



Be prepared for winter weather

A FARMING SPECIAL



Council 'caught out' by the cold weather

'There has been no grit in the bin for two years'

'AN ACCIDENT waiting to happen' is how one mum described an icy path and road this week near to Ardrishaig primary school.

Mother-of-two Lisa Bradley was horrified when a van slid down the road onto a path that children 20 minutes later would have been walking on.

Lisa, whose daughter goes to the school, said: 'I phoned Argyll and Bute Council in the morning to get the road and paths gritted but nothing happened.'

'There has been no grit in the grit bin for two years - otherwise I would have gone out and done the job myself. My neighbours are all

struggling to get out of their houses. We need to be a priority otherwise there is an accident waiting to happen.'

Other communities throughout Mid Argyll have also been brought to a standstill.

Lochgilphead resident Peter Laing told the Advertiser: 'Pavements near the Kilmory area of Lochgilphead have not been gritted - and we are encouraging children to walk to school.'

'Other areas which were not done as far as I could tell were: Manse Brae, Bishopton Road, the path leading up to the new houses at Argyll Court and its proximity, the path leading to the

Continued on Page 5



Smiles all round for indoor athletics winners

Winners of the seven and under competitions at last weekend's Sportshall events were Sam Gillespie, 6, and Jemma MacDonald, 6. Sam said he was 'very pleased' with his trophy while Jemma said she had enjoyed being part of the event. Photo: Niamh Adams McGilp.

Time taken to find A83 solution 'disgraceful'

THE TIME taken to find a long-term solution for the Rest and Be Thankful is 'disgraceful' says an Inveraray businessman.

Donald Clark of the George Hotel in Inveraray claims costs for renewing or rebuilding the A83 are being inflated in order that investment seems unrealistic.

Transport Scotland announced a £3 million package of funding for the Rest and Be Thankful, last week to upgrade the existing road - rather than build a new road, as many had wanted.

UKIP name Argyll candidate for election

THE UK Independence Party (UKIP) has named Dunoon woman Caroline Santos as its Argyll and Bute candidate for the UK general election in May.

Ms Santos, who grew up in Dunoon and later lived on Tiree, was announced on Tuesday as the candidate for the party, the first time it has stood in the constituency.

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Council's poster ban would be the 'thin edge of losing our democracy'

A BAN on political posters in Argyll is 'the thin edge of the wedge' for democracy, says a protest group.

As the General Election approaches in May, Argyll and Bute council was due to vote yesterday (Thursday) on a policy forbidding campaign materials being displayed on any property under the council's control, including lampposts, telephone poles and buildings.

If the council votes through the ban, any individual who falls foul of the by-law would be liable for the full cost of removing the material and repairing any dam-

age. Some councillors have argued that following the Scottish independence referendum last September, posters and political material were still hanging from lampposts and buildings many months after the event.

At a meeting of the council's environment, development and infrastructure committee last Thursday, the vote to ban political posters was split.

The convener of the meeting, councillor Ellen Morton, used her casting vote to carry the proposals forward to yesterday's full council meeting.

Councillor Morton explained: 'It is important that we find time to have the discussion about this as a whole council.'

'The majority of councils in Scotland have now imposed this ban.'

'It is time to consider if this is something we would like to do here.'

Democratic

But Stacey Felgate, of Oban's community hub 'Grassroots', is part of a campaign against the blanket ban and said she was concerned that losing the right to put up election and campaign materials would undermine the democratic process.

She said: 'Of all the

councils that want to stop people taking down posters none of them are as rural as Argyll.'

'It seems that this campaign is being led from the relatively urban area of Helensburgh, without consideration to the islands and country areas.'

Stacey claimed councillors had not had all the details to make an informed decision on this matter, adding: 'It was raised at a meeting and the papers presented to councillors did not have any information, such as how often posters are left up and how much it costs to remove them.'

'In other places there have been community consultations about posters and whether people want to see them removed, or not, but there was no information at all here.'

'Posters on lampposts are one of the few ways in which elections – particularly local and European elections – are made visible to the general public, raising awareness and familiarising the electorate with candidates.'

'It is a relatively cheap way to advertise a candidate.'

An Argyll and Bute council spokesman said: 'The policy has been

proposed because of the impact of election posters on the environment and the associated difficulty in removing them from council property.'

'If approved, this would bring Argyll and Bute Council in line with over 20 other local authorities who have already taken the same decision, as well as Transport Scotland, the national trunk roads authority.'

'In coming to a decision, the council will be noting the comments of local residents.'

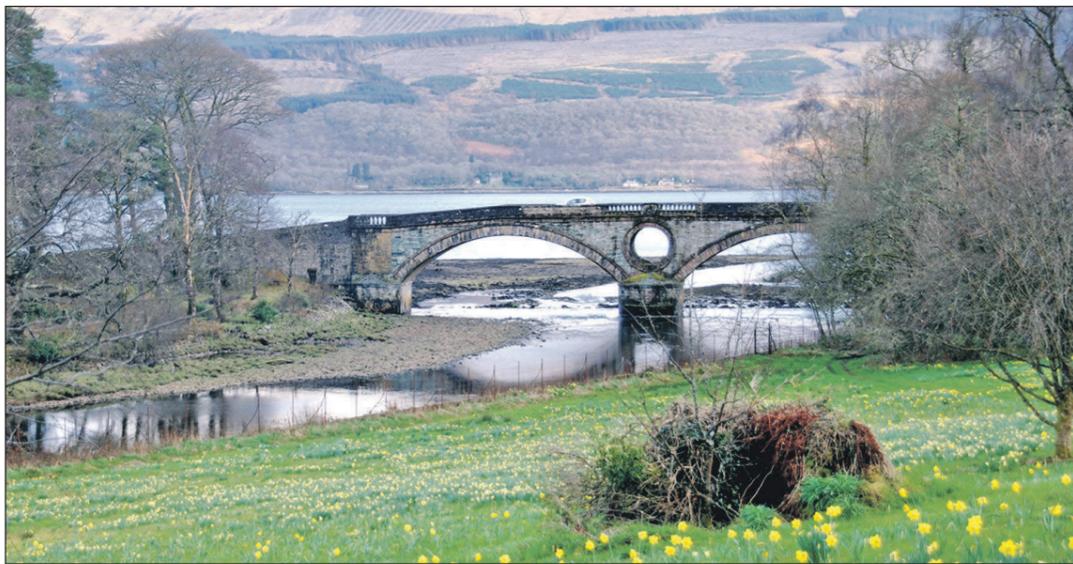
Lomond councillor George Freeman said he was reserving final judgement on the vote

until yesterday's debate.

Councillor Freeman said: 'As you will be aware, this is a policy that now applies across most local authorities in Scotland.'

'I have serious concerns that those involved in placing posters have failed to remove them from council property months after the event.'

In its guidelines on election posters, the Election Commission stated: 'We believe that the issue of use of street furniture for political party posters near the date of an election should be reviewed as it may encourage participation at elections.'



The bridge at Inveraray where the accident happened.

Bridge accident holds up A83 traffic

MID ARGYLL travellers were among hundreds of motorists stuck in Inveraray last Friday evening following a road accident.

A car and a minibus collided on the single track Aray Bridge despite traffic lights being in operation.

There were no serious injuries.

It remains unclear how the accident was caused.

One Inveraray resident, who did not want to be named, said: 'I've often seen drivers risking jumping the red light there.'

'It is a dangerous thing to do at the best of times, but particularly so on that bridge when you have no sight of what is on the other side of the hump.'

A police spokesman

at Lochgilphead said a road accident report had been submitted.

'I have no indication that anyone was at fault,' he said.

'Temporary lights were introduced until the permanent lights could be checked.'

Traffic police

The collision was reported to police at 4.56pm. Traffic police attended from Lochgilphead but were delayed by snow on the road.

An ambulance also attended the scene along with tow trucks to remove the damaged vehicles.

The road at the bridge was re-opened at 6.34pm, by which time there were long tailbacks in both directions.

Some southbound motorists took the lengthy

diversion offered by the Dalmailly road.

One driver stuck in Inveraray said: 'It was cold and miserable, but at least we could go to the chip shop while we waited.'

Lottery numbers

TARBERT football club lottery numbers for January 19 were two, six and 19. There were no winners the jackpot will be £300 next week.

Inveraray Shinty Club numbers this week were seven, 11 and 13. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £500.00 next week.

Kilmory Camacachd Club weekly lottery numbers were four, eight and 19. There were no winners and the jackpot is now £600.

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Police files:

Assault

AT 1.30am on January 17 on Lochnell St, Lochgilphead, two men aged 18 and 28 years suffered minor injuries following a disturbance.

An 18-year-old man was detained by police a short time later and following enquiries he was arrested and kept in custody for court.

A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Theft

BETWEEN 10.30pm on January 17 and 8am on January 18 a Bailey Pagent caravan was stolen from the public car park in Jubilee Terrace, Lochgilphead.

The caravan is white with dark stripes on both sides and rear.

It has a single axle and 16-foot in length.

Police are appealing for any witnesses to contact them on telephone number 101.

Fraud

AT 10.15am on January 14 a 19-year-old woman was the victim of a possible fraud on eBay after posting an iPhone to a foreign address and payment for said item being withdrawn by the buyer.

Police are advising the public to ensure they follow eBay guidance and report any suspect transactions.

If any member of the public has information in relation to the above, or to any incident, they can contact their local police office on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Bringing cheer all year round are the Mid Argyll Christmas community gathering team including: Lynda Syed, Clare Bowness, Sue MacDougall, Gillian Voinot, Amanda Scott, Wilma Watts, Michael Watts and Aidan MacDougall. 08_a03xmas02

Christmas gathering so successful it will now plan more events

A COMMUNITY lunch at Christmas has proved so successful that the team behind it hopes to plan other events throughout the year.

People from all walks of life came to Lochgil-

phead parish church last year for a Christmas day lunch.

A first meeting of the committee to look at future events was held in the Stag Hotel last week but it is hoped more ideas

will be considered.

Amanda Scott, one of the team, said: 'It is really good community work because everyone seems to have a part to play in putting in these events.'

Road traffic offences reported

FOLLOWING a road check at 5.05pm on January 14 in Inveraray, a 43-year-old female was stopped for driving without valid insurance.

The vehicle was seized and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

At 6.20pm on January 19 on the A83 near Inveraray a 40-year-old heavy goods vehicle, driver was reported to the procurator fiscal for

suspected careless driving following a road traffic collision involving an HGV and a car.

The car was extensively damaged and one of the drivers suffered minor injuries.

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No rest on A83 problems

Expenditure row as politicians press for permanent solution to landslips on the A83

A ROW has broken out over news of a further £3 million to be spent on work to keep the A83 free of landslides.

Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid has questioned whether it is actually new money or 'a re-announcement' of money allocated last summer.

The latest £3 million, according to the Scottish Government, is to 'take forward landslide mitigation work in Glen Kinglas and at Strone Point corner near Inveraray'.

But Mr Reid said £6 million announced last June was for work including the Strone Point realignment.

'You don't start a project like this without al-

locating cash to finish it, so that would have been done in June,' Mr Reid told the Courier this week, 'so why is Strone Point included in this latest £3 million announcement?'

This week, a Transport Scotland spokeswoman insisted: 'Claims that this is a re-announcement are wrong. This is new money allocated to the A83 in addition to the maintenance budget.'

Investigation

'The previous allocation for the Strone Point realignment was used for ground investigation and design work, not to carry out any of the construction.'

Mr Reid added: 'All they announced last week was that the work

they promised last June for Strone Point and Glen Kinglas is still in the programme. This is just not good enough.'

'October's closure at the Rest and Be Thankful showed the patch and mend work has not solved the problem. Earlier this month, warnings were issued that the road might have to be closed yet again because of dirty water flowing from the hillside.'

'It's high time the SNP committed money for a permanent solution for the Rest, such as a new two-lane road on the other side of Glen Croe. This would cost only a fraction of the cash left unspent in last year's Scottish Government budget.'



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Strictly cheques goes to support young people in Mid Argyll

VULNERABLE children in Mid Argyll will benefit from money raised from Strictly Lochgilphead.

Befrienders is an Argyll and Bute charity that offers support to youngsters who are in need of a trusted friend.

The charity befriends 30 youths in the area.

Already Mid Argyll project manager Cathi Bertin hopes that the donation of £500 from Strictly's Katie Donald and Vinnie Hutton will help to put them on the map.

Cathi said: 'We are a fund based charity and the application process is never ending. It feels nice to have been given the money without all the paper work that usually comes with funding.'

'Because of the nature of our work we can't publicise what we do as much and I do think that people forget that we are here. I am very grateful that Katie and Vinnie took the time to raise the money for the work that we do.'

The Befrienders service provides young people with a trusted adult with whom they can share fun experiences and confide in. The money will be used to cover transport costs for volunteers and activity costs.

Cathi said: 'The activities that children take part in are not leisurely treats. Instead our volunteers take the children to their own homes and spend time baking, cooking and watching DVDs; things that chil-



Service administrator Marion MacCallum with Katie Donald, Vinnie Hutton and project manager in Mid Argyll Cathi Bertin. 08_a04strictly01

dren will learn life skills from, and support them

to be able to use these skills later in life.'

The service is offered to children aged from

six to 16 years old. For more information on the

Mid Argyll service call Cathi on 01546 603144.

Hands up to join big sing

HANDS UP for Trad is to launching its latest Scotland Sings event on January 24 and 25 and is asking choirs, singers, shower superstars and karaoke fans from Argyll to sign up and pay tribute to the legacy of Burns on January 24 from 10.30am to 5pm.

The workshop will teach two of Burns's most famous songs 'I Will not Say Goodbye' and 'Petals of a Red, Red Rose' which have been re-worked and brought to the 21st century by mu-

sicians Findlay Napier and Kim Edgar.

Scotland Sings Gaelic song writing winner, David MacLennan, will also have his song 'An t-Each Uisge' belted out over the weekend long event.

Scotland Sings is the first ever initiative designed to encourage people to get out and have a sing-a-long and the two-day festival will see a series of singing workshops all over Scotland.

People of all ages,

backgrounds and vocal talent are being encouraged to get involved, with the aim of getting the whole of Scotland singing and having a great time in the process - whether that is as part of a community group or in a band.

Those that wish to be involved in Scotland Sings should visit <http://projects.scottishculture-online.com/scotland-sings/renewing-the-tradition-january-2015/> to book a place.

Argyll homes could get £1m improvements

THOUSANDS of homes across Argyll and Bute could be improved to make them warmer in the winter months and save energy bills.

The news comes as Argyll and Bute Council plans to bid for part of a £60 million Scottish Government grant to make people's homes warmer in 2015.

If successful, it could see the council granted more than £1m to help households that are in fuel poverty.

The council's policy leader for housing, councillor Robin Currie, welcomed the opportunity to bid for the funding.

Robin said: 'Caring for vulnerable people is a key priority for the council in building strong and safe communities. Fuel poverty is increasing in Argyll and Bute making the success of bidding for this grant a high priority. We can't control fuel prices but we can help people stay warm and cut energy bills.'

Getting hardwood into market

WOODLAND management and sustainable thinking will be high on the agenda for three courses being run by the Argyll Small Woods Co-operative (ASWC).

They aim to reach out to woodland owners who would like to know more about inspecting stems, grading timber, selling woods, accessing the market and spotting problems. They will be held at Dunollie Estate in Oban on February 12. The co-operative was set up in 2014 to support small-scale woodland management in Argyll.

ASWC has recently taken on a joint hard wood sales initiative between

a number of businesses, facilitated skills training and supported members. Open to woodland owners and workers, the co-operative aims to be an honest broker between members and the wood market.

Neil Donaldson, secretary to the co-op, said: 'Many woodland owners have mature hardwoods that could generate income rather than rotting on the ground.'

For more details about next month's events, which will also include two maintenance and cross cut chainsaw courses, contact Neil Donaldson on 07810 810 818.



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All proceeds from the silent auction will also go to Routes to Rural Employment.

Council 'caught out' by the cold weather

'With hundreds of miles of pavements in Argyll and Bute salting every single one is simply not feasible'

Continued from Page 1
traffic lights are at Kilmory and Kilmory Road.

'These areas are only the ones I know which were dangerous for pedestrians because of the ice which had formed.'

'With the forecast known well in advance these days, surely the council should have sent a squad out to at least put some grit on the pavements in these areas of the town.'

'I am not having a go at the workers, who do what they are asked. However, if the situation merits paying overtime on a Saturday and Sunday for the pavements in the town to be made safe, then this must be done.'

'People pay their council tax for a service seven days a week, not for five or six. Myself and another tenant gritted and shovelled some of the paths at our houses, near the hospital, in our own time, to try and help the situation. However due to the thickness of the ice and the lack of grit, it was a futile exercise at times.'

'If nothing is done soon then people will suffer some nasty injuries from falling on the ice due to the danger.'

After meeting with officials about the situation Mid Argyll councillor Sandy Taylor said: 'The weather has just caught us out.'

'In the past we would have had staff to go out and manage the paths - but due to the annualised hours of parks and recreational staff we find that there are fewer

hours for staff to be used in the winter.

'Therefore this period of extended ice and snowfall have tested the plans that the council have had in place. This will now need to be re-considered.'

'In other places the council works in partnership with organisations to get paths gritted and in Mid Argyll we need to consider the same plan. We will also be revisiting what our priority paths are and working together these will be addressed.'

A spokesman for the council said: 'With hundreds of miles of pavements in Argyll and Bute, salting every single one is simply not feasible - our efforts have to be concentrated on areas that will benefit the most people. We do not pre-treat footpaths although we do react if there is any bad weather.'

'Footway treatment routes are prioritised like our roads. Priority one routes are in urban shopping areas and precincts. Priority two covers other areas of high pedestrian concentration like in the vicinity of hospitals and schools.'

'Priority three includes steep hills in housing developments and in the vicinity of residential homes for the elderly. If hazards remain and we have resources available, treatment of other footways will be carried out.'

'The council does all that it can but people can do a lot for themselves to tackle the bad weather. We provide more than 300 grit bins in ur-

ban areas and thousands of salt heaps throughout routes that are not routinely treated, particularly in rural areas. This allows people to spread salt themselves on local pavements and roads.'

'The approaches to schools are also gritted, however, it is not possible to treat the start of every journey to a school. There is advice on how to drive in winter conditions on the Ready Scotland website.'



Tarbert's Viking boat was washed up on the rocks while one other traditional boat that is moored beside it sank to the bottom of the harbour.

Viking boat washed up on the rocks

EXTREME weather conditions causing high tides and winds led to Tarbert's the Viking boat being washed up on the rocks next to the harbour.

The popular vessel was washed up and photographed by local man Richard Blair. He said: 'It's the first time I have seen the boat

washed ashore due to extreme weather conditions since it was built last summer.'

Unscathed

The boat, which plays a key role in the village's annual Viking Festival, was left unscathed despite the severe weather conditions last week.

Donna Mallan, of Tarbert Harbour Authority, said: 'Although the Viking boat is up on the rocks it has been tied up and secured safely. A traditional boat also sank to the bottom of the harbour, but it's always the same with that one and it'll come back up when the tides go out.'

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Keeping people safe is priority

BEFORE any debate on how Argyll copes with winter weather begins, it is important to note one obvious fact: when it is very cold, there will be ice on the roads and pavements.

This means that come the coldest months of the year, a detailed plan of action should be in place for such an eventuality.

The debate is therefore how are the priorities set?

Do Argyll and Bute Council and the trunk roads authority prioritise their limited resources to treat the busiest commuter roads, school routes, or areas where there are elderly and infirm residents, many of whom would rather stay indoors than risk a fall on the icy pavements?

The worried parents who spoke to the Argyllshire Advertiser this week would perhaps say the priority is obvious.

Pavements and roads used by some of our most vulnerable citizens - school children - must surely be high on the priority list, if not right at the top.

Parents must decide whether they let their children walk to school, the preferred option for those wishing to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle.

But they face a quandary when roads and pavements are not gritted - after all, the parents are responsible for making sure their children get to school safely.

Parents who choose to let their children walk to school in cold weather could rightly expect the pavements to be safe underfoot and certainly that the roads along school walking routes had been gritted for vehicles.

Cost is not an excuse when public safety is compromised.

who's who at your advertiser

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Silence on oil price

Sir,
The Scottish Government has ceased to publish oil revenue projections since the price of a barrel began to tumble, with no date being put on when new statistics will be released.

Scottish Unionist and Conservative leader Ruth Davidson challenged Nicola Sturgeon recently at First Minister's Questions on why the bulletins - which were regularly announced when the oil price was high - had stopped.

The first minister said only that new figures would come 'in due course', but claimed she needed more information from the UK Government on tax before they could be compiled.

However, the SNP was still able to produce the forecasts prior to the referendum without that information.

It has also emerged that the Scottish Government's Energy Advisory Board has not met since July, even though its remit is to provide 'rapid' response to changes in the industry.

But even as the price of oil dropped below \$50 a barrel, the board did not convene.

Last week Bank of England governor Mark Carney said Scotland was protected from the crisis in North Sea oil by being part of the wider UK.

The Scottish Government published inflated oil projections in the good times, and have axed them in the bad.

The SNP wants to fight the general election on a ticket that would rip Scotland out of the very framework that guarantees its security in the

face of a crisis in the oil industry.

I take no delight in the fact that our North Sea oil industry is suffering. I would much rather that the second oil boom promised by the SNP during the referendum was actually happening and that jobs were not being lost in this vital industry.

Alastair Redman
Unionist and Conservative candidate.

Clear choice for voters

Sir,
It is only fair that in the run up to the general election that the SNP has the opportunity to present its case in TV and radio debates aimed at the Scottish electorate. Debates help inform those who will have the opportunity to vote for parties taking part in the debate about policies, options and choices.

What of course would be neither fair nor democratic would be for the SNP to be given a place in a television general election debate for UK leaders to be broadcast throughout the UK. Since the SNP does not intend having candidates standing in English, Welsh and Northern Ireland constituencies, more than 90 percent of viewers would have no opportunity to vote for them.

Of course, the SNP hopes that by peddling its populist, non-costed, over-optimistic, simplistic policies they will attract sufficient support in Scotland to potentially hold the balance of power.

The vast majority of people in Argyll and Bute voted to reject separation. Perhaps it is

time to apply tactical voting to ensure a united kingdom. In Argyll and Bute this means voting for Alan Reid, the hard working MP who puts his constituents needs first.

Finlay Craig
Cove.

Tarbert senior citizens' party

Sir
I was delighted to attend the Tarbert senior citizens' dinner on Friday evening.

Again the committee worked so hard to ensure that a warm welcome, wonderful meal and excellent entertainment was provided for the senior citizens of Tarbert. I appreciate the work that goes into organising an event of this scale and it is so heartening to see the volunteers give of their time and always with such a pleasant manner.

Thank you again to everyone involved in making the evening such a success.

Anne Horn
Councillor
Argyll and Bute.

Proper solution needed for Rest and Be Thankful

Sir,
I am very disappointed that the SNP is giving no new money for work at the Rest and Be Thankful.

All that they announced last Wednesday was that the work they promised last June for Strone Point and Glen Kinglas is still in the programme. This is just not good enough.

October's closure at the Rest and Be Thankful showed that

the 'patch and mend' work has not solved the problem.

Earlier this month, warnings were issued that the road might have to be closed yet again because of dirty water flowing from the hillside.

It is high time the SNP committed money for a proper solution for the Rest and Be Thankful, such as a new two-lane road on the other side of the glen. This would cost only a fraction of the cash left unspent in last year's Scottish Government budget.

The SNP has the money available to construct a permanent solution at the Rest and Be Thankful, but it refuses to spend it. It is high time they did.

Alan Reid MP
Argyll and Bute.

Failure to publish Chilcott report

Sir,
The failure to date to publish the report from the Chilcott Inquiry into the Iraq war, despite it being available within months of the final hearing in February 2011, is nothing short of a national scandal.

It is only right that those responsible for the illegal actions in Iraq are held accountable and we the public, after an Inquiry lasting more than five and a half years, are given the opportunity to view a report on the UK's worst policy disaster of modern times, the outcomes of which have had such a profound impact on our nation today.

Alex Orr
Edinburgh

Letters to the Editor, Argyllshire Advertiser,
Argyll Street, Lochgilphead,
Argyll PA31 8NB

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

Island mothers put their hearts into fundraising

LOUISE LEE

llee@obantimes.co.uk

LAST April a serious accident on the A83, north of Furnace, saw four young mothers from the Isle of Jura caught up in an horrific ordeal.

Three of the women were taken to hospital in Glasgow with long-term injuries, broken backs and broken bones, leaving all four shocked by the situation.

The women had been away from their island homes participating in a 10k race.

While the experience of the accident was ter-

rifying, the care that the women received from the emergency services was second to none and they have vowed to repay that with a remarkable Valentine's Day fundraiser at Craighouse village hall on Jura.

One of the women, Denise Rozga, said: 'We wanted to do something positive to make the best of a terrible situation.'

'We want to be able to pay something forward.'

'Living on and travelling back and forth from the islands of Islay and Jura, we are all reliant on the helicopter service

for transport to mainland hospitals if we are involved in an accident or are severely unwell.'

The women are holding the fundraising charity ball to raise money for Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance service. A raffle includes a number of prizes that money simply can't buy, including staying at the island's distillery.

Denise hopes that people who are unable to come to the ball will still be able to bid for the prizes.

For more details contact deniserozga@yahoo.co.uk



ALL HEART: Hosting an event on Valentine's Day, four Jura women have brought together a remarkable array of prizes for a grand raffle fundraiser



Steven Slee will be part of a nationwide broadcast on the work of Business Gateway.

Argyll company to front national business advert

AN ARGYLL company is hitting television screens this month after being picked to star in a national ad campaign.

Adverts

Garelochhead based N J Slee Welding and Fabrication was chosen from dozens of businesses throughout Scotland by Business Gateway to feature in adverts promoting the service on STV.

The company has benefited from support from Argyll and Bute Council's Business Gateway in developing their growth plans throughout the course of 2014.

Steven Slee said: 'When we were told we had been chosen we were over the moon. Over the last year we have begun to implement an apprentice scheme, invested in new

systems and are now on the approved vender list with several additional large companies.'

'To start 2015 with this advert is fantastic for the whole team.'

Enjoy

'We haven't done anything like this before so it was nerve wracking but the production crew were great and we quickly began to enjoy it.'



I did my Tax Return early and found inner peace.

31st January is the deadline for your online Self Assessment Tax Return. If you miss it you will get a £100 penalty. So why not do it today, pay what you owe and take a load off your mind?

gov.uk/selfassessment



HM Revenue & Customs

Outstanding performances in Ardrishaig

STEVEN Osborne is an internationally acclaimed pianist and one looked forward to the recital by him and his wife Jean Johnson, a clarinettist.

To arrange the event to start mid afternoon on a Saturday might be regarded as risky and when the day in question

turned out to be dark, cloudy and threatening snow, one was apprehensive that these talented musicians would be performing before a handful of people.

These fears proved unfounded. It was gratifying to find a large audience.

The arts defied the ele-

ments and played a programme of great distinction, generously donating their remuneration to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

The programme was ingeniously designed to display the talents of the performers, either together or as individual soloists.

The first and last items were the two sonatas for clarinet and piano which Brahms composed towards the end of his life.

These mellow, reflective works were given fine and sensitive performances and it was interesting to witness the skill of Steven Osborne in adapting from

the technique of playing solo or with a symphony orchestra to the subtle demands of a discreet accompanist.

Between these works, the audience heard Steven give a splendid performance of Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 28. He was followed by Jean Johnson in a sonatina for solo clarinet by the Hungarian-American composer, Miklos Rozsa.

The occasion turned out to be a prestigious one and the Mid Argyll Arts Association is to be congratulated in being able to attract to Ardrishaig artists of the calibre of Jean Johnson and Steven Osborne.

BW



Soloists, who also played a duet, Steven Osborne, piano, and Jean Johnson, clarinet. Photos: Niamh Adams McGilp



Joey Luxmoore, 13, a member of the audience at the Mid Argyll Music Association.



Above: The crowd were a little chilly in the room and had to keep jackets on - but Jean Johnson appeared in a fabulous outfit.



Steve Osbourne at the piano.



Right: A good crowd made it out for the afternoon performances.

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Campbeltown Brass SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST
Sunday 25th January at the Community Centre Starting 12.30pm
Adjudicator: Fergus Kerr
Horn recital by Fergus Kerr before final awards
Entry by donation.

Want to enjoy singing on a regular basis? Tarbert Gaelic Choir would love to welcome some new members.
There's no need to know any Gaelic or be able to read music - as long as you can hold a tune! Come and join us in the Templar's Hall, Harbour Street, Tarbert, at 7.30pm on Mondays.
Contact Hilary Macdonald 01880 820469
hilsma@dinternet.com (conductor), or Mary Macalister Hall 01583 431707, machall@torrisdalecastle.com (secretary).

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'Joiner' chosen as citizen of the year

A GOOD-natured joiner, sportsman and fire-fighter has won the Tarbert Citizen of the Year (COTY) award.

Duncan MacGregor was presented the accolade at this year's senior citizens' post-Christmas party.

He was honoured for an impressive list of good works which benefit the village and its many visitors.

Assistance

Prominent were his voluntary and highly practical assistance to the various festivals and sporting activities around the village.

He's a keen sportsman who has done his bit to encourage youth participation, and, as a skilful joiner, his services are much in demand when, as so often happens, one

or other village festival requires any form of safe temporary structure.

He was commended for his courtesy, modesty and good nature and for his commitment as a member of various organising committees.

Given that he manages to fit his voluntary work around running a successful business which provides welcome local employment, it's all the more remarkable that, in addition, he finds time to serve as an on-call retained firefighter based in Tarbert.

Sheena Ferguson, of the Christmas Party organising committee, presented the COTY shield to Duncan. Judging by the enthusiastic applause, he was a popular choice.



Sheena Ferguson presented the Tarbert Citizen of the Year trophy to Duncan MacGregor. Photos: Colin Hunter

Tarbert senior citizens' party goes with a swing



Glasgow-based folk duo Quigley's Point kept everyone's toes tapping.

TARBERT senior citizens' annual Christmas party went with a swing at the village hall on Friday night.

Glasgow folk duo Quigley's Point treated the older generation to a selection of Scottish, Irish, and country songs.

Long before the singing and dancing started, the partygoers benefited from complimentary transport on what turned out to be a truly wintry evening.

Spectacular

After a chance to mingle, they were treated to a four-course Christmas dinner, a raffle featuring a spectacular number of prizes and lots of opportunities to catch up with

old friends and neighbours, before the music began.

Preparations for the event were the responsibility of a hard-working team of volunteers who made sure everything ran smoothly. Dinner was served with military precision and the whole event ran like clockwork.

Donations towards the cost of the event, whether monetary or in kind were received from near and far.

A contribution of £250 from Glasgow-based Scotwest Credit Union is just one example of the acts of generosity which this annual party attracts.



Senior citizens enjoyed a great meal.



Just a few of the happy partygoers at the senior citizens' post-Christmas party at Tarbert Village Hall.

There is a real joy in being a calamity

ANY amateur dramatics company that calls itself 'calamities' must know how to have fun.

There is a real buzz and joy about the Clachan Calamities special production of Aladdin next week to mark its 25th anniversary.

Two original members are still involved - director Lesley Kean and chairman Peter Simpson - while many others are prepared to travel from as far as Glasgow to be in the 48-strong cast and back-up crew. Former Tarbert residents Ian and Alana McNair and son, Robbie, 9, have been making the weekly sojourn from the city for three years.

'Another young star is 13-year-old Gaia Sylvan, from Clachan, who is playing Aladdin,' said Lesley Kean. 'She is an enormous talent who has been involved with our pantos since she was three.'

Clachan Calamities presents a hilarious family pantomime!

30th & 31st Jan 2015
Clachan Village Hall

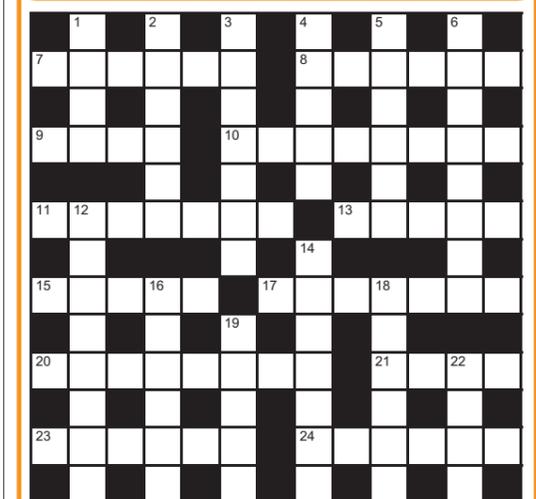
Aladdin

World Domination Tour
Feb 21st, 7pm Tarbert Village Hall
Tickets: Clachan Filling Station & John Hunt's, Tarbert

All tickets £6
Friday & Saturday 7pm
Preview: Thursday 7pm

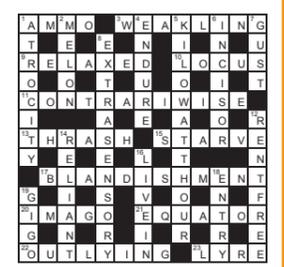
For more info:
Lesley on 01880 740203
www.littlegreenclachan.org

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across
- 7 Smooth, in music (6)
 - 8 Type of picture (6)
 - 9 Soon (4)
 - 10 Manicure piece (8)
 - 11 All about movement (7)
 - 13 Adjust to match up (5)
 - 15 Frostily (5)
 - 17 Spanish castle (7)
 - 20 Recommendation (8)
 - 21 District found in central London (4)
 - 23 Vaccinate (6)
 - 24 Sounds like a northern area of an American city (6)
- Down
- 1 Curb (4)
 - 2 English lunch perhaps (6)
 - 3 Boot type (7)
 - 4 A Doctorate (5)
 - 5 Beneficial (6)
 - 6 Lack of a vitamin causes this disease (8)
 - 12 Occurance (8)
 - 14 Lively (7)
 - 16 Hang around (6)
 - 18 Holdings (6)
 - 19 Tenderly (5)
 - 22 Peddle (4)

Last week's solution



care in the community

Who cares?

Sometimes when you need help it is difficult to see the trees from the forest - whether that might be understanding current legislation or finding someone to help you take the bins out.

We all have a range of needs that we at one time or another in life will need help to take care of.

Our advertisers take this seriously and offer services to help you and your family get through difficult times.

What is good for you may not be great for other people and vice versa.

How many times have you confided in someone?

Whether a partner, friend or work colleague, almost all of us will have shared difficult moments with the people closest to us.

But what if you can't speak to those you are closest to? What if your problem relates to these relationships, or is too personal to share with someone you meet every day?

Counselling may be the answer you are looking for.

Far from being 'for other people' counselling may be the starting point to a renewed take on life, to a more organised and focussed path.

From a chat with someone who is there to listen or a prayer or psychotherapy, it is always worth considering speaking to a friendly face. Often it helps if this person is not known to you.

A new chapter

As the Scottish population gets older - our elderly population is to increase by two thirds in the next 20 years. The service offered by care homes, support services and the health and social work services will become increasingly more important.

Council policies are also set up to assist with care in the home for as long as possible so that people can remain independent. There are even agencies which will help upgrade and decorate elderly people's homes.

The NHS in Scotland is attempting to keep as many elderly people as possible at home and elderly care is changing to cope with the demand.

Through NHS Highland's Reshaping Care for Older People plan, support is being made available for that very purpose.

Of course staying at home isn't always an option, perhaps the burden of care has become too much for family members and the time has come to look at care homes.

The ultimate aim of a care home is to help people enjoy more independent and fulfilling lives in their later years.

Thankfully these are now far from the daunting sterile image of old.

In the West Highlands care homes provide 24-hour-care services including support with all personal care.

So when choosing where you, or your loved ones, are going to spend this time, it is wise to judge each home by this simple, yet essential, mission statement.

A good care home will want residents and their families to look upon the new accommodation as their own - from the very first day they move in.

Look for homes that are modern - in attitude, if not appearance - spacious and safe.

It is important that staff are caring and receptive to people's needs and that the food served is high in quality and nutrition. It is also worth noting if there are any organised activities

within the home that encourage interaction between residents and allow them to try new things.

You can also have a visit from hairdressers, physiotherapists, chiropodists, doctors, nurses, dentists and even dieticians. That's on top of getting daily papers and magazines delivered.

A community that cares is something many people lament as a lost trait in society nowadays.

But what if the helpful neighbour who used to pop out for the elderly woman next door's shopping has simply been replaced with more professional - but no less caring - services.

A chat over a cup of tea and a few biscuits might solve some people's problems but others may have much more on their plate to deal with. And there are plenty of places in the West Highlands that you can turn to for care and support in a time of need.

You could be facing problems at home, whether that be coping with a loved one's illness, a recent bereavement or addiction issues.

There are many support and therapy groups that can help you overcome these issues and deal with the emotions you experience during them.

Perhaps you're stuck in a situation you can't see a way out of.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse help is at hand - don't be afraid to speak up.

Reaching out to others can pull you back from a point where you may be considering harming yourself. Talking through your problems will help solve them.

But perhaps you just need a helping hand because of age or disability. Staying in their own home is what many people desire as the fragility of life catches up with them.

This can become trickier as mobility becomes a challenge but many organisations can install mechanically assisted devices in homes to ensure getting in and out of beds, chairs and baths is no problem.

If you're a carer for anyone and struggling to cope - or just looking for a bit of breathing space - there is also help available through respite services and support groups.

Annual events also aim to encourage support for others in the community - including participating in foster care.

Anyone considering fostering a child should get in contact with their local authority to find out more and, if appropriate, take steps to do so.

Other services for children are also available - if you are aware of a youngster dealing with issues at home you should not be afraid to point them in the direction of support.

DROP IN THURSDAY
WE ARE MACMILLAN - CANCER SUPPORT

DROP IN SERVICE

Free and confidential information and support service available for anyone affected by cancer. (No appointment necessary)

CAMPBELTOWN LIBRARY
Thursdays 11.00am - 3.00pm



Argyll Voluntary Action



Are you worried about cancer? Are you going through treatments? Do you support someone with a cancer diagnosis? Or have you finished treatments and would like to talk about your options? For anyone affected by cancer Campbeltown Library offers a one to one Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service on Thursdays from 11am to 3pm. Come and meet the

team for chat over a friendly cup of tea. There are always booklets on all aspects of being affected by cancer, as well as resources for other long term health conditions in the dedicated health and wellbeing area. These are available whenever the library is open. The team can help guide you through the information available in the drop-in as well as online and

Freephone resources. If you need information not on display we can help source this for you. There is also a private room for more personal discussions. Macmillan Cancer Support believes that no one in Scotland should face cancer alone. This service is here for you. Contact: **Deirdre Henderson, Campbeltown Library. 01586 555932.**

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Call for budding school artists

THE COUNTDOWN is on for school pupils in Argyll and Bute to get their entries in for the 2015 Edinburgh Festival Fringe Schools Poster Competition.

Budding artists have until March 6 to submit their designs and be in with a chance of having their artwork featured as the official poster of the 2015 Fringe.

An impressive 198 school children from Argyll and Bute entered last year's competition and 14-year-old Tabitha Broatch from Campbelltown Grammar School was crowned regional winner.

Kath M Mainland, chief executive of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society which organises the competition, said: 'The Edinburgh Festival Fringe is the greatest arts festival in the world and is recognised as an explosion of creativity and talent, so we need something that really expresses that excitement and diversity to our audiences.'

Each year, the winning design is transformed into the official poster for the Fringe, and there are prizes of up to £750 for the top three artists and their schools.

Entries for the Fringe Schools Poster Competition should be sent to: Schools Poster Competition, Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society, 180 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1QS no later than 5pm Friday March 6.

Calls for upkeep of Minard memorial are being ignored

CALLS to restore a Mid Argyll war memorial are being ignored, a Minard resident has claimed.

The state of the Tullochgorm memorial near to Minard is concerning conservationists who are urging owner, Argyll and Bute council, to take their worries seriously.

Leonard MacNeil told the Argyllshire Advertiser that the issue of the memorial had been raised while another war memorial inside the church was being investigated.

Mr MacNeil said: 'During my initial investigation one of the conservationists, Nick Boyles, enquired if the village had another WWI memorial and I told him that the Minard War memorial was that at Tullochgorm.'

'He went with me to have a look at this memorial. He was somewhat concerned about its condition and stated that if some remedial work was not done soon then it could turn out to be a rather large job.'

'I informed our three Argyll and Bute councillors about this situation saying that I had done the 'spade work' for the village hall WWI memorial but as the Tullochgorm War Memorial was the responsibility of the council I

felt that the rest should be done by a paid employee of the council.

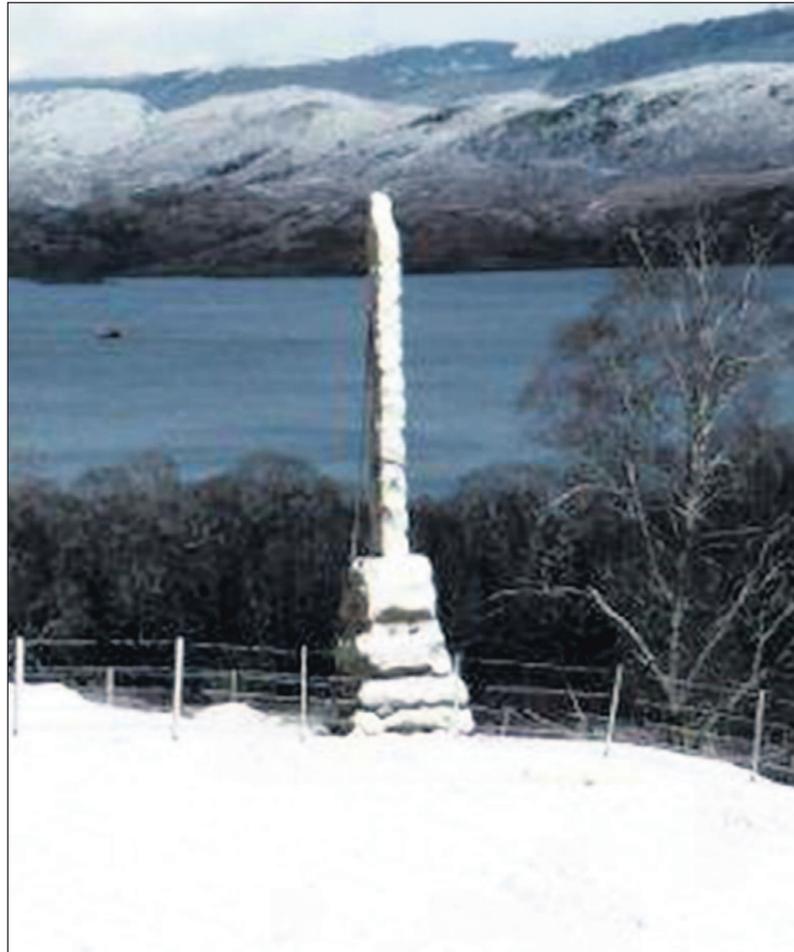
'I received a reply from one of the councillors who stated that he has enquired with the applicable person in the council's employment but that she had stated that the council had limited funds and couldn't afford to do this remedial work as the Scottish government funding would not be available to local councils.'

'However she stated that if someone from the community council was to do the work and apply for funding then that would be the situation resolved.'

'This prompted me to contact the War Memorials Trust (WMT) which handles the funding on behalf of the Scottish government. I simply enquired with the WMT if Argyll and Bute, or any other council could apply for funding and the reply was a positive 'yes they can'.'

'As a result of the answer I received I informed my councillor of my findings and suggested that this application be made as soon as possible as funding was not going to last forever.'

'Not having received a reply to this from anyone at Argyll and Bute Council, I was attending a Mid Argyll Part-



Forgotten memorial to those who gave their lives in the war.

nership meeting at the council offices as vice convenor of West Loch Fyne Community Council and the chairman, Sandy Taylor, said that he would take up this matter.

'That was several weeks ago and as to date no one has been in contact with me.'

Get out birdwatching this weekend

HUNDREDS of people across Argyll are expected to count the birds and wildlife in their gardens over the weekend of January 24 and 25 as part of the Royal Society for the Protection of Bird's annual Big Garden Birdwatch. RSPB Scotland is interested in the impact that the warmest year on record in 2014 and the mild winter may have on the birds.

Although colder weather has moved in over the last few days, the overall warmer temperatures could mean that people see fewer birds in their gardens this year as they've been able to feed from wild berries and insects for longer into the winter. People are asked to spend just one hour at any time over the Big Garden Birdwatch weekend noting the highest number of each bird species in their garden or local outside space at any one time.

Results can be submitted until February 13 via the RSPB website www.rspb.org.uk/bird-watch or by post.

Scottish Canals Empowered, motivated people

Find out more about joining the Crinan Canal team as a Seasonal Waterway Operative at www.scottishcanals.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 6 February 2015

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2015 Calendars

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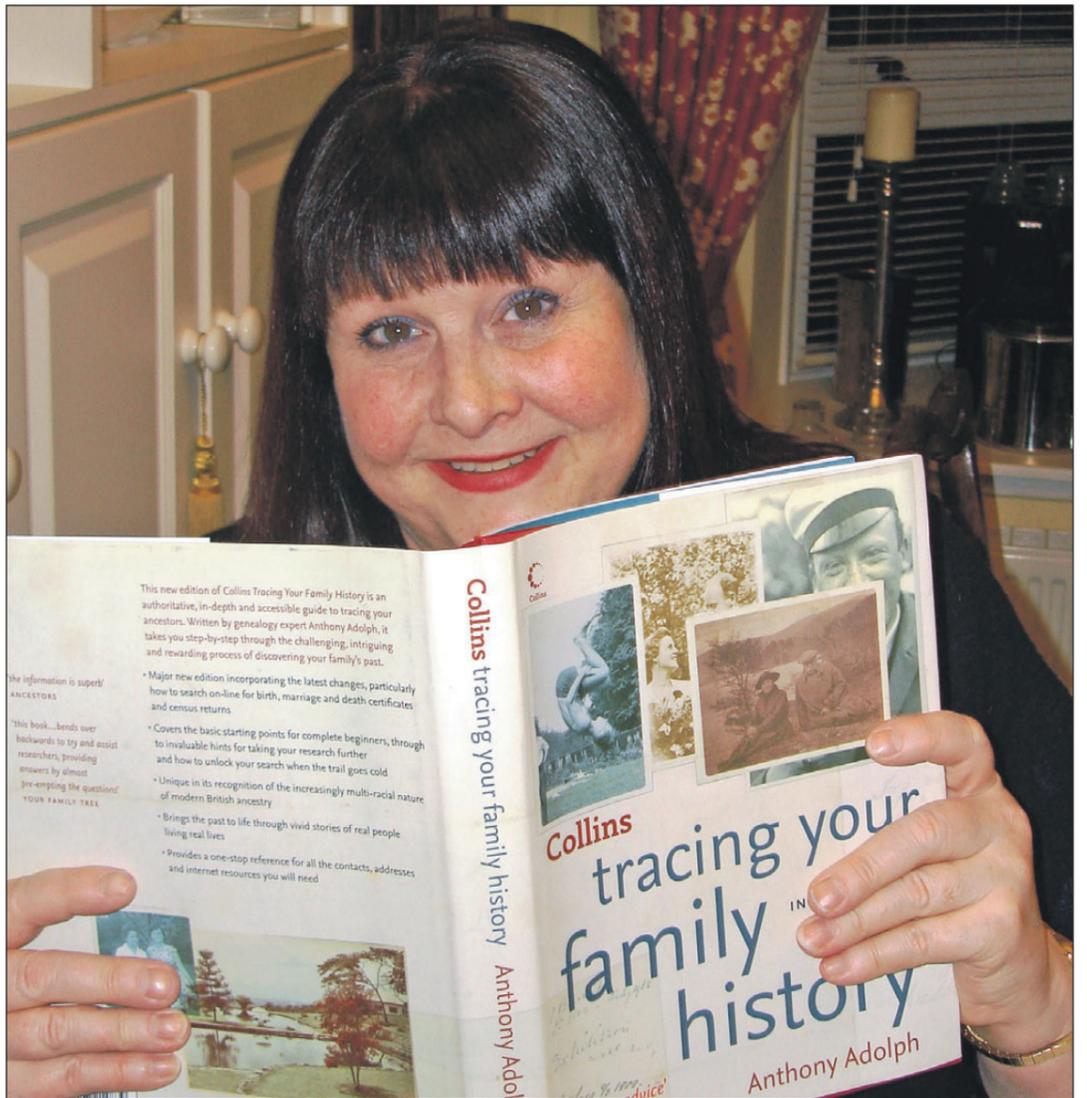
to order visit www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
or call **01371 851 868**

Film night brings out the teenage turtles



Mid Argyll Youth Project held a very successful film night with, left to right, Leah MacKenzie, 11, Neily Russell, 11 and Jake Gillespie, 11, watching Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles at the youth club film night.

Photo: Niamh Adams McGilp



Felicity would love to hear from long-lost family members.

Public appeal for family history in Argyll

A WOMAN whose family originally came from Tighnabruaich is eager to trace relatives who might still live in Argyll.

Felicity MacFarlane, who lives in Edinburgh and her cousin Ian, who lives in Australia, are now reaching out to people in Mid Argyll to get in touch if they can give the pair any more information about their family history.

Felicity said: 'Our great-great grandparents were Christina and Hector McLean. Christina's maiden name was Crawford and we know her date of death was March 16, 1888. They lived at Woodside Cottage in Tighnabruaich, Kilfinan Parish, which is still there.'

The pair know that Christina and Hector had at least one child, named Ann, who married Archibald MacFarlane, born in Clachan on September 16, 1844.

After Ann and Archibald were married they lived in Greenock and had two children named Ian and Archibald, the fathers of cousins Felicity and Ian.

Felicity said: 'We also know that they lived at 5 Fox Street, Greenock and had two sons Archibald and John Duncan. John Duncan MacFarlane was our grandfather and he was born on February 13, 1875 and died aged 71 on March 12, 1946.'

Reference

'My cousin, Ian, also found a reference that there was an Ann MacKenzie aged one-year-old, described as the granddaughter of Christy McLean, aged 52 and Donald McLean, fisherman, aged 24 at Stelag Farm, Kilfinan in the 1861 Census.'

Felicity knows that the MacFarlanes are buried in Greenock cemetery, but is keen to

find out more about the McLeans and Crawfords from Tighnabruaich.

She added: 'Ann had at least one brother, Donald McLean. Are there any McLeans or Crawfords who are connected with us still living in Argyll?'

'We believe that the McLean family may possibly have been in-

involved in hotels or pubs going by evidence on death certificates and what my father told us was that the McLean family was in that business.'

To get in touch with Felicity and Ian MacFarlane, write in to 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB or email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



Great-great grandfather Archibald MacFarlane married Ann McLean, of Tighnabruaich.

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Caledonian Marts in financial crisis

CALEDONIAN Marts auction house, which leases Oban Livestock Centre, could need around £4 million to secure its future.

An emergency meeting in Oban last week heard that the Stirling-based farmers co-operative faces a deepening financial crisis.

Jeams Cullen, managing director of Caledonian Marts, told shareholders that the firm needed investment of around £2 million to cover its debt, with the company's finances for May 2013 showing assets of £4.1 million and debts of £5.9 million.

Indicated

However, when asked if the figures indicated that more than £2 million was needed to ensure financial stability,

Mr Cullen admitted that the figure could be as much as £5 million.

Mr Cullen said: 'The company has three options: we ask for support financially; we secure a buyer for the Stirling mart under new ownership; or, worst case scenario, we do nothing and the company becomes insolvent.'

'We are in the process of trying to secure funding from the shareholders as well as trying to find buyers for the company, which we would call our plan B until funding is secured.'

Duncan Buchanan, one of the 2,500 shareholders of the co-operative and who chaired the meeting, said other operators had declared interest in leasing the livestock centre, and that it

'wouldn't be difficult' to get another interested party if Caledonian Marts did not continue at the site which it has leased for the past 17 years.

A show of hands at last week's meeting saw a strong majority back the directors' proposals to raise money through a share issue to help clear a mountain of Caledonian Marts' unrecoverable debt of around £4 million.

A share prospectus will be sent out soon and pledges taken thereafter. A decision on whether enough money will be raised to satisfy bank demands is expected by the middle of February.

At a meeting last Friday in Stirling, farmer directors and auditors faced heavy criticism.



James Cullen, managing director of Caledonian Marts, addressing the crowd at the emergency meeting at Oban Livestock Centre. 16_t03farmers01



Graeme McMillan, right, was presented with the shield for Young Stockperson of the Year by rotary club president Laurens Denson.

Graeme is Young Stockperson of the Year

GRAEME McMillan from Southend was named Young Stockperson of the Year for the second time by the Rotary Club of Campbeltown.

Rotarians Andrew Ronald and Alan Minshaw, along with John Smith, awarded merit points to young people taking part in Kintyre stock judging competitions in 2014, with McMillan the clear winner.

The stockperson's award was created in memory of the late Rotarians Jean and Hamish Smith, the latter having a lifelong interest in livestock, and with the Smith family's generosity to the club in mind.

Presented

Margaret Bakes, convenor of Rotary's vocational service committee, read a short citation before Graeme was presented by

president Laurens Denson with the attractive shield and a framed certificate.

Agnes Stewart, Rotary spokeswoman, said: 'The club was honoured to have Graeme as a guest at lunch for the occasion. We are pleased to wish him every success in his future career.'

Graeme is now working in Leicestershire with Blaise Tomlinson Sandiford Ayrshires.

NFU Scotland welcomes financial advice package for dairy farmers

NFU Scotland has welcomed the launch of a levy-funded package aimed at delivering financial advice to hard-pressed dairy farmers.

The initiative to develop a fast track financial advice package was originally instigated by NFU Scotland in December and offers consultant support to help assess the immediate impact on cash-flow from the dire dairy market situation.

Understand

It is designed to help dairy farmers to understand better what is likely to happen to cash-flow and business finances.

It will enable business plans to be modified and informed discussions to take place

with lenders or others, should this be needed.

Last week the farmer-owned dairy co-op First Milk deferred payments to its members by a fortnight and increased capital contributions.

Farmers are now receiving 20p per litre of milk compared to 32p last June.

Gary Mitchell, NFU Scotland Milk Committee chairman, said: 'Even before the First Milk announcement last week, it was clear that many dairy farmers, regardless of who they were selling their milk to, were feeling the effects of the steep downturn in dairy prices and tumbling prices for milk.'

'We understand many

dairy farmers may already seek consultancy advice, however we need to make sure that this is targeted towards those who don't already utilise the services available.

Predict

'We can't predict how long this downturn is going to last and we would encourage all those who have been affected to use this scheme.'

'There are other factors dairy farmers need to consider and through our member's taxation helpline we have been made aware that farmers paying tax on January 31 may have options open to them to alleviate the burden and should speak to HMRC as soon as they can.'

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HIGH winds, snow and freezing temperatures is a recipe for disaster as far as farm sheds and buildings are concerned. Whether traditional or modern, many buildings cannot cope with the extreme weather that has lashed the west Highlands and islands during January 2015. No doubt there will be repairs to be made, or perhaps crofters, farmers and landowners are looking for a building that could do with some strengthening before the next storm approaches. Make sure your supplies are topped up. Heating fuel, be it oil or wood, can run down quickly in the cold weather. Repairs and renovations can be big jobs, so you need to be confident you have the right company to meet your needs. Using a tried and trusted company can give you peace of mind, especially if they have previously carried out good work in the area.

With the expense involved and importance of getting the job done properly, it is an expensive mistake if the job is not done properly. Maintenance of machinery and equipment is essential for people who work the land, especially in winter, when man tends to rely on machine. Imagine buying the best quality seeds and manure and then planting everything with tender love and care and then ruining all your produce just because the equipment and

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machinery that you used was not properly maintained.

Maintaining your farming machinery, equipment and property is also demanded by the law to avoid risking people's health and safety.

Since maintenance can be a huge commitment in terms of time, energy and money, create inventories for all the machinery and equipment you own and prioritise what needs done and when.

Arrange your maintenance activities by season, make a note of all the upkeeps you need to do in that period and keep records of work carried out.

List the safety hazards of any particular equipment, and make sure staff know what work needs to be done and when.

While doing vehicle maintenance ensure: the brakes work properly; the engines are running properly; the fuel tanks are clean, and when emptying out fuel tanks

beware of any explosion risks; drain the fuel away from any sources of ignition; and before changing any batteries make sure that you have disconnected the terminals to avoid any electrical hazards.

It is the job of the employers to make sure that their workers are safe. This includes doing regular maintenance checks on farming machinery and equipment as well training their workers in a proper manner.

Health and Safety legislation also demands that any new machinery a farmer buys is CE marked.

The CE mark basically means that each piece of machinery has been built keeping in mind the minimum legal safety requirements. The machinery should also have certificate of conformity and a workshop manual.

If the farmer performs safety and maintenance checks on time, they will be able to safely get on with what they do best - farming.

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North Argyll Young Farmers reforms after seven years

A NEED to connect young farmers spread across the scattered rural communities of North Argyll has led to the reformation of the area's Young Farmers Club.

In abeyance for the past seven years, the newly reformed North Argyll Young Farmers Club held its first event, a stock judging competition, at the Oban live-stock centre last Friday.

The group's teenage chairman John Gillies, heads up a committee that includes secretary Mhairi Dempster

and treasurer Callum Leitch.

John, a shepherd at Castles Estate Farm, Dalmally, said: 'Because of where we are the young farmers in the area tend to be separated and we don't see each other that often.'

'I thought reforming the group would give a chance to get together and to talk about the issues of the day.'

'Friday's event was our first one and we used that to test the water. The response was really good and

I think there were around 30 people there eligible for the Young Farmers.'

In total, around 80 people came to the stock judging event at Oban mart and helped to raise more than £800 for the group.

Karen Love was the overall winner of the stock judging and Fulton Ronald won the guess the weight of the heifer competition.

Prizes were donated by Brander Lodge, Carrs Billinton, Stirling, and Reid and Robertson.

Part of the proceeds from last Friday's event will be used at the end of February when the group goes bowling or go-karting.

North Argyll Young Farmers is also planning a shearing competition at Balliemeanoch, Dalmally in the spring time.

The Young Farmers group is for anyone living in the North Argyll area aged between 14 and 28.

To find out more see the group's facebook page or phone John on 07454185094.



NEW START: Helping to revive the North Argyll Young Farmers Club are, from left: secretary Mhairi Dempster, treasurer Callum Leitch and chairman John Gillies. 16_t04young01

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Getting hardwood into the market

WOODLAND management and sustainable thinking will be high on the agenda for three courses being run by the Argyll Small Woods Co-operative (ASWC).

Reaching out to woodland owners who would like to know

more about inspecting stems, grading timber, selling woods, access the market and spotting problems will be held at Dunollie Estate on February 12.

The co-operative was set up in 2014 to support small scale woodland management in

Argyll.

ASWC has recently taken on a joint hard wood sales initiative between a number of businesses, facilitated skills training and supporting members. Open to woodland owners and workers it aims to be an

honest broker between members and the wood market.

For more details about next month's events, which will also include two maintenance and cross cut chainsaw courses, contact Neil Donaldson on 07810 810 818.

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PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-17:00hrs 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. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02933/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit A)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02934/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit B)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02935/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit C)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02936/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit E)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02998/PP	Installation of antenna	Unit 1 Argyll House Harbour Street Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6UA	Sub Post Office Harbour Street

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>
The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.
A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.
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- **High levels of satisfaction** – Results from the 2014 industry survey on customer satisfaction with new homes, facilitated by NHBC, found that 94 per cent of people surveyed said that they would buy a new build home again, with a similar proportion indicating they would recommend their builder to a friend.
- **Better security** – New homes come with security features as standard, including smoke detectors and robust locks on front and back doors. And to meet the demands of modern lifestyles, electrical circuits in new homes are designed for even the most gadget-intensive families.
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The Scottish Salmon Company 

Temporary Technical Systems Coordinator – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll

40 hours per week for a minimum of 4 months – Salary £20,000 pro rata
Ref: TSSC/Jan 15

As Technical Systems Coordinator you will analyse the site Quality Management System.

- Pull together all paper based processes from the Quality Management System for centre filing and logging, including for example SEPA reporting etc.
- Update the internal QMS document management system (QPulse)
- Analyse the interfaces between the Technical Department and Engineering/Processing functions.
- Make recommendations to improve communication processes and information flows.

The successful candidates must be Graduates interested in a career in Technical/Food Safety/Quality Management/Food Science/Microbiology degrees

Temporary Business Systems Coordinator – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll

40 hours per week for a minimum of 4 months – Salary £20,000 pro rata
Ref: BSSC/Jan 15

As Business Systems Coordinator you will analyse the site Business Management System.

- Pull together all paper based non-food safety/quality management information for central filing and logging.
- Update the internal QMS document management system (QPulse) with all training records (across whole company).
- Audit all Maintenance, Hygiene, Purchasing, Supply Chain and Processing files and records.
- Make recommendations to improve communication processes and information flows.

The ideal candidates must be Graduates in Business/Operations Management Studies.

For an application form and job description for the above posts, please contact:
Angela Gibson, HR Officer,
The Scottish Salmon Company,
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH
Tel. No. 01499 600 430
Email: angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 4pm Friday 30th January 2015
Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com

The Scottish Salmon Company 

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

Pool Staff and Processing/Plant Maintenance Vacancies – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll
Ref: 01/PS/15 Pool Staff
Ref: 01/PRO/15 Processing Supervisor
Ref: 01/ES/15 Engineering Supervisor

As a result of an exciting growth and investments in new equipment and processes, we are delighted to be holding our recruitment drive for numerous additional staff across several departments at our Cairndow Processing Plant.

The Scottish Salmon Company delivers a consistently high quality product in the global market to high-end customers with rigorous requirements. The journey our product makes from hatchery to farm to customer relies on strong teamwork and good communication throughout. This means that all our staff must be prepared to be flexible in their roles and, on occasions, work beyond their normal working hours to fulfil production/processing requirements.

Applicants should be aware that due to the nature of the business, we work with a fresh product, flexibility is essential: some extended shifts and weekend work may be required to meet production/processing targets. Successful applicants should be reasonable fit and be able to meet the physical demands of the role, hardworking, flexible and co-operative in their attitude.

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For an application form and job description for the above posts, please contact:
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The Scottish Salmon Company,
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH
Tel. No. 01499 600 415
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All applications must be made on the Argyll College application form. An application form and job description can be found on the vacancies section of our website www.argyllcollege.ac.uk

Please post/email completed application form to:

Lorna McDonald, Argyll College UHI Ltd, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban PA34 4RY or e-mail lorna.mcdonald@uhi.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is **Monday 2nd February**

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The ideal candidate must have a degree or equivalent qualification in Aquaculture or Biology, with an aquatic specialism preferred. A full clean driving licence is also essential, along with a flexible and independent approach to enable full support to our site teams across a varied geographical area. Experience of working within the Scottish salmon industry would also be advantageous.

Applications are requested by CV and covering letter to the address below before 6 February 2015.

For a detailed job specification please contact;
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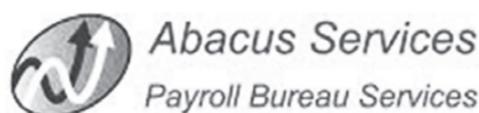
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The trainee Supervisor will assist with all aspects of production including data collection, quality control and sales. As part of a small team the trainee Supervisor will also carry out various production processes as part of the training to gain experience and to support product preparation. Interested applicant must be a good team worker and willing to work with shellfish processing. Training for this post will be provided.

Please contact: Loch Fyne Seafarms Ltd., Unit 7, Tarbert Trading Estate, Campbeltown Road, Tarbert, Argyll PA29 6SX. Tel: 01880 820 100



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11.5 million drivers missing out on chea



MILLIONS of drivers could be missing out on savings of around £860 per year in fuel and tax because myths still exist about running electric and plug-in hybrid cars.

The findings are the result of new research released by Go Ultra Low, a joint initiative by government and the UK automotive industry.

According to the research, around 11.5 million motorists could benefit from the lowest cost, tax-free motoring by switching to pure electric vehicles, because in a typical year they don't drive further than 80 miles in a single trip. Millions more could benefit from other ULEVs, which can travel between 150 and 700 miles between charges thanks to range-boosting petrol and diesel assistance.

Huge potential for electrically-powered cars

The Go Ultra Low research shows that 70 per cent of car owners are planning to change their car within the next four years, while three in 10 say they have considered purchasing a ULEV. Two thirds of motorists under the age of 24 have considered a ULEV compared to just a quarter of drivers over 55.

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The survey reveals that the majority of motorists still don't fully understand how electrically-powered vehicles work and believe outdated myths across a number of topics, from range and charging to cost and practicality.

Motoring journalist Quentin Willson said: 'Ultra low emission vehicles make so much sense, they are cheap to run, hugely practical and now almost every major manufacturer has something to offer. The Go Ultra Low research shows that a host of misconceptions are hampering consumer uptake and more needs to be done to educate people about the numerous benefits of these vehicles.'

Range anxiety persists, despite short journeys

A quarter of motorists misunderstand the range capabilities of ULEVs, with 16 per cent believing electric vehicles are unable to travel 50 miles without recharging. Yet the research also shows that more than a third of drivers said the furthest they drove in a single journey during 2014 was 80 miles or less. With pure-electric vehicles able to travel up to 100 miles on a single charge and other

plug-in ULEVs boasting up to 700 miles' range, electrically-powered cars are a viable, low cost option for millions of motorists.

Public understanding lags behind reality

The survey reveals that there is widespread lack of understanding about the speed at which the batteries in ULEVs can be recharged. Nearly 50 per cent of drivers were unaware of rapid-charging facilities that can refuel a vehicle in 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, motorists were well informed about recharging methods and infrastructure, with more than 90 per cent aware that electrically-powered vehicles can be recharged at home and via on-street charge points. However, almost one in 10 wrongly believe that electric cars cannot be driven on the motorway, while nearly one in 20 think it's dangerous to recharge them in the rain.

£4,150 savings on fuel and tax over five years

More than one quarter of motorists are of the opinion that ULEVs are more expensive to run

than a conventional diesel or petrol-powered car. This opinion is considerably higher among men (32 per cent) than women (25 per cent). However, despite falling fuel prices in recent months, the cost of fuelling a ULEV remains far cheaper than a petrol or diesel vehicle, being as little as 2p per mile, compared to around 12p per mile for a typical petrol or diesel car – representing a saving of £660 a year for the average motorist.*

Thanks to CO2 emissions of less than 75g/km, all ULEV vehicles are exempt from road tax, yielding potential savings of around £850 compared to the average car on the road over a five-year period.

Alex Michaelides, spokesperson for the Go Ultra Low campaign, said: 'With more than eight million families in the UK running two cars or more, pure-electric vehicles are the perfect family run-around, while hybrid and range-extended cars offer great long-distance options. Whereas once there was only a handful of ULEVs on offer and limited recharging infrastructure, today there are all sorts of types and sizes of car, backed-up by a nationwide network of recharging points.'

Go Ultra Low is a campaign to help motorists understand the benefits, cost savings and capabilities of the raft of new ultra-low emission vehicles on the market.

The collaborative campaign is the first of its kind, bringing together the Department for Transport, the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, SMMT and a consortium of leading car manufacturers: Audi, BMW, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Renault, Toyota, and Volkswagen. Further details are available at www.GoUltraLow.com.

*Based on average annual mileage per motorist of 8,266 miles (calculated using Department for Transport figures for total miles travelled per year and SMMT data for UK total car parc size)

*The research for Go Ultra Low was conducted between 24 December 2014 and 5 January 2015, on a sample of 1,690 UK adults who drive a car.

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Love Kay & Lewis xx

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WARMING / BUFFET SERVER Elegento 200W, brand new in box, 3 separate non stick trays with lids. temp range from 70/120 degrees. 1.55L tray capacity (Oban) £25 Telephone 07951 025003.

WASH HAND BASIN AND TAPS Armitage Shanks oval inset w.h.b. 22" x 18" white 2 tap hole (traditional cross head taps included) very good condition £40 Telephone 01499 500216.

WOODEN WALL MOUNTED PLATE RACK 2 Racks, Standard H18" D10.5 L19.5, see Nutscene. com, for example rp £89 each. VGC as used in cupboards. £25 ea or £40 for 2 £25 Telephone 07799 806916.

WORK SURFACE unused kitchen work surface "oak effect", L 85" (216 cm) W 23 1/2" (60 cm), depth 1 1/2" (4 cm) £40 ono Telephone 01631 710548.

LIVESTOCK

BORDER COLLIE PUPS well bred collie pups, 2 left, both male. Suitable for farm or trial (ISDS registered) or an experienced/active home £200 Telephone 01700 831652.

PULLETS Skye pure pullets black or brown Telephone 01470 572213.

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SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Glentworth and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbeltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

MARINE

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DINGHY LAUNCHING TRAILER collection only £30 Telephone 01546 602546.

OUTBOARD ENGINE Seagull Longshaft outboard engine, requires TLC collect only £30 Telephone 01546 602546.

YANMAR 1GM10 MARINE DIESEL Yanmar single cylinder marine diesel

(1996)- annually serviced- new alternator & water pump 2013- View at Port Appin £850 Telephone 01631 730594.

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BROADWOOD GRAND PIANO N44493(1893) toned below BS pitch to preserve strings, lovely piece of furniture, in good condition £1000 Telephone 01681 705217.

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MUSIC CASE AND CHANTER beautiful Moroccan leather music case and large chanter, new £30 Telephone 07763 874862.

PEAVEY BANDIT GUITAR AMP 60 watt guitar amp with foot controller pedal. Suitable for home or stage. Beautiful range of sounds £75 Telephone 01687 470401.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

NEW SET OF DUNLOP GOLF Clubs, complete with black matching stand bag. Bargain £70 Telephone 01631 564578.

SKI BOOTS mens ski boots, Raichle Flexon, ski boot size 8, great condition £20 Telephone 07788 833110.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

LAMINATING Keep your important documents safe from dust, dirt, tears and creases. A4-£2, A3-£3. Contact Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975.

PARTY INVITES Customised to suit any style or occasion, come supplied with envelopes. 50 invites & envelopes for £28.00. From Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975.

TICKETS FOR SALE

NOEL GALLAGHER TICKETS 2 Ticket(s) for Noel Gallaghers High Flying Birds The SSE Hydro, Glasgow, Sat 7 Mar 2015, 18:30. selling at cost price £62 Telephone 07729 336787.

TOYS AND GAMES

3 IN 1 CHILDRENS EASEL ex condition, white magnetic board, black chalk board & roll of paper also, great for keeping children entertained (Oban) £15 Telephone 07951 025003.

WANTED

ALL TYPES OF SCRAP METAL we uplift scrap cars, copper, brass, lead etc. Smaller quantities considered Telephone 07435 589701.

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



SO often we talk about the weather and it can just be a conversation filler at times.

However, these past weeks have been worthy of comment.

The gales have battered us relentlessly and the hail and sleet have stung our faces like icy needles.

Dog walking has been a challenge. We are exhausted before we leave the house as we don all the waterproof gear to face the elements once again.

The wind whips across the ocean and spares nothing in its path.

Local caravans have been destroyed as gales and trees have done their worst.

We see the black clouds pause over Islay and Jura before they deposit yet another blanket of snow.

Yet in all this, there is amazing beauty.

The snow-capped peaks now glisten in the morning light as the wind and the storms cease their shouting.

The heather sparkles in the frost and crunches under our boots.

Happy pups race through the woods, chasing the echo of their own barks.

There is stillness again and the waves calm themselves.

No doubt there will be more storms, but these too will pass.

The snowdrops have appeared - these white messengers of hope, telling us that spring will come again.

Their fragile stems defy the ice bound earth and remind us that life is emerging from its winter sleep.

Whatever happens, spring will come bringing new life, new hope, and shouts that the winter will be transformed.

The earth will bring forth new life again and thus it always will be.

The rhythm of life is always beating; the promise of life and not death is our gift, and we must grasp it.

The wintering of our lives will melt into the beauty of spring and we will once again be the Resurrection people we are called to be.

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FURNACE

Sweet kids get treats from international company

CHILDREN of Furnace primary school were gifted with a box of goodies from Fruittella after the sweetie company's promotional product turned in to a fun learning game.

Fruittella launched 'Fruittella letters' in late 2014 and teacher Karen Baird bought children four packs and gave children from primary one to seven one week to find as many words as they could with the packets of chew treats.

After taking part, primary six and seven pupils decided to write the company a letter to tell it how its sweet treat was used to the advantage of the school.

On returning from the Christmas break staff and pupils were surprised to receive a reply and a box of goodies to



Furnace primary school pupils with their goodies.

last for six months.

Mrs Baird said: 'The company responded to say that the team was really pleased to hear how we had used Fruittella sweets and the man who

designed the promotion was particularly glad to hear that pupils had used them to take part in fun spelling activities.

'They gave us a box filled with treats that we

will be used for prize givings and even more games.

'It was really great that Fruittella came back to us and that was the most encouraging thing about

it for the children.'

Pupils collectively found 118 words in total from the four packets given to them, with the longest word being opportunities.

ISLAY

Primary School told 'must do better'

BOWMORE Primary School and Nursery Class has been set targets for improvement, following a recent inspection by Education Scotland.

The inspection and review team said attainment had to be raised in English, Gaelic and mathematics.

The pace of learning also had to be increased, with the children given more challenging activities to match their needs.

The strategic leader-

ship of the curriculum also had to be improved to ensure all the staff were supported in taking forward Curriculum for Excellence.

A self-evaluation also had to ensure a stronger focus on 'improving outcomes for children'.

An Education Scotland spokesman said: 'As a result of our inspection findings, we think the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements.'

'Our area lead officer will work with Argyll and Bute Council to build capacity for improvement, and will maintain contact to monitor progress.'

'We will return to carry out a further inspec-

tion within a year. We will then issue a letter to parents on the extent to which the school has improved.'

The recent inspection also identified a number of key strengths of the school, which has more than 70 pupils.

INVERARAY

Inveraray Castle makes the 'Downton' list

INVERARAY Castle has become one of the most sought after destinations to visit for ITV's Downton Abbey fanatics.

According to GoEuro's online travel blog the castle looks set to be

one of the most popular tourist attractions this summer.

The family home of the Dukes of Argyll was featured in the 2012 Christmas special as Duneagle, the home of Lady Rose MacClare and her estranged parents. Fans will remember the Ghillies Ball - or at least the sight of the dignified Granthams decked out in Campbell tartan - and the gorgeous castle grounds.

Inveraray Castle, however, offers more to the visitor than charming sights and a brush with television fame.

There are events, everything from concerts to whiskey tastings, throughout the summer season. Vis-

it the tearoom for a special treat. Run by the Duchess herself, it offer slunch service as well as refreshments and a variety of teas.

LOCH LOMOND

Consultation receives over 300 responses

A CONSULTATION to address over-use and antisocial camping at Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park received more than 300 responses.

The proposals for new by-laws heard 'strong views' during the consultation.

The by-laws proposed will make it an offence to cause damage to the natural environment or wildlife in the park, regulate where visitors can camp and manage how lay-bys are used.

The national park also plans to continue working with Police Scotland to enforce existing and the proposed new legislation and will continue to educate people with a focus on how to camp responsibly.

They come in addition to existing by-laws and ongoing enforcements.



Teaching staff at Bowmore primary school and nursery class have been set targets for improvements.

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

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

BIRTHS



VEITCH

Olivia and Harrison would like to welcome their new baby brother, Caleb Joshua, born December 21, 2014. Thank you to the midwives at Mid Argyll Hospital.

WATT - Mark and Kate (nee Wright) are delighted to announce the birth of Zack Robert, on January 5, 2015 at Paisley Royal Alexandra Hospital. A first grandchild for Gill and Keith Wright, Campbeltown and first grandson for Thelma Watt, Fochabers.

ENGAGEMENTS



HODGSON - TREES
Isabell and Fred Hodgson are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Penny, to Steven Trees, Pudsey, Leeds. Everyone thrilled.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

MCFADZEAN - TAYLOR
- On January 22, 1965 at Castlehill Church, Campbeltown by the Rev John R H Cormack, Dick to Emily. Present address, 61 Roading, Campbeltown.

DEATHS

BROWN - Peacefully, in the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice, Glasgow, on January 16, 2015, Elizabeth Dailly McGeachy, in her 79th year, 12 Barochan Place and formerly of Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Walter Brown, much loved mum of Jacqueline and John, loving mother-in-law to Willie and Fiona, devoted granny to Sharon, Alex and the late Kerry and wee nana to Finn and Lois.

BURGESS - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on January 16, 2015, Donald Burgess, aged 84 years, of Tigh Na Croit, Tayvallich, (retired blacksmith), son of the late Donald Burgess and Flora McLachlan, and beloved husband of the late Janie Barclay. A dear cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held in Tayvallich Parish Church, on Thursday, January 22, 2015, followed by interment at Carsaig Cemetery. Sadly missed.

CHRISTIE - Peacefully, after a long illness, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on January 17, 2015, Brian Robert Christie, aged 66 years, of 10 Dun Mor Avenue, Lochgilphead, (former Strathclyde Police), beloved husband of Margaret MacKinnon, and loving father of Claire and Stewart and much loved Sheanair of Eilidh, Kalin, Lauren and James. A much respected father-in-law of Scott and Sandra and dear brother to Jo-Anne and Sandy. A dear brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service will be held in Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Monday, January 26, 2015, at 11.00am, thereafter to Cardross Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the local Red Cross and to the Kintyre Dialysis Campaign.

DEMPSTER - Suddenly, at Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Benderloch, on January 19, 2015, in his 76th year, George, beloved husband of the late Margaret, nee McKnight, loving father of Lorraine, Caroline, Michael, Donald, Valerie and Lilian, papa and great-grandpapa and a much loved brother. Sadly missed. Funeral will take place at St Oran's Church, Connel, on Saturday, January 24, at 10.30am, thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations, if desired, for Alzheimer Scotland (Oban and Lorne Branch).

FOYLE - Ann Judith Foyle passed away peacefully, at Oban Hospice, on January 12, 2015, after bravely facing cancer, aged 69. Much loved mother of Suzanne, she will be sorely missed by all who knew her. A memorial service will be arranged at a later date. Donations in memory of Ann to be sent to Cancer Research.

GRAHAM - On January 19, 2015, peacefully at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, Flora Graham, nee McDougall, in her 87th year, beloved wife of the late Dugald Graham, much loved mother of Sandra, Kenneth, Deirdre and the late Dugald John, a dearly loved granny and great granny. Funeral service at Glassary Church, Kilmichael, on Friday, January 23 at 12.00 noon, interment thereafter at Achnabreac Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland.

GRAHAM - Peacefully, at Rosepark Care Home, Uddingston, on Saturday, January 17, 2015, Mary, beloved wife of the late Dugald Graham, formerly of North Lodge, Ormsary and Oakcliffe, Ardrishaig. Funeral service will be held at Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Friday, January 23 at 11.00am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, will be taken for Mary's Meals.

HODGSON - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 17, 2015, Margaret Morran Wareham, in her 85th year, 18 Hall Street, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Eric Hodgson, much loved mother of James and Louise Smith and a much loved grandmother. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery, to which all friends and family are respectfully invited.

MACARTHUR - Peacefully, at Ardfenaig Residential Home, Ardrishaig, on January 20, 2015, Effie MacArthur, aged 81 years, of 21 Dewar Avenue, Lochgilphead, beloved daughter of the late Donald and Elizabeth (Bessie) MacArthur and loving sister of Betty, Walter and the late Donald. A dear sister-in-law, aunt and cousin to all the family. Funeral service will be held in Lorne Street Funeral Parlour, Lochgilphead, on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 11.00am, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery.

MARTIN - Peacefully, at Moorburn Manor, Largs, Margaret, much loved wife of the late Malcolm, loving mother of John, Kathryn and Calum and granny of Kerry, Jamie, Duncan and Lachlann. Private funeral in Ayrshire.

STEWART - Alexander (Alistair), July 18, 1930 - January 13, 2015. Sadly passed away in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Doreen for sixty years, loved father of son Robert and daughter Suzanne and grandfather to Michael and Daniel Stewart. He leaves his sister Jessie Graham, brother James and their families. His ashes will be brought to Campbeltown at a future date for interment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LAMONT - John, Kenny and their families would like to extend their thanks to friends, neighbours and work colleagues for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following the recent sad passing of Norrie. Our sincere thanks to local police and ambulance staff for their efforts. Our thanks are also extended to Rev Hilda Smith for a comforting service and a most fitting tribute to Norrie; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for caring and efficient arrangements; and to the Stag Hotel for fine purvey. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at church and graveside to pay their respects, especially Norrie's work colleagues, whose kindness and support was greatly appreciated.

MCVICAR - David, Margaret, Helen and families would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for kind expressions of sympathy, cards and phone calls following the loss of Margaret, their dear mum, nan and great gran. The family's sincerest gratitude is conveyed to all nursing care and doctors in attendance to Margaret over the past years for all the dedicated care and kindness provided to her. Very special thanks to Canon Keith Pagan for a most personal and comforting

service and to Alasdair Blair for his dignified professional services. Thank you also to the Ardshiel Hotel, Campbeltown for the excellent funeral tea and to all who attended the church and graveside to pay their respects. The collection at St Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church, for the Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital, raised £304.06.

IN MEMORIAMS

HALL - Remembering a dear mum, nana and mother-in-law, Maggie, died January 23, 2006. No longer in our lives to share. But in our hearts you're always there. - Marina, Craig, Rhian and Walter xxx.
HARKNESS - In memory of Chris, a loving husband, dad, father-in-law and papa, who died January 20, 2000. - From Ellen and family.
JENKINS - In loving memory of our daughter, Margaret, passed away January 26, 2013. The depths of sorrow we cannot tell. Of the loss of one we loved so well. And while she sleeps a peaceful sleep. Her memory we shall always keep. - Mum, Dad and family.
LEESMOFFAT - In loving memory of Captain John Leesmoftat, who died January 21, 2014. Always so good, unselfish and kind, None on this earth your equal I'll find, Honourable and true in all your ways, Loving and faithful to the end of your days. Honest and liberal, ever upright, Just in your judgement, always right, Loved by your friends and all whom you knew, One in a million that husband was you. One year has passed, our hearts are still sore, As time rolls on we miss you more, A loving father, tender and kind, What beautiful memories you left behind. - Margaret, Elizabeth-Isla (Poppy), Daniel, Mathilda and Zephyr.

MCLELLAN - Loving memories of a much loved mum and nana, Agnes, who died on January 23, 2000. Mum, it's fourteen years since you were taken away. But you're loved and remembered every day. - Loving daughters Margaret, Sandra and families.
MUIR - Fondest memories of a dear mum, gran and great gran, Bessie, died January 22, 2011. Always in our thoughts. - Jean, Jessie and family.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

Scottish Episcopal Churches Everyone Welcome
Christ Church
Bishopotn Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sundays
11.00 am Eucharist service
4th Sunday of the month 10am Mattins
& 11am Eucharist Service
Coffee & Cake follows the service
St Columba's, Pultalloch, nr Kilmartin (SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month 9am Eucharist service
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Scottish Prayer Book
All Saints, Inveraray (SC025646)
Saturdays 5.30pm Eucharist Service
Father Simon Mackenzie
Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
ST KIERAN'S CAMPBELTOWN
Saturday 5pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome (SCO002876)

WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Services 25th January 2015 - all welcome!
- - -
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Moming Service
in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
- - -
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Moming Service
in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 25th January
Sunday Worship
Ford 11.45 am
Rev. C. Acklam
Congregational Board Date of next meeting
Tuesday 27th January 2015 at 7.30pm
A new loop hearing system has been installed.
All welcome
SC0 02121

free church of scotland
George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 25th January
11.15am Worship Service
Calum Ferguson
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 28th January
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
2.00pm - 4.00pm Water of Life Café
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.com
Scottish Charity Number: SCO09980

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 25 January
Tayvallich Church 10 am
Moming Worship
Rev. C. Acklam
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 25 January 2015
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: Mrs. Heather Allen
"Worship in the Wilderness"
Thursday 29 January 2015
7.30pm
Praise, prayer & sharing
All Welcome

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT:
Tarbert 10.00am, located on School Road.
Lochgilphead 11.30am, located on Lochnell Street/Manse Brae
Minister: Rev. R Macleod
Prayer Time (fortnightly)
Mondays 1.15 - 1.45pm
Ladies Bible Study 2pm
Soup Lunch Monthly (last Thursday)
All welcome.

lochgilphead baptist church
All Welcome
Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 25th January 2015
11.00am
with communion
Monday 26th
2.30pm
Ladies Meeting
Rev. Walter Ritchie
Kilmartin
mainly music
Tuesday at 10am
Jumpstart
Friday from 10am
Scottish Charity SC015187

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2015
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
Every Tuesday
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Bumps, Babies and Toddlers
Every Wednesday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Drop-In Cafe
All Welcome
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 25th January
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
10.45am Holy Communion
All Welcome
Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

Highland Parish Church
SC002493
Sunday 25th January
The service is in the Church at 11.15am and will be led by Elizabeth Kennedy.
Badminton Club meets in Kirk Street Hall on Tuesday
Primary 1 - 5: 6.30 - 7.30pm
Primary 6 - 7: 7.30 - 8.30pm
Everyone very welcome

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 25th January
11.15 am Service
Creche Triple C Next Generation
Rev. P Wallace
Monday 26th January
Messy Church 3.45 - 5.30pm
Guild 7.30pm New Hall
Tuesday 27th January
Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am
Boys' Brigade Church Hall
Anchor Boys 6pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Thursday 29th January
Choir 7.30pm
Friday 30th January
Lunch Club 12noon New Hall

The Salvation Army Campbeltown Corps
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Worship
Tuesday
12.15pm Lunch Club
1.30pm Home League
Wednesday
7.00pm The Make & Munch Mob
Thursday
7.30pm Bible Study & Prayer
Lt. Mark Scoutinging

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 25th January 2015
11.00am Family Service with Communion with crèche
Pastor Ross Ferguson
4.00pm Service in Lorne Campbell Court
Wednesday 28th January
10am Toddlers Group
7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
For details and other enquiries contact Pastor Ross Ferguson
01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Service
11.00 am
with Sunday School
followed by refreshments
Baby & Toddler Group
10.00 - 11.45 am
every Thursday (term-time)
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

Campbeltown Community Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Scotland SC043322
For Funeral Directors Blair, MacDonald and Lupton please turn to page 23.



Under seven winners were delighted with their medals and trophies. All Photos: N Adams McGilp



Girls who did well in all the competitions: Kirstin Blair, 9, Jilly Lefebvre, 10 and Eilidh Cameron, 9.



Taking on the next generation, Bill MacCallum gives advice to this young competitor.

Sportshall Athletics - a big success

Continued from page 28

The under-13 boys provided the most competitive category and only 1.5 points separated champion Archie Spencer, from Craobh Haven, and runner-up Alfie Smith from Tayvallich.

Archie won the long and triple jumps and also the shot putt with 9.50 metres. Alfie won 3lap race in a close finish and his best event was the high jump winning with 1.40metres which was one of the top performances of the day.

Other winners in this section were Jake Gillespie who left older boys in his wake to win the 6lap race in 49.2 seconds and Peter Adair who won the speed bounce with 75 jumps in 30 seconds.

Donald Ferguson won the under 15s contest ahead of Joseph Harper with both boys each winning three events.

Donald won both the high and long jumps in addition to the shot putt and Joseph won the 6lap, triple jump and speed bounce.

Liam Scott and Theo Maddox contested the under 17s title, with Liam winning five events including an amazing 20.2 seconds in

the 3lap race. Theo won the high jump and triple jump with a respectable 7.18metres.

Successful athletes from Sunday's competition will be invited to compete in the Argyll Final to be held at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Saturday, March 21.

Qualifiers for the Argyll final will be advised by letter through the local club or their school in early March.

Results: Under 7 Girls - 1 Jemma MacDonald; 2 Jeorga MacDonald; 3 Catriona Johnstone, 4 Anya Banaghan.

Under 9 Girls - 1 Alice Adair; 2 Ruby Phillips; 3 Holly Gilthor-

pe, 4= Jody Sansom, 4= Kyra Robertson'

Under 11 Girls - 1 Jilly Lefebvre; 2 Kirsten Blair; 3 Eilidh Cameron; 4 Hannah Young; 5 Tilly Cunningham.

Under 13 Girls - 1 Rachael Johnstone. Under 17 Girls - 1 Bethan Lemmon; 2 Freya Corner; 3 Olivia Kerr.

Under 7 Boys - 1 Sam Gillespie; 2 Euan McCartan, 3 Andrew Ritchie.

Under 9 Boys - 1 Murray MacDonald; 2 James Campbell; 3 Stuart Phillips; 4 Callum Green; 5= Rhys Coffield; 5= Struan Urquhart.

Under 11 Boys - 1 Nei-

ly Russell; 2 Ben Maddox; 3 Arran Robertson; 4= Logan Allan; 4= Gregor Brown; 6 Ruairaidh Green.

Under 13 Boys - 1 Archie Spencer; 2 Alfie Smith; 3 Shaun Doy; 4 Jake Gillespie; 5 Peter Adair; 6 Felix Maddox.

Under 15 Boys - 1 Donald Ferguson; 2 Joseph Harper; 3 Eoin Yuill.

Under 17 Boys - 1 Liam Scott; 2 Theo Maddox.

All the above athletes qualify for the Argyll Final to be held at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Saturday, 21st March starting at 1pm with registration from noon.



Standing start for the jumps proved a feat of endurance for some competitors.

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West coast sailing and much more

David Adams McGilp, Argyll regional director VisitScotland:

'MOST people who enjoy messing about in boats hope that a stormy winter heralds a good summer, permitting many hours of pleasure on the water.

'I am one of them, forever optimistic that perfect weather conditions will coincide with spare time.

'It rarely happens that way, but even poor days can be made better by the wealth of improvements that have been made up and down the west coast over the last couple of decades.

'New and upgraded marinas and transit facilities have made it much easier for the majority of recreational boaters to plan passages and spend longer periods ashore, satisfied that their pride and joy is secured to a sturdy and sheltered pontoon.

'Frequent and varied experiences ashore appeal to everyone, even the saltiest of skippers, and offer wel-

come breaks from doing everything at an angle of 30 degrees.

'Towns, villages and tiny settlements that welcome visitors arriving by boat have an opportunity to make the most of a growing market.

'While a core of resident pleasure craft exists at most locations, recent years have seen significant growth in recreational sea angling, kayak, canoe and board activities.

These enthusiasts are always on the lookout for places that can accommodate their basic needs, and there are any number of communities that could develop local specialisms.

'A place to be able to launch and recover small boats is immediately improved by nearby space to park cars and trailers.

'If there is a shop, pub or restaurant on the scene, so much the better, but they need to be open. Business opportu-

nities may well exist on site for secure storage of boats and equipment, and the supply of basic, relevant goods and services.

'We are lucky to have such a network of places with facilities for visiting boats and crews, and Scotland is the envy of other international destinations. Partnerships exist across the country, dedicated to celebrating some of the best marine environments in the world, and to understanding these assets as foundations for economic recovery and growth.

'Accommodating diverse sector requirements is essential, and some communities already manage the co-existence of commercial and recreational interests quite successfully.

'What's good for one sector can very often provide benefits for others. For example, cruise liner passengers will be more likely to explore



Marine tourism is a growth market with companies like Seafari leading the way. The Seafari boat above is at the Corryvreckan whirlpool.

destinations if it's easy for them to disembark; and, if they are afforded a warm welcome, will be much more inclined to return as independent travellers with more time and money to

spend. Visitors respond to events and festivals in much the same way and, as long as they meet or exceed consumer expectations, can function as investments in the future.

'I am already looking forward to visiting some beautiful, friendly and welcoming places around the coast this year. In perfect sunshine and a steady breeze, of course.'

Third time lucky for Red Star?

RED STAR will be looking to cause an upset tomorrow (Saturday) when they welcome Premier League side Haldane United to Lochgilphead in the first round of the Jimmy Marshall Cup.

The tie had been scheduled for the past two Saturdays but the severe weather saw the match postponed both times. The hosts will be well aware of the quality of opposition they face and will be looking to improve on an 8-0 defeat by Oban Saints at this stage of the competition last year. The match will take place at either the Ropework or the Joint Campus and will kick off at 2pm.

SAFL fixtures

ALL SAFL games were postponed last Saturday due to the weather.

This weekend's fixtures: West of Scotland Cup 4th round - Harestanes v Oban Saints; Jimmy Marshall Cup 1st round - Campbeltown Pupils v Dunoon Athletic; Lochgilphead Red Star v Haldane United. Coronation Cup 1st round - Rossvale v Tarbert.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2750

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
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We have removed the football from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 10 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons. The game starts with a jackpot of £250 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright.

To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball.

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

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

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

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



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The top six high jump winners in the Lochgilphead heats for the Argyll Sportshall competition, (left to right). Girls: second place Kirstin Blair, 9, first Jilly Lefebvre, 10, third Eilidh Cameron, 9. Boys: second Arran Robertson, 10, first Neily Russell, 11 and third Gregor Brown, 10. All Sportshall Athletic photos by N Adams McGilp.

Three hours of action at Sportshall Athletics

MID ARGYLL Athletic Club held its annual indoor competition in the games hall and gymnasium at the joint campus school in Lochgilphead last Sunday.

This event was the first of a series of local area competitions being held in Argyll this winter.

There were several impressive performances throughout the three hours of action and one of the stars was Jilly Lefebvre from Kilmichael Glassary, and a pupil at Lochgilphead primary, who was the overall winner in the under 11 age group.

Jilly won five out of the seven events excelling in the six lap race recording an impressive time of 51.1 seconds. Jilly was the Argyll champion in this

age group last year and she will be hard to beat again this year. Jilly broke the Argyll age record in the javelin throwing 17 metres and adding 50cm to the old record. She also won the three jumping events including a 1.15metres high jump and she could have gone higher if time allowed.

Runner up

Kirsten Blair, from Crinan, was runner up in this section winning the three lap race in 24.7 and shared first place with Jilly in the speed bounce.

Eilidh Cameron from Inveraray was a close third on overall points.

There was family success for the Macdonald clan with Jemma winning the under 7s contest and older brother

Murray was the under 9 champion.

Jemma won four events including an excellent 65.9 seconds run in the six lap race. Jemma's twin sister Jeorga was runner-up ahead of Catriona Johnstone.

Alice Adair, from Kilmartin, was the under 9 champion winning six events with some style especially in the two running events and high jump. Ruby Phillips, from Glassary school was second overall and Holly Gilthorpe from Lochgilphead was in third place.

Considering the numbers attending weekly training the entry in the girls under 13 and under 15 age groups was very disappointing but the under 17s provided an interesting competi-

tion with Bethan Lemon winning ahead of Freya Corner and Olivia Kerr.

Bethan won the two running events in addition to the long jump and shot putt. Freya impressed in winning the high jump clearing 1.46metres and Olivia won the speed bounce and standing triple jump clearing 6.78metres and only 12cm short of the long standing Argyll age record.

Excellent

Sam Gillespie, Lochgilphead, was the under seven champion winning both the three lap and six lap races and also the standing long jump stretching out to 1.50 metres, an excellent distance for his age.

Murray MacDonald dominated in the under

nine age group winning six out of seven events. Murray looked strong in winning the 3lap and 6lap races and his winning distance of 4.50metres in the standing triple jump impressed the judges. James Campbell won the javelin ensuring he finished second on overall points.

Neily Russell from Lochgilphead and Ben Maddox from Kilmartin filled the top two places in the under 11s. Champion Neily won the 3lap race and high and long jumps, while Ben was winner of the six lap in an impressive 52.7 seconds and also the javelin throwing 17 metres. Arran Robertson was third overall helped by a win in the triple jump.

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One of the officials gets ready to measure this attempt in the standing long jump.



A good crowd of spectators turned up to watch the children in action at Lochgilphead Joint Campus.

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