle, head of road policing, said: 'It is disappointing the proportion of drivers detected has increased.'

'Notably, there were fewer drivers caught driving while still intoxicated 'the morning after' but there remains a hard-core of drivers who continue to risk their lives and the lives of others by drink/drug driving.'

'Very few of those caught were found to be between the new alcohol limit of 22mg per 100ml of breath and the old limit 35mg per 100 ml of breath. In fact, many of those caught were found to be sig-

nificantly over the previous drink drive breath limit, some following road traffic collisions in which people were injured. We will be carrying out further

research into offending patterns to improve our intelligence-led approach to identify and tackle that hard core of offenders.'

Justice Secretary Mi-

chael Matheson said: 'It is disappointing a persistent minority of drivers continue to ignore the law and put their lives and those of others at risk by driv-

ing while under the influence of alcohol. Those who fail drink drive tests face a minimum 12-month driving ban, a criminal record and a substantial fine.'



Margaret thanked for 40 years of dedication

POLICE custody support officer Margaret Ciarella is presented with a gift and flowers from Superintendent Alan Gibson following 40 years of police service. A key member of the Lochgilphead policing team, Margaret deals with

many things including prisoners and public inquiries.

Supt Gibson said: 'This is a fantastic achievement by Margaret and we are extremely grateful for her hard work and dedication over the last 40 years.'

'She and her police staff colleagues are essential in the delivery of an effective police service to our community and it was a pleasure to present her with this gift to recognise this milestone and thank her for her continued commitment.'

Car crash fine for Lochgilphead man

A LOCHGILPHEAD man who crashed into another motorist was fined at Campbelltown's JP court.

George Kerr, 43, from 8 Dun Mor Avenue, Lochgilphead, pleaded guilty by letter to a charge of driving without due care and attention on the A83, near Tarbert, on August 18 last year.

Kerr struck a grass verge and rock face before re-entering the

road and colliding with an oncoming vehicle, causing 'extensive damage' to both vehicles and injury to the occupants.

All were taken to Lochgilphead Hospital and the road was blocked for more than two hours.

JP Margaret McDowall sentenced Kerr, who had no previous convictions, to a £200 fine and three penalty points.

POLICE FILES

Theft from Ferry Road

BETWEEN Monday January 1 and Saturday January 6, at a field near Ferry Road, Ardpatrik, near Tarbert, an electric fence energiser unit and battery were stolen. Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Abusive behaviour

ON SATURDAY January 13 at around 5.30pm a 36-year-old man was detained following a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner towards a woman in a house in MacKintosh Way, Lochgilphead.

The man was later arrested and charged with abusive behaviour and held for court. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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Repair
crumbling
A83 surface
now - Russell

REPAIRS to a badly-potholed stretch of road near Inveraray should take place immediately, according to MSP Michael Russell.

Mr Russell, member for Argyll and Bute, backed growing calls for Transport Scotland to act quickly to address the problem of potholes on the A83 trunk road.

In a letter to transport minister Humza Yousaf, Mr Russell wrote: 'I have had a number of representations in recent days regarding the rapidly deteriorating condition of the A83, and in particular the stretch between the road works at Strone Point and Inveraray.

Badly surfaced

'In particular the section where the road works finish beyond Strone Point is very badly surfaced and potentially damaging to vehicles. The whole stretch through the roadworks and on to Inveraray is much worse than a trunk road should be, or be allowed to become.'

Suggesting that the wrong Tarmac material may have been used in the past by contractors, Mr Russell urged Mr Yousaf to take action.

A major six-month project has recently begun to smooth out a severe bend in the A83 at Strone Point, a factor in several road crashes over many years.

Mr Russell concluded: 'It would be impossible to leave [the repairs] until the roadworks are finished, in my view.'

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John MacFarlane
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Fishing boat catches fire

FIRE crews from Tarbert and Lochgilphead were still on the scene as darkness fell after a Tarbert fishing boat caught fire.

The fire on the *Stella Maris*, a prawn creeler, began on the morn-

ing of Sunday January 14 as she was tied up at Tarbert fish quay, with flames visible coming from the wheelhouse.

Reports

A spokeswoman for the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service said:

'We were alerted at 12.08pm on Sunday, January 14 to reports of a fire on a boat in Tarbert.

'Operations control immediately mobilised three fire appliances to the incident in Harbour

Street involving a fishing vessel with no cargo or passengers.

'Firefighters extinguished the small fire in the engine compartment and left the scene after ensuring the area was made safe.'

Prevent

Crews from Tarbert, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown attended, with a main priority to prevent the flames spreading to nearby vessels in the busy Loch Fyne fishing port.

There were no reports of injuries.

The fire and rescue spokeswoman concluded: 'The fire was extinguished at 12.57pm and the last appliance left the scene at 3.30pm.'



The *Stella Maris* ablaze in the harbour.

Mhairi thrills SNP party members in Inveraray

TWO SNP MPs joined more than 150 party members in Inveraray to discuss building on recent political success.

Brendan O'Hara, MP for Argyll and Bute, and Mhairi Black, MP for Paisley and Renfrewshire South, attended the discussion on Sunday January 14.

Ms Black, who is the youngest member of parliament in 350 years, gave a speech to the Argyll and Bute members having spent the day becoming acquainted with the discussion groups.

Enthusiasm

Mr O'Hara said: 'It was great to hear Mhairi tell the meeting that the enthusiasm and energy at today's meeting reminded her of the very best days of the 2014 referendum campaign.'

'She also told them that they were the key to securing independence and that we had to get back to the days of grassroots ac-



SNP MPs Brendan O'Hara and Mhairi Black go head to head at the members' meeting in Inveraray.

tivism and local people leading and organising themselves.

'Her message was very well received and the way so many people left Inveraray this evening with a spring in their step.'



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Decorate your cycle route

COMMUNITY groups can apply for up to £2,000 in funding towards artistic and visual improvements to local National Cycle Network routes, including one in Mid Argyll.

The ArtRoots fund, funded by Transport Scotland and run by Sustrans Scotland, seeks to create visually attractive and memorable routes which encourage people to explore on foot and bike.

Previous Artroots funded projects include recycled seating, chainsaw-carved sculptures and landscaping.

Part of National Cycle Network route 78, the scenic Caledonia Way runs between Kintyre, Mid Argyll and Lorn.

To get involved with a group, fill in an online form by 5pm on January 29. For more information visit the sustrans.org.uk website.

Tarbert celebrates outstanding citizens

THE VILLAGE hall was the venue for Tarbert Senior Citizens' annual Christmas dinner on Friday January 12.

This event is a highlight for many, with good food, great company and excellent entertainment on offer.

This is also the evening where the village's Citizen of the Year is announced, and

this year well-known residents Jane Cowen and Sheila Campbell jointly picked up the award.

This is a prestigious award with voting open to all Tarbert residents who vote for the person - or people - who they think has contributed most to the community. The recipient is a closely guarded secret, and it fell to



Treble Trouble get the joint jumping.



Enjoying the rousing sound of the Loch Fyne Pipe Band.

the evening's MC Martin Jeffries to explain that this year it was going to two people who worked tirelessly for the village.

He singled out their work for Tarbert Castle regeneration programme, Tarbert and

Skipness Community Trust and Tarbert After School Club.

Clearly surprised, Jane and Sheila accepted the plaque from Martin, saying that since moving to the village around 30 years ago they had been de-

lighted to have been involved in so many initiatives.

They were humbled to have been chosen, saying they never expected to receive the recognition - and they would need to dust a shelf to display the tro-

phy. The senior citizens had some great entertainment on offer, starting with Loch Fyne Pipe Band before Treble Trouble added to the party atmosphere and got many up onto the floor to dance the night away.

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A'Chruach community wind farm grants made to Mid Argyll groups

THE LATEST round of grants by the Venetian Energy A'Chruach Community Fund has been announced. Groups will bene-

fit to the tune of more than £80,000 in the current allocation.

Mid Argyll Youth Development Services received £5,500 towards the salary of the executive admin/youth worker post.

A grant of £20,000 was made to the MS Centre Mid Argyll to upgrade and develop the group's hyperbaric chamber to increase the number of people the group can work with each week.

Mid Argyll Community Enterprises Ltd has been allocated £24,602 in support of salary, training, and administrative costs for employing modern apprentices and part-time lifeguards at Mid Argyll Community Pool.

The cost of equipment, training kit, coach training, and

participation in football festivals will be eased for Lochgilphead Soccer Centre after receipt of £4,900 from the fund.

The Dochas Fund aims to develop counselling services with its £18,870 which will help with the cost of employing a co-ordinator and fund staff expenses and overheads.

Barn repairs and a compost toilet will be the use for £5,000 given to the Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation.

Blarbuie Woodland Enterprise aims to carry out maintenance and upgrade woodland paths with its grant of £2,000 from the wind farm fund.

WEDDING



JONES - RAMSAY

Rhys and Morag were married at Duck Bay Hotel and Marina, Loch Lomond, on June 24, 2017. A terrific day for both families.

Murdo MacLeod - a tribute

August 2, 1947 - November 29, 2017

MID ARGYLL lost one of the region's true characters with the sudden passing of Murdo MacLeod.

Murdo was a man full of enthusiasm and passion who lived life at 100 miles per hour - on land and at sea.

He is best known for being a founder, with his identical twin brother Kenny, of M&K MacLeod in Lochgilphead more than 40 years ago, and the family has strong Mid Argyll roots.

Murdo and Kenny were born in Glasgow in August 1947 at a time when the family was living at Tiroran on the Isle of Mull.

The family moved from Mull to Lochgilphead where the boys attended school. On leaving school they trained as joiners with D & J Carmichael Ltd of Lochgilphead and were often sent on jobs on islands, for example Mull and Tiree.

Strike

The bright lights of London, however, beckoned and the brothers started working for Laing Construction in the late 1960s. London was to be their home for the next five

years, but a national construction industry strike in 1972 meant that work in London became scarce and the boys headed home to Lochgilphead, where they soon negotiated their first contract, building Lochgair Parish Church Hall.

The construction partnership of M&K MacLeod was incorporated in 1975. Murdo and Kenny had experienced the use of timber frame construction while working down south and were certain that use of that method was ideal for the construction of houses in the west coast of Scotland.

Timber frame construction remains one of the company's specialities to this day. The original company has, of course, grown and has its subsidiary companies MacLeod Construction Ltd and MacLeod (Riverside) Ltd.

The history of MacLeods' use of timber frame construction does go back to 1976 when they built their first bungalow using this method at Tullochgorm, near Minard.

At around the same

time, young Murdo was becoming close to Jane MacNeill, whom he had first met when she was working behind a Lochgilphead bar as a student. They married in 1976 and the Tullochgorm house would be their first as a married couple.

In 1982 Murdo and Kenny negotiated the purchase of Achnaba and Castleton estates from their father's former employer, Sir John Thomson. Murdo and Jane moved there with daughter Mairi in December 1982.

The company has been based at Kilmory Industrial Estate for 39 years and is now the largest private employer in the region. Over the years the company grew, taking on projects across Argyll and the islands and building housing developments, schools, hospitals, ferry terminals, factories and retail premises.

Murdo was very proud to have been appointed one of the youngest presidents of the Mid Argyll Rotary Club in 1989. He enjoyed the friendship and ethos of Rotary.

One of Murdo's pas-

sions was encouraging young people throughout Argyll and the islands, and he became chair of the Prince's Scottish Youth Business Trust for Argyll the Islands.

He was immensely proud at being awarded, in 2010, The Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion for playing an outstanding role in promoting enterprise skills and attitudes. His visit to Buckingham Palace to be presented to HM The Queen as a result of the award was a highlight of his career.

Great pride

Above all, however, Murdo was a family man. Daughters Mairi, Jennifer, Susan and Alison were always a source of great pride for Murdo and Jane, and he was a dad who encouraged - and was never shy of telling others how well the girls were doing in their lives and careers.

He simply adored his three grandchildren, Ailis, Donald and James. It is a great regret that he did not live to meet his second granddaughter Ceit Mairi, born on January 5, 2018.

Ask Murdo's family, however, what the love of his life was and the reply would come back quickly - the sea, fishing and boats, particularly fast boats.

Murdo loved life on the sea and over the years regular visits were made by boat to Northern Ireland, Islay, Iona, Coll, Tiree, Barra, Harris, the Small Isles and the Treshnish Isles. Particular favourites were visits to Iona Abbey and the Puffins on Lunga.

Murdo had many great friends and particularly enjoyed taking them on trips on his boats. He loved his Redbay RIBs, built in Northern Ireland by

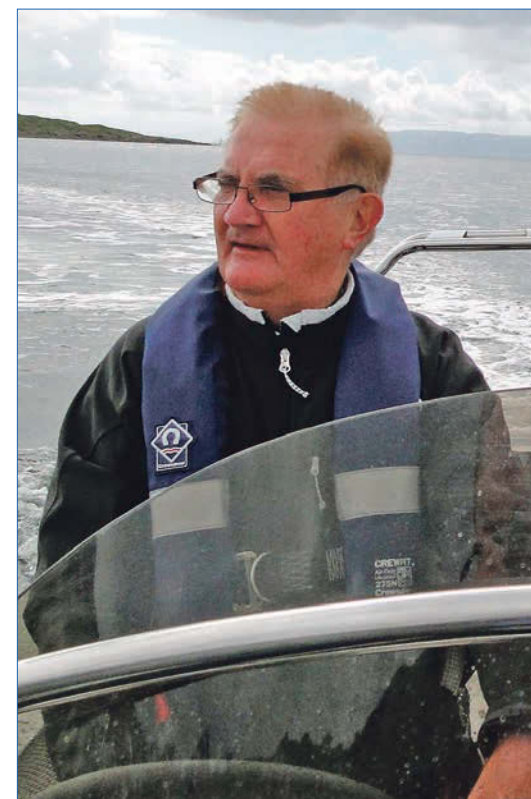
his good friend Tom McLaughlin. A highlight on the sea for Murdo was spotting killer whales at the entrance to Arinagour in Coll. A photograph he took of the whales took pride of place in his office.

Another highlight for visitors to Mid Argyll was when Murdo took them out on the RIB to see a dolphin which was living close to a marker buoy off Achnaba.

From his experience of working on the Isle of Tiree as an apprentice joiner Murdo had a yearn to return to the island. He and Jane visited in 2000 and decided to build a home there. Murdo became a familiar sight, cycling around Tiree in his hi-vis jacket. He and Jane made many firm friends on Tiree and became very much part of the island community.

Murdo's love of islands led him to build another house for the family at Kilnaughton on Islay and, again, he enjoyed regular visits to that island.

Murdo loved music and was a great sup-



Out on the water at the wheel of his beloved RIB.

porter of young musicians and bands. He attended the first and each subsequent Tiree Music Festival making friends, enjoying music and supporting the event organisers.

Enjoyed

Best of the West in Inveraray is another event he enjoyed immensely and was proud to be associated with.

The final word goes to Murdo's friend and Tiree man Angus MacPhail of the band Skipinnish.

Angus dedicated a poem to Murdo - Run The Race - the final stanza of which captures the essence of that force of nature that was Murdo MacLeod:

So follow dreams and see the world, and grab life by the throat

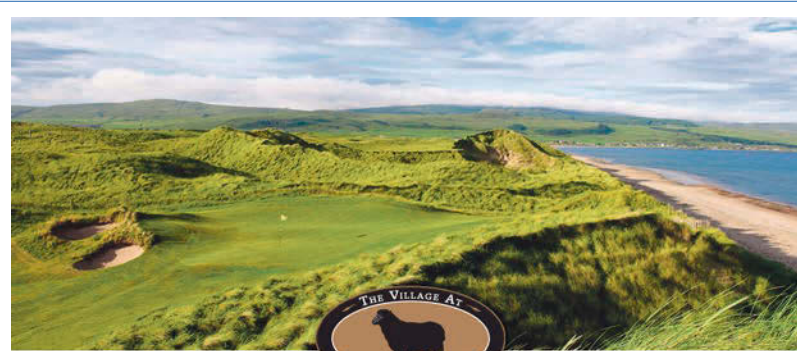
Don't live by dull convention or your life will miss the boat.

Live for love and friendships' glow and chase ambition's taste

We only get one shot at this - don't let it go to waste.



Murdo with Jane - and Redbay RIB 'Achnaba' moored in the background.



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Editorial

Preparing for the final cut

Remember the gammon slicers that used to sit on the counter in grocery shops?

Over the next few weeks, councillors will be meeting in proverbial smoke-filled rooms to decide what should make the final list of budget cuts.

There are plenty of people who don't want to see the Road Safety Unit abolished and still others who object to the closure of most of our public toilets.

This year's round of cuts follows a decade of annual gammon slicing. The meat, however, is getting scarce - so every new cut has a proportionately greater impact on staff and the public.

It will come down to the full council in February, when we boldly predict that the administration's budget plans will be rubber-stamped.

But if past form is anything to go by, there will be a pre-prepared rabbit or two to pull out of the hat on the day.

Who knows, the Road Safety Unit might be that very rabbit, chosen to be spared the chop.

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Don't endanger road safety

Sir,
I was shocked to learn that Argyll and Bute Council is to consider disbanding its Road Safety Unit as part of budget savings for 2018-2019.

The unit formerly employed three officers, but as part of a savings exercise some years ago has already been reduced to one full-time and one term-time officer.

The proposal is to remove this service completely and the council justifies this by stating that 'road safety information will be available through other organisations'. This suggests to me that they do not understand the complexity of how education and training is delivered.

The proposal also does not say which other organisation has the ability and skills to adequately replace council's current input. Having read Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service local plans I can find no hint that they are ready to accept responsibility.

I believe the current unit plays an extremely active role in promoting road safety education for all road users across Argyll and Bute, and in particular our schools - today's children are tomorrow's drivers.

Though one death on our roads is one too many, casualty numbers have been steadily declining since 1970s. Indeed, recent reports show that fatal casualties have been reduced to less than one third of their peak in 1969. This shows that current methods are working, and I cannot believe Argyll and Bute Council is willing to put this 'good news' trend at risk.

The council also has a responsibility to play a major role in road casualty reduction as contained in numerous publications, includ-

ing Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2020; Rospa National Road Safety Committee 'Making Road Safety Count'; and the Road Traffic Act 1988 (Section 39).

Whilst I appreciate councillors will have a difficult time deciding on where savings are to be made, I suggest that the small Road Safety Unit should be retained, and the option be removed from the proposed cuts.

**Carl Olivarius,
Lochgilhead - Road
Safety Officer
between 1982-2009**

Scenic but dangerous A83

Sir,
I used to drive up to Kintyre from the south throughout the 1960s and 1970s for holidays with my parents. Although the Loch Lomond road was more tortuous then, I have no recollection of concern regarding the state of the road, its potential impact on our Sunbeam Rapier (my parent's pride and joy) or, indeed, our safety.

Now, in the 21st century, my first advice for friends visiting me in Tarbert is to take great care on the journey here. As covered in the editorial in the January 5th edition of the Argyllshire Advertiser, the A83 achieved seriously dangerous conditions over the Christmas and New Year period.

For drivers new to the road, it was an anxiety-filled journey and pretty lethal in the dark - at a time of year when there is considerably more night than day.

From various parts of the globe, including countries with more extreme conditions and far less wealth than ours, visitors always ask the same question: Why is there no drainage along the road, particularly where vegetation and trees have been removed from adjacent slopes? This surely would help to avoid the

serious deterioration of the surface?

While we spend on trying to attract new residents, businesses and visitors to the area, we ignore the basic access infrastructure at our peril. A scenic journey it might be, but looking at the view is low on anyone's priority while trying to avoid ruts at the side, potholes all over - and very often deep surface water.

Quite apart from the dangers posed by the current approach, the lack of long term strategy resulting in ongoing patchwork solutions surely cannot sit comfortably with government, council or providers?

**Caroline Macqueen,
Tarbert**

Christmas tree thanks

Sir,
Huge thanks to the charities and community groups which took part in our Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church, namely ZamScotEd, Mid Argyll MS Centre, Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers, Mid Argyll Pipe Band, Mary's Meals, Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Kilmartin Museum, Guide Dogs, ENABLE, Dochas Carers' Centre, Argyll Talking Newspapers, Argyll Brass and 1st Ardrish-aig Guides.

These are just some of the local charities and groups which make our home such a good place to live in.

**The Rev Canon
Simon Mackenzie,
the charges of Mid
Argyll and Arran,
Lochgilhead**

In grip of obesity

Sir,
At the end of this month, the Scottish Government will close its consultation on its forthcoming Diet and Obesity Strategy.

We hope by then it will have gathered a wealth of evidence to show that regulations to restrict multi-buy offers on unhealthy food and drink would be crucial

in helping to stem the rising tide of obesity in Scotland.

There can be no doubt that a bold strategy is needed. Scotland has been in the grip of an obesity epidemic for too long.

Not only is Scotland one of the heaviest nations in Europe, but Scots also buy double the amount of food and drink on price promotion than shoppers on the Continent.

The Scottish Government's commitment to limit junk food marketing is a step in the right direction but, to progress, regulations are needed to restrict multi-buy offers on unhealthy food and drink.

Obesity is linked to 13 different types of cancer.

As part of its forthcoming obesity strategy, the Scottish Government must grasp the opportunity to help families make it easier to keep a healthy weight.

Measures to help us enjoy a better diet and fill our shopping baskets with healthy food will make it easier for us all to stack the odds of not getting cancer in our favour.

**Professor Linda Bauld,
Cancer Research UK**

Public toilets vital for tourism

Sir,
Argyll and Bute Council, in its annual exercise of making what it calls its policy savings, lists 32 options to save in excess of £1.8 million.

I was a member of the council for 22 years, and it was always the tactic of the administration to nominate 'unthinkable' options and then withdraw them days before the budget meeting in response to public outrage.

On reviewing the current proposals one which is unthinkable, unacceptable and which would devastate the tourist industry in Argyll and Bute is the proposal to close 36 of the 57 public toilets.

At a time when Scotland is increasingly becoming

a global tourist destination, and questions are being asked on how the current infrastructure can cope with the burgeoning demand, a move like this is completely wrong and would lead to Argyll and Bute being considered a no-go area for many tour operators and their customers.

All 36 councillors should consider this when making their budget decisions.

Do not close these toilets and remove infrastructure that is key to supporting our tourism industry.

**Robert Macintyre,
Serpentine Road,
Rothesay**

Barnardo's army of support

Sir,
As we start out on another year, I wanted to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to your readers and our supporters for their continued commitment to the charity.

Many of your readers have taken part in a host of challenge events and raised funds through, sweat, perhaps a few tears and sheer determination. Others have supported events as volunteers, and without this army of support we simply wouldn't be able to function.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our charity, supporting fundraising, working in our services and shops.

By donating and shopping in our store in Dunoon your readers have helped our local services, as the profits from retail go directly to support the charity's work with some of Scotland's most disadvantaged children and young people.

And finally thanks to you for supporting us by telling your readers about our events, news and campaigns and helping to raise awareness of the work we do in the local community.

**Martin Crewe,
director, Barnardo's
Scotland, Edinburgh**

Press policy

At The Argyllshire Advertiser, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01546

602345 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Cranog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will try to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.



THE EDITOR welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, 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, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Please write to: Letters, The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilhead, Argyll, PA31 8NB. Fax: (01546) 602661. Email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

Free trips thanks to bankers' fines



Old soldiers can pay their respects on a free trip.

THE ROYAL British Legion is on a mission to find all surviving WWII veterans.

Thanks to fines levied on banks involved in the scandal of manipulating the LIBOR rate, WWII veterans will be able to return to where they served to pay their respects to their fallen comrades.

The Royal British Legion has been running LIBOR-funded

tours for Normandy veterans for the past four years and, thanks to additional LIBOR funding, is now able to widen the tours to all veterans of WWII.

Spread the word

But there is no database of surviving WWII veterans, so the Royal British Legion is calling upon the general public to spread the word and ensure every surviving veteran gets the

chance to go back one last time.

Nichola Rowlands, head of travel at the Royal British Legion, said: 'We know how great the British public can be, and we're relying on everyone to help us spread the word to find every single living WWII veteran.'

To find out more, contact Arena Travel on 01473 660800 or visit the Arena Travel website.

Community fund deadline looms

TIME is running out to submit applications for funding from Argyll and Bute Council's Supporting Communities fund.

Community groups can apply for up to £2,500 per project or event, but the closing date is Monday January 22.

The Supporting Communities programme is aimed at supporting communities and helping to kick start new projects and events.

Criteria for funding has been widened to include applications from parent councils and community coun-

cils. The council's policy lead for communities Councillor Robin Currie said: 'We are particularly keen to encourage new groups with fresh ideas to apply.'

'This fund is a great opportunity for people to stand up and make a difference to their local area. I would urge anyone with an idea to apply today - don't lose out.'

Advice and support on funding is available from the council's Community Development Team, with application forms available on the council website.

"LAST BALL IN THE HALL"
Friday 2nd February Starts 7.30pm
 [Doors open 7pm]

Entertainment from:
Kintyre Schools Pipe Band
James McCorkindale's Dancers
Disco provided by Jamie G
Buffet & Bar
 (Licensed to 12.30 am)

Tickets £25
 Available from the School Office
Under 18's Must be accompanied by an Adult

Join us for the last ever function in
The Assembly Hall at Campbeltown Grammar School
PLEASE NOTE: Due to the Fire Regulations there can be **NO PARKING** at the school for this event.
Parking is available in the Bus Turning Circle.

Campbeltown Grammar School
 invites you

'Down Memory Lane'
Wed 31st January 2pm-6pm

Where photos/memorabilia through the decades will be displayed.

Visitors are welcome to come into school, look at the displays and have a last look around Campbeltown Grammar School giving them time to reflect on the time they spent in this building as pupil, parent, or staff member.

Tea & Coffee provided

Scottish Calendars 2018

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Win tickets to the Scottish Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Show



SCOTLAND'S largest exhibition is making its welcome return to Glasgow from February 8 to 11.

The Scottish Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Show,

which is once again sponsored by one of Scotland's leading motorhome dealers, BC Motorhomes, will take over the entire SEC in Glasgow for another year to welcome

more than 200 exhibitors and outdoor experts across the four-day period.

And to celebrate the return of the much loved exhibition, we've teamed up with

the show to offer readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the ultimate outdoor extravaganza.

With the exhibition set to be bigger than ever in 2018 – with an even larger family camping area, more accessories and hundreds of models, layouts and specifications all in one place – it's the perfect destination to find out more about holidaying at home.

Visitors to the show will be able to have first sightings of the brand new models for



2018 as well as a variety of holiday homes from luxury lodges to eco pods.

With brands including Airstream, Swift, Elddis, Lunar, Bailey, Coachman, Roller Team and Rapido,

there is guaranteed to be something to suit all needs and budgets.

Back by popular demand, visitors will also be able to purchase the 'must have' tents and accessories for their outdoor adventures at the Accessory Superstore.

Also on show will be marine products including jet skis and dinghies, as well as other marine accessories.

If that wasn't enough, visitors will be able to wander through the Holiday Park Village where staff will be on hand to provide advice and offer suggestions to make sure their caravanning experience is the best it can be.

In addition, a number of clubs and associations will be there to help you pick out your next destination while free caravan towing or motorcaravan manoeuvring sessions are on offer from the Caravan and Motorhome Club.

Tickets on sale now. Book yours and find out more about this year's exhibition at www.caravan-showscotland.com

To be in with a chance of winning the tickets, simply answer the following ques-

tion: What dates is the Scottish Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Show on?

Send your answer to Scottish Caravan Show competition, Argyllshire Advertiser, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB.

Terms and conditions. This competition is open to all adults over 18. All entries must include the name and contact details of the entrant. Entries will not be considered if they do not have all information specified.

Winners will be chosen at random and the editor's decision is final. The prize is one pair of tickets to the Scottish Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Show 2018. Prize is valid for one day entry only and can be used on any one day between Thursday February 8 and Sunday February 11, 2018.

This prize has no cash alternative, is non-refundable and non-exchangeable. Travel and parking are not included. Please note that you must provide a full driving licence to participate in the free towing and manoeuvring sessions.

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Percussion maestro plays at Ardishaig

A RENOWNED Scottish percussionist will thrill the audience at a special concert on Saturday January 20.

In the latest top-notch musical event staged by Mid Argyll Arts Association, Calum Huggan will perform at Ardishaig Public Hall.

Raised in Lenzie, Calum began studying music at the RSAMD junior academy, where he was spotted as someone of talent and innate musicality. He went on to study marimba and percussion at RSAMD, from

where he graduated with a first class degree.

During his undergraduate years he won the governor's percussion competition in his second year, which resulted in recording a solo piece in the BBC's Classics Unwrapped series. He also spent a year as guest student at the Mannheim Musikhochschule, studying the solo and chamber music under the direction of Jasmin Kohlberg and Dennis Kuhn.

Calum regularly participates in interna-



Calum Huggan.

tional competitions and was the only percussionist to reach the semi-finals of the 2011 Royal Overseas League competition.

As well as being an exceptional performer, Calum's passion lies in cross-arts collabora-

tions and teaching. He is an active and sought after percussion tutor and workshop leader throughout the UK, a musical and artistic director for several of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland's summer schools and is an accompanist for contemporary dance and theatre.

And folk can catch this talented musician in Ardishaig from 3pm on Saturday. Tickets cost £12 for adults and £10 for concessions. School pupils get in free.

HAPPY New Year.

With Christmas behind us, spring still seems a long way ahead.

Poor weather and little daylight wouldn't seem to be the best incentive to get out and about to see what our local wildlife is up to. Yet in many ways winter is the best time to see wildlife.

Our estuaries and farmland are crowded with migrant birds; I counted more than 40 widgeon on Lochgilphead's front green a few days ago. The hide on the Crinan Canal is a fantastic place to watch the ever-changing mix of birds as the tide ebbs and flows. The lack of vegetation and bare trees make it



easier to spot animals, and for daylight species, short days and hunger means they are more likely to be out foraging. If you have bird feeders in your garden they will be busy, especially as this winter has been colder than of late.

The red letter days at this time of year are those when the sun shines. The low winter light highlights our dramatic landscapes making for spectacular views from our hills.

Go out on a sunny day and Argyll is as mul-

ti-coloured in January as July; a purple haze of birch buds, the myriad greens of our lichen and moss strewn trees, the orange flare of bracken. What's more the health benefits of getting out and about to your favourite place, be it wood, seashore or hill, are well proven.

After a busy 2017 that saw more than 2,000 people through our door at Barrandaimh Visitor Centre we are busy planning this year's activities. There is so much happening on our door-

step. We have some very busy beavers on lochs Barnluasgan and Coille Bharr; kits were also born last year.

There is also a further release taking place over the next three years and we are proud to be assisting the Royal Zoological Society and the Scottish Wildlife Trust with the post-release monitoring.

Barrandaimh centre's normal opening hours will resume on April 1. We will have a number of walks and events, however, throughout the winter. Full details via our website www.heartofargyllwildlife.org or on our Facebook page and group.

Pete Creech

Hard rock at history group

AT THE January meeting, Inveraray History Society was transported back more than 5,000 years.

Dr Tertia Barnett took members to the Neolithic and early Bronze Age as they enjoyed her talk on Scotland's Rock Art project.

With the help of fascinating pictures of the different types of rock art that exist all over the world, Dr Barnett focused most of her talk on Scotland's abstract style.

In the form of cup and ring markings, this art can be found

in abundance in many areas of the country, and Dr Barnett's project aims to improve understanding of Scotland's rock art.

Researchers are working with community groups to create a comprehensive record of the carvings as a basis for their research and for raising public awareness.

Together with trained community teams, they aim to locate around 2,000 of the prehistoric carvings known in Scotland, and also look for undiscovered rock art. Inveraray History

Society members hope to join Dr Barnett for a day in Kilmartin Glen during the summer to see at first hand how to record any future findings.

Any non-member who may be interested could also contact the secretary - Sue - on 01499 302295.

The society looks forward to welcoming Ian Arnold to the February meeting. He will talk about on forestry Argyll.

Non-members are also welcome to attend at 7.30pm on Tuesday February 6 in the Nicoll Hall, Inveraray.

To advertise in the community noticeboard call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

A MUSIC CLUB FOR MID ARGYLL
THE EASY CLUB
CREATIVITY, INCLUSION & DIVERSITY

AN EVENING OF BURNS
AND OTHER SONGS AND TUNES WITH PIPES AND GUESTS

LOCHGILPHEAD RESOURCE CENTRE WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24TH 7PM
FREE ADMISSION AND HOT CHOCOLATE DONATIONS WELCOME

COFFEE MORNING
run by
St. Margaret's
for Parish Funds
Lochgilphead Parish
Church Hall
Saturday 20th January
10am - 12 noon
Everybody welcome

MID ARGYLL ARTS ASSOCIATION
(Scottish Charity No. SC006711)
Present
CALUM HUGGAN,
Percussion & Marimba
Ardishaig Hall,
Saturday 20th January,
3.00 pm
£12, £10 (concessions)
Free (school & students).

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Choosing a nursery?

Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit



Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit provides a happy, caring and stimulating environment. We benefit from custom built facilities that provide extensive opportunities for both indoor and outdoor play. All staff are qualified and very experienced in the delivery of the early years' curriculum, providing

children with well-planned and exciting experiences. Children regularly visit Kilmory Woods for Forest School activities enabling them to learn about the environment and develop a range of skills. The Pre-5 Unit has close links with Primary 1 thus offering an enhanced transition process into Primary education.



Registration week for free early learning and childcare is coming up in March. Here are some things worth considering when choosing a nursery.

Speak to your friends, relatives, colleagues and look in local press. These are generally trusted sources for recommendations.

See what The Care Inspectorate, independent regulators of care services in Scotland, says about local facilities. Their website www.careinspectorate.com allows you to search all the services in a town or postcode area. You'll find:

- * Service and provider details - who, what and where.
- * Conditions of Registration - opening times and maximum number of children cared for.
- * Quality Grades - see how a service is performing. Care Inspectors during unannounced visits look at four themes, care and support, environment, staffing, leadership and management.

- * Inspections - full inspection reports are available.
- * Complaints / Enforcements

Armed with the above information, contact those nurseries on your shortlist. You should be offered an information pack that conditions some or all of the following:

- * The aim of the nursery
- * Background on the nursery
- * Opening times
- * Numbers of children cared for
- * Inspection grades
- * How they will involve you and your child in the service
- * Information on Pre-Birth to Three / Curriculum for Excellence (Scottish Government policy)
- * A typical day at the nursery
- * Fees and payment terms

You will want to visit possible nurseries. Do not be afraid to take a list of questions on your visit. Similar to viewing a house, you should get a feel about the nursery as soon as you walk in.

Things to consider:

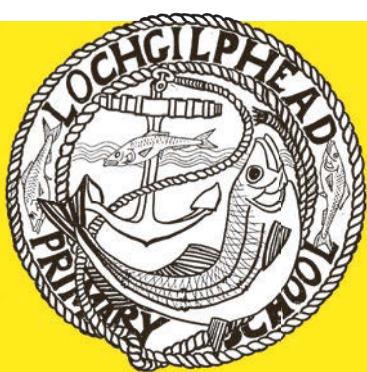
- * Is the entrance safe and secure?

- * Is the entrance area welcoming, with displays of children's work, parent notice boards and staff photographs.

- * Are you asked to sign in? The member of staff who shows you around should be knowledgeable and put you at ease.

As part of your visit, you should expect:

- * To view all playrooms, regardless of the age of your child.
- * To be welcomed by all staff as you enter playrooms and a nice touch is when staff speak to your child, showing their genuine interest.
- * Playrooms to be calm, but not quiet - children should be engaged in a variety of learning opportunities including imaginative play, arts and crafts and physical play.
- * To view evidence of children's involvement such as art work and photographs.
- * The nursery and all resources to be visibly clean.



Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit

Open Days

Wednesday 31st January,
10am - 11am

Friday 2nd February,
2pm - 3pm

Parents and children are very welcome to come and visit us.

Please Telephone: **01546 602747**



Kilmartin Primary School ELC

For information about our opening hours please contact the school.

www.kilmartin.argyll-bute.sch.uk

Tel: 01546 510293

Acting Head Teacher: Namaste Bevan



Kilmartin Early Learning and Childcare

In our ELC there is a strong emphasis on learning through play with an investigative approach. Children are encouraged to explore and experiment, and be creative and challenged, through a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. We are very lucky to have lovely school

grounds and a great local environment to explore! We also hold a monthly Bookbug session. All welcome! For further information please contact the Acting Head Teacher Mrs Namasté Bevan. Tel: 01546 510293 or Namaste.Bevan@argyll-bute.gov.uk

- * To be shown children's toilets, nappy changing areas and outdoor play areas - again these should be clean.
- * To speak to a member of the management team.
- * To see evidence of the curriculum in practice - planning and information documents displayed.

Argyll & Bute Council:

Children born between March 1, 2015 and February 29, 2016 are eligible for free Early Learning and Childcare from August 2018. Registration week will take place week beginning Monday March 5, 2018.

Information leaflets will be available from early learning and childcare providers at the time of registration and parents can obtain further guidance from the Early Years helpline (01369 708503), Argyll and Bute Council, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon, PA23 8AJ

Campbeltown Nursery Centre - supporting a successful transition to Primary School

Campbeltown Nursery Centre offers free quality early learning and childcare for all children from 3 years until they commence primary school. The Centre benefits from hosting Meadows Under Fives within the building which enables children to access all day care as they can attend sessions at both, along with the lunch club if required. Campbeltown Nursery

Centre follows Curriculum for Excellence and offers a range of fun learning activities which supports children's holistic development. The nursery has an excellent outdoor provision which enables children to participate in a range of fun outdoor learning opportunities through recourses such as the mud kitchen and the bug hotel. Campbeltown Nursery Centre works hard

to ensure a successful transition takes place from Nursery to Primary School, regardless of school choice. Although Campbeltown Nursery Centre works in very close partnership with Castlehill Primary School they also work well with all local primary schools to support successful transitions to school meaning parents can make their decisions on school at a later date. Campbeltown Nursery Centre uses various toolkits to track, monitor and plan for children's learning and has recently revamped their PE Programme which incorporates opportunities for children to participate in a range of sports such as football, swimming, gymnastics and golf. Registration Week at Campbeltown Nursery takes place week commencing Monday 20th February. Parents and Carers are welcome to pop in anytime throughout the week to complete a registration form or for a look round and to find out more information.



Campbeltown Nursery Centre

If your child turns three between 1st March 2018 and 28th Feb 2019 you are invited to register them for their **FREE** Early Learning and Childcare Place at Campbeltown Nursery Centre.

You can choose to register your child for 5 FREE weekly sessions. Either a morning or an afternoon space, or a combination of both if preferred.

Morning Sessions: Monday to Friday; 8:50am until 12noon

Afternoon Sessions: Monday to Friday; 12:30pm until 3:40pm.

- We work in close partnership with Meadows Under Fives to provide quality all day care.
- A lunch club is available for children to attend prior to their afternoon nursery space or following their morning space.

If you have any questions or would like further information with regards registering your child at Campbeltown Nursery Centre please contact **Mrs Fiona Graham** at Campbeltown Nursery Centre on 01586 552397 or by e-mailing fiona.graham2@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

Riverside Rascals

Riverside Rascals offers high quality childcare which shapes the foundations for children's life-long learning in a warm, caring environment that reflects inclusion for all. Its team of

dedicated qualified professionals offer a variety of exciting and stimulating experiences and opportunities to engage children in their learning. These reflect the pre-birth to three and Curriculum for

Excellence principles and outcomes. Partnership working is central to the nursery's philosophy. It works closely with parents, providing quality care that meets the needs of their child and them in a home-from-home environment. Children have free flow access to the well-developed garden where there is both a nature and play area.

We offer flexible childcare with a discount available for families and full time places. Please come along and meet the team. Please contact Jean on 01546 606249



We welcome you!

At Riverside Rascals we are very proud of our Care Inspectorate and HMIE reports (please see our website www.riversiderascals.co.uk)

We offer full day care and flexible wrap around care for 0 – 5 years and preschool education - AM & PM.

Open 8am – 6pm all year round (flexible hours to suit)

Pop in and see us anytime we'll be pleased to show you around.



Telephone Jean on 01546 606249 or email riversiderascals@btconnect.com for further information.

Riverside Rascals Day Nursery, Oban Road, Lochgilphead, Argyll Proprietor: Mrs Jean McPhee



LAST CHANCE TO VOTE

Pet Idol!

Time to vote for your **WINNER!**

068



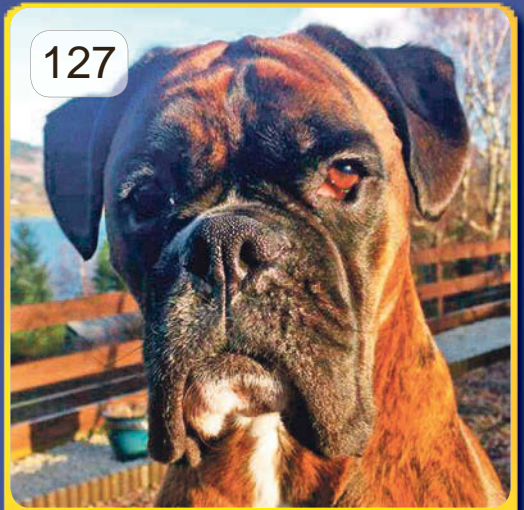
Mr Bigglez **Staffordshire Bull Terrier**
Bowmore, Isle of Islay

072



Daniel **Goldfish**
Lochgilphead

127



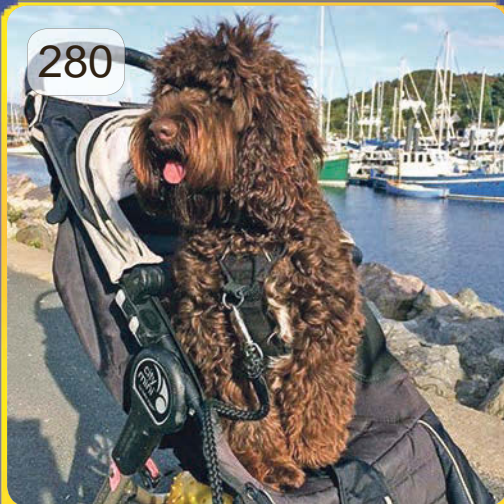
Bracken **Boxer**
Fort William

207



Max **Cheviot tup lamb**
Oban

280

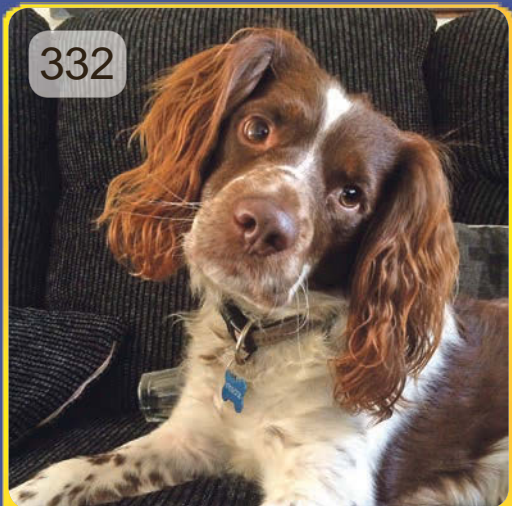


Hamish **Cockapoo**
Tarbert

282



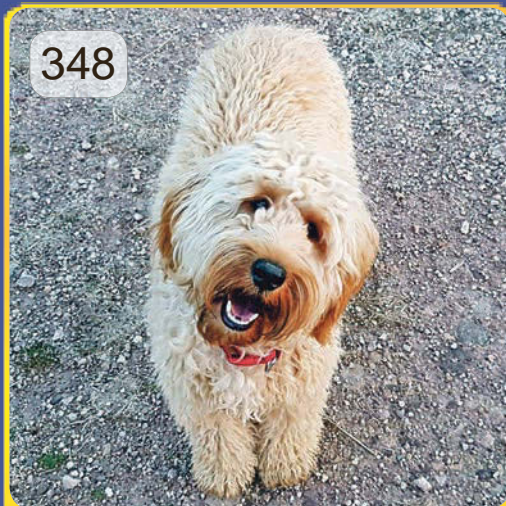
Keira **Boxer/Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross**
Oban



332

Blue

Dog
Oban



348

Finn

Cockapoo
Campbeltown



029

Marni

Jack Russell Terrier
Caol, Fort William



277

Bear

Dog
North Connel

Time to vote for your WINNER!

It seems that readers all agree that a pet is not just for Christmas. Despite being preoccupied with all-things festive you continued to vote in your thousands before, during and after Santa's big day, and we are now in a position to reveal the top 10 pets in the race to become Pet Idol. Our staff are worn out counting the votes, but we are nearly ready to crown our champion. Voting for the winner is now open and you have until 10am on Monday 22nd January to get your votes to us. We will then announce our winner on Thursday 25th/Friday 26th January. Go on, give it one last push for your favourite furball and get voting.

Votes must be received by 10am, Monday 22nd January.

You can vote for as many pets as many times as you like. Only one pet can be voted for on each voting form. Just make sure you use the number quoted on the pet's photograph when voting. Photocopied coupons will not be accepted. One coupon counts as one vote. We will also accept multiple vote coupons in one envelope.

VOTING COUPON

FINAL

I would like to vote for:

Pet number*:.....

Pet's name:

Please post to Wyvex Media, Pet Idol VOTE, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or votes can also be handed in to our offices in Oban, Fort William, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown.

*Pet number must be supplied. This can be found at the top left of each pet photograph.

Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted and will not count as one vote.

You may send in multiple voting coupons in one envelope.

Votes must be received by 10am, Monday 22nd January.

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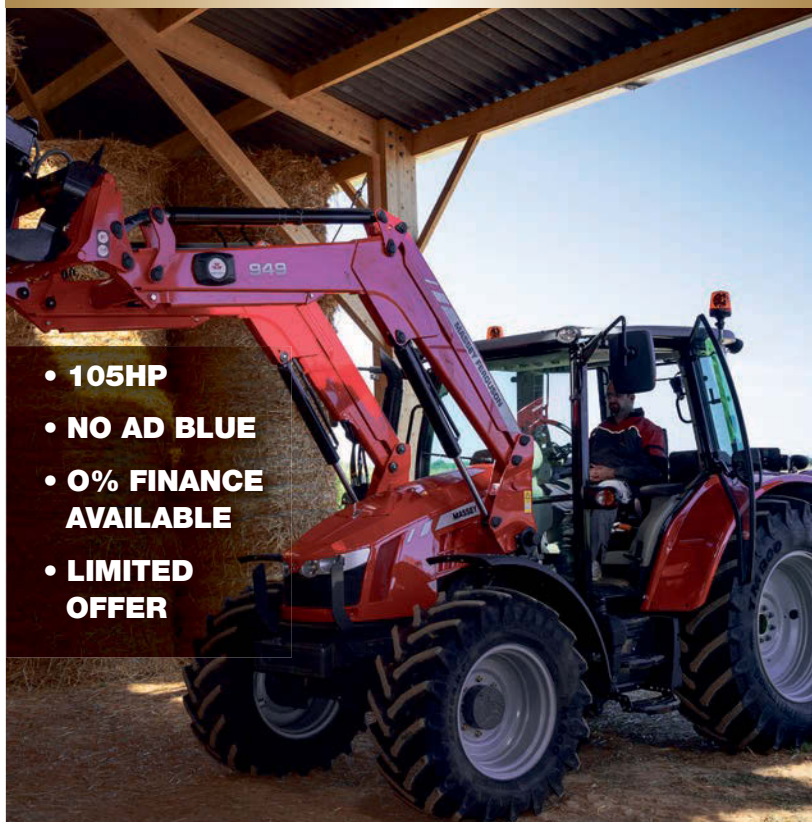
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10 New Year's resolutions for farmers



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1. Support local farmers

Farmers are a tight-knit group and can rely on one another for support. Becoming an active member of the farming community, whether it's becoming a vendor at a farmers' market or making a presentation on behalf of farmers, can bring the community together and show that it is stronger than ever.

2. Embrace technology/innovation

Technology is becoming an integral part of the agricultural landscape. With hundreds of apps, the growing popularity of drones and other innovations that have yet to be introduced, embracing the new technologies can be a way to stay ahead of the game and ensure you have all the tools necessary for a successful farming operation.

3. Evaluate the future

A new year means new beginnings, opinions and outlooks. Use the start of 2018 to evaluate the future of the farm. How long do you want to keep running the farm? How involved do any children want to be? Does a succession plan need to be designed? Taking time to answer these questions can help you prepare for the immediate and distant future.

4. Set aside down time

Being in the fields can be very time consuming, physically, and mentally draining. Nobody will argue that the work needs to be done, but it is important to give your body and mind time to relax and recover. Take the beginning of 2018 to possibly create a schedule as to when you'll take some time for yourself and your family.

5. Attend farm shows

Farm shows can be a great way to network, take in round-table discussions and see the latest innovations in agricultural technology.

6. Engage with the general public

Consumers are more conscious about where their food comes from and have many questions about it. Taking the time to engage with the public through social media or other avenues can open the lines of communication and help consumers understand their food is being produced safely and with the health of the environment in mind.

7. Increase the commitment to safety

Almost as important as the crops, machinery and livestock is the safety of the people who work to have a successful operation. Use the new year to take an inventory of the safety measures on your farm and decide if any more steps need to be taken. An extra light on a barn or a small section of fence can go a long way in keeping everyone and every animal on the farm safe.

8. Try something new

Whether it is changing your stock or utilising another form of technology, use the beginning of a new year to research experimenting on the farm. Some things may work, some things may not; but you won't know for sure unless you try.

9. Become an 'advocate'

Make 2018 the year to use social media platforms and other means to become an advocate and tell the real stories behind agriculture.

10. Be active on social media

Social media outlets like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and others can be a great way to interact with other farmers or keep track of latest market trends and breaking news.


RSABI
Supporting People
in Scottish Agriculture

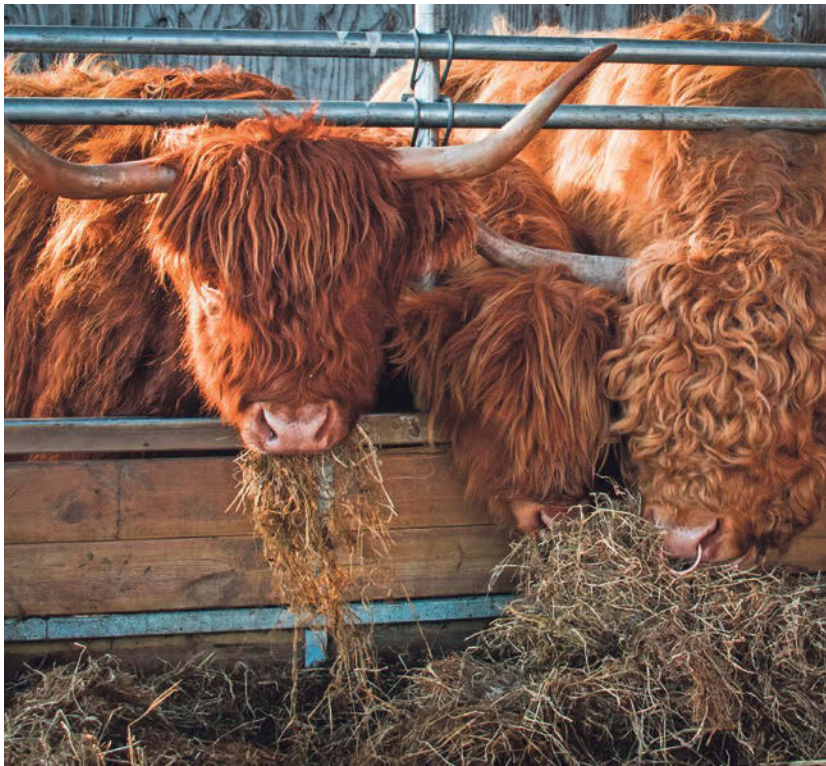
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Dugald - 01586 820219



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- McCormick CX95**, 2009, c/w MX U8 loader, 40K air con, 90HP£20,995
- New Holland T5040 4WD**, 2010, c/w MX T6 PCH Loader, 85 HP£20,995
- Kubota M9540**, 2010, c/w Kubota loader / bucket, hyd shuttle, 40k..£20,995
- Landini Vision 90 4WD**, 2003, c/w Quicke loader, 90HP..... £19,795
- Zetor Proxima 95**, 2010, only 1100 hours, 90HP, 80% tyres, 90HP £19,495
- Massey Ferguson 4255 4WD**, 2001, 95 HP £15,495
- Zetor 7341 4WD**, 2004, c/w Traclift Loader, 1 owner from new..... £15495
- Case 4230 4WD**, 1998 R492 DUA, c/w Tanco Loader, 85HP £12,995
- Massey Ferguson 6170 4WD**, 1995, c/w Front linkage & spools £11,495
- Kubota 4240**, 4WD, 2013, power shuttle, air con, new front agri tyres... £12,795
- Case 895 XL Duo**, 4WD, c/w Quicke 2560 Loader 85HP £10,995
- Goldoni 30DT Compact 4WD Tractor**, Trailer & Mower£8995
- John Deere 2140 2WD**, 1981, SG2 cab, 82HP, Power synchron.....£7295
- John Deere 2140 XE 2WD**, 1985, 80HP approx., 2 spools, top link£6795
- Kubota B2400 Compact**, 2006, Snow Plough and Salt Spreader£4995
- International 674**, 2wd, c/w loader, bucket and fork£3795
- Kubota U25-3 Mini Excavator**, 2.5 Ton, 2007, c/w 3 buckets £13,495
- Bobcat E08 Mini Excavator**, Brand New, c/w 3 buckets £12,795
- Neuson 3001 3 Ton Swivel Skip Dumper**, 2013, AWD, Hydrostatic ...£11,995
- Twaites 1 Ton Hi Tip Dumper**, 2014, AWD, Hydrostatic..... £10,795
- Ammann AV12-2 Double Drum Vibrating Roller**, 2011£7795
- Honda ATV's & Pioneer 700 side by side**, in stock.....£poa
- Arctic Cat Prowler 500cc**, utility vehicle, brand new.....£6995
- Honda Foreman 500cc**, 2007, 4 new tyres, serviced£3495



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Kintyre Holstein Breeders
**ANNUAL HEIFER
COMPETITION**
Thursday 25th January 2018
Route:
10.00am - Kilmaho
10.30am - Dhurrie
11.00am - West Backs
11.30am - Kilkeddan
12.30pm - Lunch, Argyll Arms Hotel, Campbeltown
1.30pm - Kilkivan
2.00pm - Machrihanish
2.30pm - Trodugal
Judge: Aleck Nairn, Kerrycroy, Isle of Bute.
Dinner and prize-giving, Ardshiel Hotel, 7:30pm.
All welcome.
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Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING



These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12.30 – 13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/03268/MIN	Continued mineral extraction and increase in extent of land to be worked as a hard rock quarry (part retrospective)	Achnaba Quarry Achnaba Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8RY	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/03118/PP	Erection of boathouse	Land At Port A' Ghuail East Of West Barfad Tarbert Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert
17/03066/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 17.5 metre high lattice tower with associated works and removal of existing 15 metre high mast	Mast North East Of Auchavae Claonaig Skipness Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert
17/03195/PP	Erection of 700 metres of 1.8 metres high deer fence	Land South West Of Asknish House Lochgair Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8SB	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/03192/PP	Change of use from existing annexe accommodation to self-catering unit.	Rockbank Glenburn Road Ardrishaig Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA30 8EU	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/03162/PP	Change of use of former schoolhouse to provide extension to adjacent primary school	The Schoolhouse Tayvallich Primary School Tayvallich Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8PW	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/03252/MFF	Re-equipment and enlargement of shellfish farm to comprise; 9 long lines and 533 trestles.	Seacroft Oysters And Shellfish Farm Clachan Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XN	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Council's website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
 Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

Event Invitation:
The Condition of Fish, Shellfish and Seabed Habitats of the Clyde

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) invites the public to learn about the condition of seabed habitats, fish and shellfish in the Clyde, how they have changed over time, and the sensitivities and pressures they face today. This will also be an opportunity for the public to provide their views and highlight topics and issues that are important to them, as well as contribute to discussions on future marine planning and policy in the Clyde. Light refreshments will be served on arrival. Events will be held in two locations:

- Fri 26th January, 17:00 hrs, Anchor Hotel, Tarbert, Loch Fyne
- Sat 27th January, 12:30 hrs, Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan, Ayrshire (allows time to travel by ferry from the Isle of Arran)

To register online for the events go to:
Tarbert: – <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/workshop-on-the-condition-of-seabed-habitats-fish-and-shellfish-in-the-clyde-tickets-41873135676>
Ardrossan: - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/workshop-on-the-condition-of-seabed-habitats-fish-and-shellfish-in-the-clyde-tickets-41873843794>
or call the CMPP: 0131 314 6782

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (MAIN STREET, CAMPBELTOWN) (NO STOPPING EXCEPT TAXIS) ORDER 2018

Following a review of available parking places for taxis within Campbeltown, Argyll and Bute Council proposes to make a traffic regulation order to formalise the existing parking places for taxis. The proposal is to have two permanent parking areas designated for taxis. They will be located on Main Street at the following locations 1) on the north-west side adjacent to the Town Hall and 2) on the south-east side between Shore Street and Old Quay Head, adjacent to the Factory Shop.


Full details together with a plan and a statement of reasons for proposing to make this traffic regulation order can be inspected by logging on to the Council's website at <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/our-roads-regulations-and-limits> or viewed during normal office hours at:-

(i) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Burnet Building, St John Street, Campbeltown;
 (ii) Argyll and Bute Council Offices, Kilmory, Lochgilphead.

Any person wishing to object to the proposals should send details of the grounds for objection in writing providing their name and address, to the Head of Governance and Law, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT, by 10th February 2018. Letters of objection will be replied to after the closing date of the period for objections.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads & Amenity Services, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:
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Ardrishaig Horticultural Society


AGM

Tuesday 6th February 7pm

Argyll Arms Hotel Ardrishaig
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 closer to home

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
SCOTTISH HYDRO
TANGY2 COMMUNITY FUND

Constituted and unconstituted groups which support charitable activities meriting community support are invited to apply in writing for limited funding from the above (total fund circa £2,800).

The application should include a) a statement of what the funding will be used for b) how it will be monitored and assessed c) when a progress report will be furnished d) a contact email address.

The closing date is Friday 2nd February 2017.

Applications to: Chairperson Alan Baker, Ailsa House, Kilkerran Road, Campbeltown, PA28 6JL.

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE & TO LET

WINDSOR HOUSE, TOBERMORY

- Detached house
- 3 bedrooms/2 bathrooms/1 WC
- Walk-in condition
- Modern heating system
- Spacious lounge & kitchen
- EPC Rating - C71

OIRO £200,000

Windsor House is a modern three bedroom detached house located in a popular residential area in Tobermory, close to all amenities. It's accommodation is arranged over two floors; on entering the property you are welcomed into a roomy hallway. To your left, you will find a spacious and bright lounge which is neutrally decorated and benefits from windows at the front and back to let in plentiful natural light.

RIONNAIG NA MARA

- Detached House
- 4 Bedrooms/1 Bathroom/1 Shower Room
- Spacious and Practical Layout
- Walk-In Condition
- *Under Home Report Valuation*
- EPC Rating: C76

OIRO £245,000

Rionnaig Na Mara is a modern and spacious 4 bedroom home, centrally located in the pretty town of Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. This beautifully presented property comprises a well-proportioned lounge on the ground floor. The fitted kitchen is modern and functional, and an archway leads into the dining area complete with patio doors which bathe the room in natural light.

KINTORE, OBAN

- Spacious Detached House
- 4 bedrooms / 3 bathrooms
- Open plan lounge, kitchen and dining area
- Large garden
- Integrated double garage and private parking
- EPC Rating: C70

OIEO £400,000

A modern 4 bedroom detached house in a popular residential area close to the village of Benderloch. Built in 2006, Kintore is a bright and spacious house enjoying a rural position and views across fields and hills to the North. A small porch leads to the main open plan lounge/dining area which overlooks the front lawn and enjoys plentiful natural light from the floor-to-ceiling windows and patio doors and for those chilly nights there is a wood-burning stove.

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**IN ASSOCIATION WITH
RECRUITMENT HIJOBS**



University of the Highlands and Islands
West Highland College

Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd agus nan Eilean
Colaiste na Gàidhealtachd an Iar

Board of Management Vacancy Dreuchd Bhàn air a' Bhòrd-stiùiridh

West Highland College UHI is a growing, dynamic and successful provider of higher and further education in the West Highlands and is currently recruiting for an additional Board of Management member.

We are seeking an individual to help guide the strategic direction of the College and foster an environment which enables the potential of learners to be maximised. You will bring your expertise and skills used in business and in the community to support the management and staff as they continue the development and work of the College. Individuals with strong business and financial skills would be especially welcome at this time.

Time commitment is c. 15-18 days annually. Most Board meetings take place in the late afternoon. Board members are not remunerated but out of pocket expenses will be paid.




Closing Date	Interviews
1 February 2018 at 9am	19 February 2018 in Fort William

How to Apply

Application pack available at: www.whc.uhi.ac.uk/staff/vacancies
For further information, contact Secretary to the Board
Email: claire.wylie.whc@uhi.ac.uk Tel: 01397 874525

In line with our Equality and Diversity policy, West Highland College UHI is committed to ensuring that all candidates are treated on the basis of their merits and abilities, and that unfair and unlawful discrimination is eliminated. We positively welcome applications from all sections of the community.

Applications from women are especially encouraged since they are currently under-represented on the College Board.

West Highland College UHI is a company limited by guarantee (SC153921) with charitable status (SC024193)

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We also publish a plethora of lifestyle magazines, tourist maps, holiday publications and business directories covering all corners of Scotland.

We are looking for our next advertising sales star and will offer flexible working patterns and working location for the right person.

Experience in advertising sales is not necessary, as full training will be given.



WYVEX MEDIA



1) Depot Administrator

We are seeking to recruit a Depot/Yard Administrator to oversee the daily operation of our busy Oban yard. This is a great opportunity to join a successful, well-established local business which has an unrivalled reputation for delivering first-class service.

We require a highly-motivated individual with the initiative and drive to help others develop and succeed. Excellent communication and people management skills are essential. The ideal candidate will possess a strong desire to identify and implement improvements. The ability to prioritise tasks and organise the workload of a busy team will be required in addition to a commitment to providing the best possible customer service.

The ideal candidate will possess:

- Previous supervisory experience which demonstrates an aptitude for developing people and building an effective, efficient team.
- A good standard of computer literacy and a good level of familiarity and competency with general office administration.
- An ability to work on your own initiative as well as part of a larger team.
- Good problem-solving skills coupled with an ability to plan ahead and utilise resources efficiently.
- Experience with stock control and the scheduling of delivery runs would be an advantage.
- Forklift experience and ADR qualification desirable but training can be provided for the right candidate.
- A reasonable standard of physical fitness is required as the job will entail regular handling of gas cylinders.
- A full clean driving licence desirable.

Pay dependant on experience and qualifications, attractive salary available to right candidate.

2) HGV Drivers

Experienced HGV drivers required Oban and Mull. Work will involve driving a variety of vehicles including mixers, tippers and skip lorries. Applicants must have Class 2 licence (LGV Category C) and up to date CPC hours. Competitive rates of pay.

3) Delivery Driver

Reliable delivery driver required in Lochgilphead area. ADR and CPC hours preferred although full training will be available to the right candidate.

4) Apprentice Mechanic

Apprentice plant mechanic required for our Oban workshop. Training divided between practical workshop experience and college instruction. Minimum three National 4 or 5s or equivalent required. Successful candidate will be reliable, diligent with an aptitude for and interest in mechanical engineering.

All above:
 Please send CV, clearly stating which position you are interested in to: susan@argyllresources.co.uk or post to: Argyll Resources Group, c/o John MacLachlan Ltd Head Office, Torran Gorm Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll PA34 4PL. Tel: 01631 566370

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Lochgilphead

Modern Apprentice – IT
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Friday 09:00 – 17:00

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If you cannot access the website, please contact the recruitment team:
01546 605 817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk
For more information, please contact Vivienne Litster on 01546 605 822 or email vivienne.litster@acha.co.uk
Closing Date: 12 noon on 26 January 2018
Interviews will be held on 7 February 2018 in Lochgilphead.



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We are looking for self-motivated and customer friendly people to join our growing business.

If you are looking to steer your career in a new direction let us take you there. We welcome experienced PCV drivers or those looking for a change.



Permanent full and part time PCV drivers and trainee PCV drivers – Oban, Ardrishaig, Campbeltown and Dunoon

We are looking for experienced and professional PCV bus & coach drivers for full and part time work based at various locations. We operate buses and coaches on a mix of school contracts, local services, school and private group hires. Weekend and evening work will be required. We also offer **PCV driver training** available up to the value of £1500.

Seasonal PCV drivers – Mull (April – October)

Join us on the beautiful Island of **Mull**, accommodation will be provided in a static caravan in Craignure on this picturesque island. Hours of work will vary and you must be able to offer flexibility. You will earn a competitive rate of pay plus seasonal bonuses. Shifts are available for PCV service work, private hires and tours. Experience of previous tour work will be advantageous.

Seasonal full time customer service advisors – West Coast Tours shop, Oban (March – October)

Are you friendly and outgoing and love meeting new people? Then join us in our busy Tour Shop in **Oban**. You will sell bus and tour tickets and provide information on all of our trips and tours to visitors wishing to experience the magic of Mull, Staffa, Iona, and The Treshnish Isles. Hours shall vary and shifts will be available between the hours of 06.00hrs to 18.00hrs 5 days from 7, flexibility is required. Competitive rate of pay. Previous customer service experience in a fast paced environment will be advantageous.

If you are interested in any of these roles and want to take your career in a new direction please email your CV to enquiries@westcoastmotors.co.uk or visit our website at www.westcoastmotors.co.uk.



RECRUITMENT WITH ASSOCIATION HIJOBS

The Scottish
Salmon Company



Your Career Right Here

Marine Operative

Ardcastle

Salary: Competitive plus overtime

We are recruiting for a Marine Operative to join our site at Ardcastle. Applicants will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working in small teams. Duties will include all the day to day operations of the site including fish welfare, sampling, grading and moving of stock, site maintenance and boat handling. Applicants must have good practical and problem solving skills and ideally have marine experience. Previous fish farming experience would be useful, but not essential as training will be provided. A full clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

Marine Operatives x2

Furnace

Salary: Competitive plus overtime

We are also recruiting for two Marine Operatives to join our site at Furnace. Applicants will be enthusiastic, self-motivated and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working in small teams. Duties will include all the day to day operations of the site including fish welfare, sampling, grading and moving of stock, site maintenance and boat handling. Applicants must have good practical and problem solving skills and ideally have marine experience. Previous fish farming experience would be useful, but not essential as training will be provided. A full clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

To request an application form and/or a detailed job specification, please see contact details below.

To apply and/or request a detailed job specification, please contact:

Natalie Randamy

The Scottish Salmon Company

8 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7JA

Tel: 0131 718 8547

natalie.randamy@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date: Friday 26 January 2018

www.scottishsalmon.com

The Scottish
Salmon Company



Your Career Right Here

Marine Operative (Net Wash) x2

Middle Loch Fyne

Salary: Competitive plus overtime

We are recruiting for two Marine Operatives to join our net washing team, which operates across all Middle Loch Fyne sites. Under the direction of the Site Manager, duties will include cleaning nets, operating and maintaining net cleaning equipment to a high standard. Applicants must have sound practical and problem solving skills along with good standards of fitness, with the ability to pass a full ML5 medical. Previous net washing experience would be useful, but is not essential as full training will be provided. As this position involves travelling, a full clean driving licence is essential.

Marine Operatives (Net Wash) x2

Upper Loch Fyne

Salary: Competitive plus overtime

We are also recruiting for two Marine Operatives to join our net washing team, which operates across all Upper Loch Fyne sites. Under the direction of the Site Manager, duties will include cleaning nets, operating and maintaining net cleaning equipment to a high standard. Applicants must have sound practical and problem solving skills along with good standards of fitness, with the ability to pass a full ML5 medical. Previous net washing experience would be useful, but is not essential as full training will be provided. As this position involves travelling, a full clean driving licence is essential.

To apply and/or request a detailed job specification, please contact:

Natalie Randamy

The Scottish Salmon Company

8 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7JA

Tel: 0131 718 8547

natalie.randamy@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date: Friday 26 January 2018

www.scottishsalmon.com



North Argyll Carers Centre seeks to recruit a Manager

North Argyll Carers Centre is a value-based charity, which supports those who look after a family member or friend due to illness, disability, frailty or addiction, on an unpaid basis. We provide information and advice as well as practical and emotional support.

We are recruiting a Manager to build on our success and to sustain and grow our organisation. This is a highly demanding role and the successful applicant will have significant leadership experience, demonstrate strategic awareness, a sound understanding of working with carers and be an effective and visible ambassador for carers.

The successful candidate will work closely with the Board of Trustees to deliver our organisation's strategy. This will involve developing and implementing our business plan, maintaining and seeking partnerships, increasing income and continuing to raise the profile of North Argyll Carers Centre.

37 hours per week - £28,000-36,500 depending on experience

Closing date: Monday 5th February 2018

North Argyll Carers Centre's commitment to Equal Opportunities is reflected in our selection process

For a recruitment pack or further information please contact

Morag MacLean on telephone 01631 564422/

07771647290 or email: morag@northargyllcarers.org.uk

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Closing Date 26th Jan 2018



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Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

Alienergy is seeking a Finance Officer to manage the Sage financial system, prepare management accounts and annual budgets, assist with financial elements of grant claims and prepare financial reports.

Salary: £24,056-£26,337 pro rata depending on experience

Location: Oban, part time, 2 days a week

Closing date: Friday 26th January 2018

For job description, or to apply by sending CV and covering letter,

please contact lynda@alienergy.org.uk

www.alienergy.org.uk

Argyll Caravan Park

Inveraray, Argyll, Scotland

CARAVAN PARK ASSISTANT MANAGER / PARK WARDEN

Argyll Estates seeks a motivated and experienced person to join our team on our successful Caravan & Holiday Park. The Assistant/Park Warden will assist the Manager in the daily and long-term management of the Park, including staff, sale, profitability, marketing and statutory compliance.

A full job description can be obtained from Argyll Caravan Park Reception or by contacting manager@argyllcaravanpark.com

Applications in writing, together with a CV should be sent to manager@argyllcaravanpark.com to arrive no later than 26th January 2018

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by 01 February 2018 to:

The Staff Partner at

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LOCHABER HOUSING ASSOCIATION PROPERTY SERVICES
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LHA Property Services provides a first class 24 hour maintenance service to tenants of Lochaber Housing Association along with private, commercial and domestic customers.

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A full clean driving licence is essential for this post as is a Basic Disclosure check. To request an application pack or for further information please contact Nicola Gilbert, LHA Corporate Services Administrator on 01397 709240, or email recruitment@lochaberhousing.org.uk, or in person at Lochaber Housing Association, 101 High Street, Fort William, PH33 6DG.

Please note CVs will not be accepted.

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Thank You

Jan Phelan would like to thank her family and friends for the flowers, gifts and messages received on her 70th birthday. To Flora and her staff at Ardshiel Hotel for a superb meal and service, I had a wonderful day and enjoyed every minute, thank you all for making my special day extra special x.

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LOCH LOMOND

£6,000 donated to food banks

THE LODGE on Loch Lomond donated more than £6,000 to food banks in time for Christmas.

The Lodge worked alongside Bidfood to donate to six different food banks across the Greater Glasgow area.

The hotel began donating to food banks four years ago, with this year being the largest

donation to date. Owner Niall Col-quhoun said: 'Donating food is a small way of helping people not so fortunate.'

The use of food banks in Scotland traditionally spikes around the Christmas period. Last year 145,000 people received three-day emergency supplies before March.

DUNOON

Dunoon's BID ballot

DUNOON'S Business Improvement District (BID) ballot will open on Friday January 19.

The BID, branded as Dunoon Presents, has invited PA23 postcode businesses to Dunoon Burgh Hall on Friday January 19 to mark the

opening of a ballot on whether the BID should be renewed for a second five-year term.

The evening will be informal and will include an opportunity to discuss ideas and aspirations for the future of Dunoon.

ACHNAMARA

Community skiff for Achnamara

RESIDENTS in Achnamara have been encouraged to get involved in the planning of a community skiff.

Organisers have said building the boat would bring the community together, with the skiff perhaps being used to race neighbours or 'float about on the loch'.

All those interested are encouraged to attend a meeting on Wednesday January 31 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Newsdesk 01546 602345

GLENDARUEL



Strachur and District Local History Society members with the discovery.

Rock art discovery

ROCK art which had not been previously recorded was discovered by Strachur and District Local History Society in Glendaruel on Tuesday January 9.

Prehistoric rock art is more commonly known as cup and ring markings. Rocks can be found with cup-shaped depressions, grooves and rings which make elaborate designs.

The motifs are carved onto natural rock surfaces in the open air across Scotland.



Cup markings on the rock at Glendaruel are highlighted by colourful beads.

The discovery joins other known rock art on Newton Island and around the Ardnagowan platform above St Catherines.

For more information on Scotland's rock art go to: www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/our-research/rock-art.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



THIS WEEK I had one of the most wonderful surprises ever.

As many of you know, I am a huge Paddington Bear fan and I find this little fictional bear totally enchanting.

Well, last Friday Paddington came to our house, and brought with him unexpected kindness and a gift which I will treasure forever.

The gift was from someone I didn't really know, but who said how much she enjoyed reading 'Thought' and especially the 'Thoughts' about Paddington and Winnie the Pooh.

There is much wisdom their authors give us through these delightful characters and they bring a freshness into life.

In an age where there is much that makes us feel sad or despondent or depressed, it is a joy to dip into the land of escapism for a time.

Yet in many ways it is not escapism – it is truism.

For I do believe there is more goodness in the world than evil: I do believe people would rather do a good turn than a bad one.

So surely it is good to immerse ourselves in things that make us feel uplifted and then share the goodness which is within us and around us.

One of Paddington's quotes says: 'I think I may paint a family portrait today....That is, if I have enough paint left for all the smiles.'

If only we could borrow Paddington's paint box and bring more smiles into this wonderful world.

So to my friend who made me smile with her gift of kindness, I hope you know how much you brightened up my day.

'Paddington has a habit of bringing people closer together,' his author said.

How very true.

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12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

"When I said, "My foot is slipping," your love, O Lord, supported me" (Psalm 94:18).

ENGAGEMENTS



MCCORMICK - HOLMES

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement, on December 28, 2017, of Mark David, eldest son of David and Wilma McCormick, Campbeltown, to Caitlin Jane, eldest daughter of Martin Holmes and the late Dr Christine Begg, Shetland.

DEATHS

CAMPBELL - Peacefully at home, North Muasdale Farm, Muasdale, on January 16, 2018, Francis Danks (Frank), in his 81st year, dearly beloved husband of Isa, much loved father of Ann, Mary, Joan and Catherine, father-in-law of Harold and Darryl, and loving grandfather of Imogen and Calum. Funeral service will take place in Ireland.

CAMPBELL - On January 9, 2018, suddenly, at the home of his partner Lynn, in Glasgow, Iain Gillespie Campbell, Cherry Tree Cottage, Furnace, in his 69th year, much loved brother of Andrea, brother-in-law of Stuart and dear uncle of Alexander and Iain. Funeral service at Cumlodden Parish Church, on Wednesday, January 24 at 12.00 noon, interment thereafter at Killeven Cemetery, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Flowers welcome, donations if desired to Cumlodden Church.

CAMPBELL - Peacefully, at the Kintyre Nursing Home, Campbeltown, on January 10, 2018, Marion Mary Campbell, aged 71 years, late of 10 Dunadd View, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead, and formerly of Barra, cherished partner of Malcolm MacKenzie, beloved daughter of the late Duncan and Annie Campbell, much loved sister of Peggy, Neil, James, and the late Flora, Lena, Chrissie Ann and Chrissie Mary, and a dear aunt and cousin to all the family. Funeral service will be held at The Church of Our Lady Star of the

Sea, Barra, on Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 11.00am, thereafter to Vatersay Cemetery. Sadly missed.

DUNLOP - On January 11, 2018, peacefully at home, after a short illness, Margaret W Dunlop, née Wintrup, in her 94th year, beloved wife of the late Geoffrey E S Dunlop, much loved and respected mother of John, Jan and Lindsay, mother-in-law to Sarah, and dearly loved grandma of Donald and Alexander. Funeral service at St Brendan's Church, Skipness, (today) Friday, January 19 at 12.00 noon, interment thereafter at Skipness Cemetery, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Flowers welcome, donations if desired to Tarbert Nursing Aid and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

HOUGHTON - (Née Gilchrist). Suddenly at home, on Monday, January 8, 2018, Muriel, aged 82 years, much loved wife of David, beloved mother of Linda and the late Michael and mother-in-law to Hugh. Dearly loved grandma of Isla and cherished sister of Catriona and Bobby. Funeral service, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited, at Langbank Parish Church, on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 1.30pm, thereafter to Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnottar. Family flowers only.

JOHNSTONE - Peacefully, in the Sunshine Room, Campbeltown Hospital, on January 12, 2018, Sarah Johnstone (Morag), in her 80th year, 34 Cara View, Tayinloan, beloved wife of the late Donald Johnstone (Donnie), much loved mum of Catherine, Rosemary, Janice, Neil, Donald and Sarah, and a loving granny, great granny and great great granny.

MACKILLIGIN - RAN, (Sandy), peacefully, at home in Ardfarn, on January 14, 2018. Loved and respected by his families and many friends. Burial at Kilvaree at 12.00 noon, followed by a celebration of his life, at Craignish Village Hall, on Friday, January 26, 2018.

MCLEAN - Suddenly but peacefully, at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, on January 6, 2018, Carolin Boyce, in her 72nd year, formerly of Ciaran Court, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Stuart McLean, much loved mum of Michael, mother-in-law of Jacqui and a loving gran and great gran.

PANTHER - Suddenly, but peacefully at his home, 3 Ardcastle View, Lochgair, on January 11, 2018, Nigel Gilbert Panther, in his 84th year, beloved husband of Janet, dearly loved father of Angela and Robert and loving grandfather of Fiona. A much respected father-in-law of Mohamed and Denise, brother of Angela and a good neighbour and dear friend. Funeral service will be held at Cardross Crematorium, on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 12.15pm. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

STEWART - Peacefully on January 15, 2018, in Basildon Hospital, Essex, Betty, aged 90 years, beloved wife of the late Donald Stewart, formerly of Braeface, Bellanoch, loving mother of Jim and Andrew and the late Rae and Brian and a much loved gran and great granny.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BLOUNT - Frances, Josephine and family would like to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, letters and telephone calls received following the sad loss of Nora. Special thanks to the staff at Ardfenaig for their excellent care and their compassion, especially during Nora's last days. Thank you to the Rev Catriona Hood for a thoughtful and comforting service. Thanks also to Stan Lupton (Funeral Director) for a compassionate and efficient service, and to Argyll Bakeries of Campbeltown for the catering. A retiral collection of £330 was raised for Ardfenaig Social Fund and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

MCCALLUM - Richard, Sharon and Wullie would like to thank most sincerely family, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy and cards received after their sudden loss of Muriel. Thanks also to everyone who attended the services at church and graveside. Special thanks to Rev

W Crossan for his very personal service, to all the medical staff and carers over the years, to Kenneth and Rhys Blair for arrangements and to the Argyll Hotel for excellent purvey.

SHAW - The family of the late Willie Shaw would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy and support received in their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Campbeltown police, ambulance staff and doctors and staff at Campbeltown Hospital for all their kind attention. Thanks also to Rev Catriona Hood for her support and comforting service, Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional handling of all arrangements, Tarbert Hotel for excellent catering and to all who paid their last respects at church and graveside and kindly donated £505, to St Brendan's Church Skipness.

SHUTTLEWORTH - The family of the late Donald would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy following their recent loss. Sincere thanks to carers, Reverend Robert Macleod for his comforting service, and to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their professionalism. Special thanks to Claire for her wonderful care and dearest friends who visited regularly.

IN MEMORIAMs

BROWN - In loving memory of Richard (Dickie), died January 19, 2017. Always in our thoughts. - Stella and families, home and away.

MUIR - Treasured memories of a dear mum, granny, great granny and great great granny, Bessie, died January 22, 2011. Forever in our thoughts. - Love, Jean, Jessie and family.

ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS
COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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CHURCH NOTICES

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 21st January 2018
Skipness Service 10am
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Mr James McLellan
Everyone welcome
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735
Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622
Skipness SCO04280

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 21st January 2018
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Morning Service in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Morning service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
Preacher: Rev. Dr. Roderick Campbell
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
21st January 2018
Morning Worship Ford 10am
Rev. C Acklam
Tues 23rd January
Kirk Session 7.30pm
Church Hall, Kilmartin
All welcome
SC0 02121

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
18-25th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sunday 21st January
Bellanoch Church 11.30 am
Rev C Acklam
Fri 19th January
Tayvallich Church Alpha- Taste & See 12.30-2.30pm & 7-9pm
Saturday 20th January
Achnamara Hall 10.30am
Café Connect
Monday 22nd January
Tayvallich Church 10.30am
Prayer Time
Tuesday 23rd January
Tayvallich Church Kirk Session 7.30pm
Thursday 25th January
Messy Church 4-6pm
All Age Event
Tayvallich Hall
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.northknapdale.org

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
(The Church of Scotland)
Sunday Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm
Mid Week Pause
Wednesdays from Noon till 2:00pm in Ardrishaig Church.
Stay as long as you like (includes corporate worship 12:45pm—1:15pm)
Feel free to come and go, as you are able

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES
Christ Church Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sundays 11.00am
Eucharist & Coffee
St Columba's, Poltalloch (SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month 9.00am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Father Simon Mackenzie
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome (SCO002876)

ST. KIERAN R.C. ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN
01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
Vigil Mass 6 pm (except 1st Saturday of month)
Sunday 10 am
All Welcome (SCO02876)

free church of scotland
George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 21st January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 24th January
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

Highland Parish Church
SCO02493
Sunday 21 January 2018
The service will be conducted by Rev William Crossan and will be held in the Church at 11.15am.
All welcome.

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 21st January
11.15am Morning Worship
Creche, Triple C, Gen 1
Rev P Wallace
Tuesday 23rd January
9.45am Tiny Tots
New Hall
Anchor Boys 6.00pm
Junior Section 7.00pm
Church Hall
Company Section 7.15pm
New Hall
Thursday 25th January
Choir
Friday 26th January
Lunch Club 12.00 noon

THE SALVATION ARMY
Campbeltown Corps
Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC09399
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Service (Army Kidz)
6.30pm Evening Worship
Wednesday
12.15pm Lunch Club
1.30pm C.A.M.E.O.
7.00 pm Make & Munch
Craft Group
Thursday
7.30pm Bible Study
Majors Ben & Ruth Russell
All welcome

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 21st January
Family Communion Service 11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies
Wednesday 24th January
Bible study and prayer 7.30pm at the manse
All welcome
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Family Service 11.00 am
with Sunday school followed by refreshments
The Ark
Baby and Toddler Group
Every Thursday 10.00 – 11.30 am (term time only)
Youth Fellowship
Check our Facebook page for details
Pastor Chris Holden
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SCO43322

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St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 21st January
EPIPHANY 3
Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forester Marc focuses on photographic future

Colin Cameron
 editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A LOVE for Scotland's great, rugged grandeur has set a Lochgilphead photographer on the road to success.

It was time spent working outdoors among forests in all weathers and in all terrains that sparked something in Marc Pickering.

Thirty-two-year-old Marc explained: 'My

full time job is as a forest craftsman with Forestry Commission Scotland.

'I first got into landscape photography through working outdoors nearly every day and seeing views not a lot of people will get to see.

'I also love hiking and regularly get to the top of a mountain to catch the sunrise and take photos, which I

find is a great way to start the day.'

After sharing some of his striking images on social media the reaction was really good, so this spurred him on to take even better photos.

'A couple of years ago I was made a suggested user, for a couple of weeks, by Instagram which saw my following grow a lot,' continued Marc.

'Since then I have been lucky enough to work on a commission for Amazon Video UK and VisitScotland to promote the second series of Outlander.

'I also did a three-day tour of the North Coast 500 for Maserati taking photos of their new Ghibli model in the dramatic Scottish scenery, and I got to drive the car for the journey - which was a great experience.'

Ambassador

Eclipsing even the chance to take to the highway in a fast car, Marc's best experience so far, he says, is being asked to be an ambassador for VisitScotland and its online community forum, which he regularly contributes to with tips for things to see and do.

'VisitScotland has sent me on a few trips around areas of Scotland to create articles for the forum as well as some newspaper pro-



Marc Pickering among his beloved mountain scenery.

motions.'

Marc's work has already featured in the Scotsman, The Telegraph and on the National Geographic website.

He added: 'There are a couple of trips in the

pipeline for next year which should be exciting.

'I used to like blue skies,' added Marc, 'but now I much prefer mist and cloud, which adds a lot more atmosphere to photographs.'

'If I'm out walking, blue skies are great, mind you.'

You can follow Marc on Instagram @lochgmrcp and via his Facebook page Marc Pickering Photography.



One of Marc's recent images - looking north towards Ben Cruachan from above Cairnbaan, just before the sunrise a few weeks back.



John Aitchison, left, signs a copy of the book for Andy Paton. The book will be a birthday present for Andy's six-year-old son. 06_a03JohnAitchison02

John recalls a wild time behind the lens

CURIOUS penguins, dodgy camera hides and New York falcons all featured in a fascinating talk by wildlife photographer and videographer John Aitchison.

Around 200 people packed Lochgilphead Joint Campus on Friday January 12 and were enthralled as he regaled them with tales from his career.

Blending some stunning still images with equally remarkable video footage taken from some of the TV programmes he has worked on, John recalled the irrepressible curiosity of Antarctica's Emperor Penguins before showing a film of hyenas encouraged to prowl the streets of

an Ethiopian town due to their ability to ward off evil spirits.

He offered a tantalising insight into the ingenious techniques used in capturing the footage enjoyed in programmes such as Planet Earth, The Hunt, Big Cat Diaries, Frozen Planet, Life Stories and Springwatch. High-tech super slow motion cameras are a valuable tool, but would be worthless without footage - and this is often gathered over weeks and months of waiting. Patience is a virtue but, as John explained, the best wildlife footage often carries an element of being in the right place at the right time.

Looking back on a

long career spent travelling the globe, he said: 'It has been a remarkable 30 years. One of the pleasures has been meeting a lot of really interesting and fun people everywhere I've been.'

Closer to home, he added: 'We are really fortunate here in Scotland. We have some fantastic wildlife right on our doorstep such as otters, seabirds and eagles. Where we live is world class in terms of wildlife.'

He closed with a subtle plug. This autumn a new, as-yet-unnamed, BBC wildlife series will be aired featuring family groups of animals across many different species. John himself filmed a family

of lions for the series.

At the end of January fans can also look forward to the next instalment of Winterwatch, he revealed, with footage from Islay included.

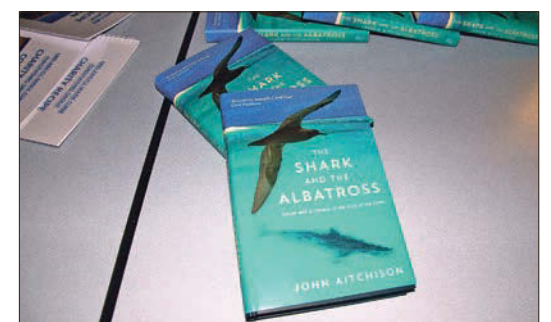
John closed by signing copies of his book 'The Shark and the Albatross' for a crowd of eager fans.

The event, organised by the Mid Argyll

Fundraising Group for Marie Curie, raised £1,309 for the charity.

Fundraiser Jenny Brolly said: 'It was a really great evening and a brilliant turnout. John generously donated a proportion of the proceeds from his books.'

'Thanks to John for coming along and we are very appreciative of his time.'



John's new book - on sale in all good book shops. 06_a03JohnAitchison01



Loch Fyne offers a dramatic backdrop during last year's competition. Photo: Marc Turner.

Entries now open for Scottish Series

ENTRIES are now open for the 2018 Scottish Series in Tarbert.

The yacht racing compe-

tion will take place from Friday May 25 until Sunday May 27.

Organised by Clyde Cruis-

ing Club, there is a 20 per cent early bird discount for those who enter before Sunday March 11.

For more information on fees and how to enter, go to www.clyde.org/scottish-series/racing/entry-form.

Sports hubs offered cash for new activities

SPORTS hubs in Argyll and Bute could benefit from a £5,000 cash injection thanks to a GO LIVE! new legacy fund.

Europe's top athletes are coming to Scotland in August to compete in the Glasgow 2018 European Championships.

To mark the occasion the Scottish Government, through sportscotland, is investing £500,000 to support the delivery of a sporting legacy for communities across Scotland.

A one-off investment of up to £5,000 will be made to successful applicants, and hubs from across Scotland are encouraged to collaborate and be creative when thinking about what they want to deliver.

Priority will be given to projects that engage people from Scotland's most deprived communities, and identifying and training local volunteers to deliver the

new sessions will play an important part in ensuring the activities are sustainable.

A second GO LIVE! strand will offer local volunteers the chance to participate in a tailored leadership programme.

The GO LIVE! portal is live on the sportscotland website offering help and information to community sports hubs interested in applying.

Applications are open now and successful applicants will receive their investment in April to ensure that activities are up and running by the end of May 2018.

There are currently five community sports hubs in Argyll and Bute, in Rothesay, Cowal, Oban and Lorn, Tiree and Helensburgh and Lomond.

Talk to us

Send your sports news and photographs to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1650

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:

K MacKay
Oakhill
Tarbert

J MacPherson
Ralston Road
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. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. 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.



Name

Address

Tel No.

I enclose £1 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 Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE

Please
tape your
£1 coin here
(if posting)

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Entries now open for Scottish Series

Winter league kicks off at Tarbert Gun Club

TARBERT Gun Club held their first competition of 2018 on Sunday January 7.

The competition was also the January leg of the Winter League, with the down the line competition of its usual high standard with Ally McDonnel, Niall Wilson and Andrew MacDonald hitting all 25 targets.

The sporting pars competition was a much stiffer test with some long range shooting, a fast low crosser and a target from behind that curled away. However, the target that ruined a lot of scores was a clay that dropped fast from the trees.

Top shot for the day was Andrew MacDonald who was just in front of Ally McDonnel and Bob McColl. John Weir was the winner of the sporting and top team went to Brian Baird.

Results: Class A: 1 A MacDonald; 2 A McDonnel 3 B McColl. Class B: 1 A Khan; 2 A MacGilp; 3 J Paton. Class C: 1 M Peden; 2 I Currie; 3 A Peden; Class D: 1 R Campbell; 2 A Currie; 3 L Harvey. Class E: 1 M O'Keefe; 2 I McVicar; 3 B Peterson; 4 J Campbell. Top Team: Brian Baird, John Paton, Steven Sloan, Harry McClean and Buddy Peterson.

Lottery results

DRAWN on Monday January 15, the Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery draw numbers were 8, 17 and 19. No winners. Next week's jackpot will be £900.

In the Inveraray Shinty Club lottery, the numbers were 4, 8 and 15. No winners, and next week's jackpot will be £1,400.

Tarbert Football Club's lottery numbers for this week were 4, 10 and 12. There were no winners, and the jackpot will be £300 next week.

Red Star draw on return to action

**Lochgilhead Red Star 1
Port Glasgow OBU 1**

SAFL Premier Division Two

RED STAR welcomed Port Glasgow OBU to the Joint Campus 3G on Saturday and had to rescue a point late on as the Lochgilhead side dropped points at home for the first time this season.

Star were attacking the car park end in the first half against the wind and despite hav-

ing the majority of possession were struggling to break down a well-drilled OBU defence.

The best chances of the half fell to forwards Kieran Moore and Gregor Peacock, however, a mixture of poor finishing and some good goalkeeping from the OBU stopper thwarted Star's advances.

As is often the case in matches like this, OBU opened the scoring against the run

of play just before half time. Ben Forbes was adjudged to have fouled his man on the far touchline much to the home side's frustration.

It was from the resulting free kick that the goal came – a long ball into the box was met by the OBU forward who headed past Ben Pollock in goal and put the visitors 1-0 up at the break.

Into the second half and Star tried to in-



Red Star's Robert Docherty skilfully traps the ball.

crease the tempo and put the OBU backline under pressure, but the Port Glasgow outfit were very difficult to breach as they dropped deeper.

Lee MacLean and Aaron Moore were finding a bit more space in the middle to create but Star let themselves down throughout the afternoon with too many

deliveries from wide areas being too close to the 'keeper.

The management team freshened up the side with Cammy MacDonald and Fraser McFarlane going on to try and offer something different in the final third.

The equaliser eventually came with 10 minutes remaining when Kieran Moore broke

clear in the left channel. He found Cammy MacDonald, who returned the ball to Moore inside the box and the forward finished low into the corner to salvage a point for Red Star on a frustrating start to 2018.

This Saturday Star will hope to get back to winning ways when they travel to take on Castlemilk.



Red Star full back Andy Weir makes an overlapping run forward.

Mid Argyll Athletics Club take on Argyll Series

MID ARGYLL Athletics will compete in the Argyll series of sports hall athletics, held on Sunday January 21 at Lochgilhead Joint Campus.

The event kicks off at midday with entries accepted from 11.30am and costs £2 per competitor and £5 for families of three or more.

Six age groups starting from under seven up to under 17 can take part in the competition, with seven different running, jumping and throwing events.

Everyone who takes part will receive a medal, and trophies will be awarded to the overall winners in each age group.

The competition is also an opportunity for youngsters to come and try athletics for the first time taking part indoors, in a dry environment.

The Mid Argyll competition is the first of four local area competitions to be held in Argyll between January and March.

Atlantis

After the Mid Argyll competition will be the Mull event on Saturday February 3 at Salen Primary School followed by the Oban area competition at Atlantis on Wednesday February 28.

The Kintyre area competition is planned for Sunday March 4

and will be held in the Victoria Hall in Campbeltown

The best athletes from the four local events will then progress to take part in the Argyll final, held at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Sunday March 25.

Teams will also be selected at the Mid Argyll event for the national under 12 super-teams competition at the Emirates Arena in Glasgow on Sunday February 11.

Mid Argyll Athletics plan to enter boys' and girls' teams to the competition in Glasgow, and the qualifying age is any child born between September 1 2006 and February 11 2009.

Football results and fixtures

LAST Saturday's results: Scottish Amateur Cup fifth round – East Kilbride Rolls Royce v Oban Saints, postponed; Premier Division One – Campbeltown Pupils 0, Neilston 3; Premier Division Two – FC Argyll 7, Tarbert 1; Lochgilhead Red Star 1, Port Glasgow OBU 1.

This Saturday's fixtures: Scottish Amateur Cup fifth round - East Kilbride Rolls Royce v Oban Saints; Premier Division One - Port Glasgow v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division Two - Castlemilk v Lochgilhead Red Star; Tarbert v Duncanrig.

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