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Extra cash for Rest – but no permanent solution in sight

TRANSPORT minister Derek Mackay has announced more cash for debris fencing at the Rest – but with memories still fresh of a landslide in which a car came perilously close to tumbling into Glen Croe, it has received a lukewarm welcome in Argyll.

Speaking earlier this week at the latest meeting of the A83 taskforce, Mr Mackay announced £4 million of Scottish Government funding for further landslide mitigation measures at the Rest and Be Thankful as part of a wider £6.6 million investment in the A83 trunk road.

New measures will include widening the Old Military Road local diversion route; enhancing debris netting; and other improvements at various points along the route. The total investment in landslide mitigation at the Rest and Be Thankful is now

REPORT By COLIN CAMERON
 editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

£13.5 million. The announcement comes just over three weeks after a car being driven by a Lochgilphead woman was caught by a landslide at the Rest, and pushed towards the steep drop at the side of the trunk road, only to be left perched on top of a roadside barrier. The driver said later that she felt 'lucky to be alive'.

Positive

Speaking after the A83 taskforce meeting, Derek Mackay said: 'I felt the meeting today was positive, constructive and challenging. Local people and elected members have strong opinions and they came to ensure that there is continuity of access and that there is a solution, so I am doing my best to deliver that.'

Asked whether the recent road accident had

resulted in an increased emphasis on health and safety at the Rest, Mr Mackay replied: 'There is risk on the roads, of course there is, but I am focused on safety and on measures that will make a difference, deliver continuity of access and ensure the rest of the country hears that this wonderful area is open for business.'

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for roads, Councillor Ellen Morton, commented: 'We are committed to doing all that we as a local authority can do - but it is only that Scottish Government that can deliver a permanent solution. We need to find the best practical, affordable solution that we can.'

Councillor Donald Kelly, of political group Argyll First,



Transport Minister Derek Mackay announced an extra £4 million for the Rest. 06_a05derekmackay03

which lodged a government petition in December 2014 calling for a permanent solution at the Rest, said: 'While additional capital may continue to ease problems, it is still a sticking plaster approach and is

not what our communities want or need. At last week's council meeting we asked the council to write directly to the Scottish Government in support of our petition, and this was supported unanimously. We will

not rest until this issue is resolved.'

Writing in today's *Advertiser* (see page six), Inveraray's Donald Clark states: 'This investment is greatly appreciated, but is this wisely spent?'

'The previous investment has helped to avoid many road closures and danger to the travelling public but still does not fully protect this vital artery.'

See page three for more on this story.



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Controlling gulls and other problem birds

ARGYLL and Bute Council is to provide advice on controlling gulls and other birds that cause problems.

Councillors are regularly told about feral gulls and pigeons causing problems by nesting on properties and harassing people during nesting season.

At a recent meeting of the council's planning, protective services and licensing committee, the problem and a range of solutions were discussed and it was decided that offering an advice service would be the best course of action.

The council will now develop guidance and information on how to minimise problems caused by wild birds which will be widely available.



Money will help build play area

FUNDING awarded to a Mid Argyll community group will contribute to the cost of a play area for youngsters.

Craignish Community Company (C3), based in Ardfern, received £300 from the GALAXY Hot Chocolate Fund this month.

C3 is a charity run by a team of nine volunteers and aims to tackle economic, social and environmental issues in the local community.

It works in partnership with other bodies and local people to run projects to benefit the local community.

Jan Brown, secretary and director of C3, said: 'Currently there is not a safe place for younger members of the community to meet-up and play.'

'One of our current projects, 'Rosemary's Plot', involves fundraising to pur-

chase a plot of land adjacent to the local school. This donation from the Hot Chocolate Fund will contribute toward the cost of buying the plot to provide the community with a new playing field.'

Hot Chocolate helps small community groups and char-

ities across the UK and Ireland by donating cash awards to support projects. The 2016 fund is open for applications until February 28. Every week five successful applicants will be awarded £300. Go to www.galaxyhotchocolate.com.

Popular Depute Provost ousted at Kilmory

THE DEPUTE provost at Argyll and Bute Council has been ousted from his position after 'failing to communicate' with the Provost and the leadership team on amendments he was bringing to the chamber.

Dougie Philand only became aware of the move while on the front bench at last Thursday's council meeting.

In a last minute paper presented to councillors, it was revealed that three members of the current front-bench team were being removed because they had 'chosen to walk away from the administration'. Iain Angus MacDonald and

Donald Kelly were also removed from committee positions.

The senior auditor from the Accounts Commission, who was in the chamber, held his head in his hands as councillors spent more than an hour discussing Councillor Philand's removal.

Many councillors said the removal of Councillor Philand went against the commitment within the local authority to work across the whole chamber.

Councillor Donald Kelly said: 'For anyone to vote to remove the deputy provost from his post would be detrimental to the whole council.

These papers lead me to think this council has not changed in any way shape or form.'

But Councillor Vivien Dance said: 'Members in the chamber are vindictive. If you speak against the council you are not trusted and are put out. I wonder in what way that means we are working together?'

Councillor Philand said he was extremely disappointed in the way he had been treated and that it was a real concern that people would not behave like adults when there was hard business to be done.

Councillor Philand

was also ousted from the membership of the health and social care integration board where he was overseeing the merge of services provided by NHS Highland and Argyll and Bute Council.

Councillor Philand has 37 years experience in both general nursing and as a manager in the health board.

He was replaced by Maurice Corry, a councillor from Helensburgh.

Right: Douglas Philand has been ousted as depute provost.



Police files

Careless driving

A MAN has been charged with allegedly driving carelessly in Mid Argyll.

The charge came after police responded to a report of a car overtaking another vehicle, which allegedly caused an oncoming car and to take evasive action to avoid a collision.

A 54-year-old was later traced and charged following the incident that took place on Tuesday January 19 at 11.15am on the A83 near to Dunderave Castle. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Tachograph offence

A LORRY driver was charged with allegedly not taking enough rest time, following a routine check.

Police stopped the driver of the lorry at

2.30pm on Tuesday January 19 on the A83 near to Furnace.

The 22-year-old man driving the vehicle was allegedly found to have committed the offence in October last year.

A report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Possession of drugs

TWO men have been charged with allegedly possessing a quantity of a class C drug.

The men aged 22 and 28 were stopped and searched in a van on the A83 near to Inveraray at 5.30pm on Saturday January 23, where they were found to be in possession of a substance believed to be cannabis.

A report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Arrest follows disturbance

POLICE who respond-

ed to a disturbance call in Tarbert at the weekend later arrested a woman.

The incident was reported at 6pm on Saturday January 23 at a house on Bruce Hill in the village.

They later arrested and charged a 20-year-old woman with alleged abusive behaviour.

A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Inveraray assault

A REPORT will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal after police arrested a man for assault.

The incident took place at 12.50pm on Sunday January 24 when a man was allegedly punched in the face by another man within a hotel in the town.

Police officers who attended the incident carried out enquires and later that day a 35-year-

old man was arrested.

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

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Sally Loudon appointed new COSLA chief

AFTER announcing she will leave for a new job in May, chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council Sally Loudon, has said there is still work to do before her departure.

Ms Loudon was chosen by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities' (COSLA) staffing committee to fill the position of chief executive, after its current chief Rory Mair retires today (Friday). She will move to the post in May this year, and in a message to council employees, she said: 'This council benefits from hard working, skilled and dedicated employees and I know you will continue to achieve change where it is needed.'

'There is a lot of work still to be done before I leave but I wanted to thank you for all we have been able to achieve together.'

Ms Loudon has been in post for seven years and is 'honoured' to have had the opportunity to work in the area Argyll.

Council leader Dick Walsh said: 'Sally has guided us through times of challenge and change, and has played a significant part in opening up new opportunities for our organisation and, of course, the communities we serve.'

Councillor David O'Neill, COSLA President and chairman of the staffing committee, said: 'I am delighted to announce that Sally Loudon has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of COSLA.'

'Open minded' Minister rejects Clark's Rest canopy proposal

DONALD Clark, proprietor of the George Hotel, Inveraray, is pressing for a 300 metre reinforced concrete canopy to be constructed over the A83 at the top of the Rest.

Mr Clark attended Monday's meeting of the A83 Taskforce in Arrochar to state his case.

Speaking afterwards, he said: 'We welcome, of course, the extra investment in the Rest, but it is still just mitigation, not protection.'

REPORT By COLIN CAMERON
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

In a letter to *The Advertiser* – see page 6 – Mr Clark writes: 'I have consistently argued that a simple, safe, open sided flow-over canopy (closed outer edge at the top three gullies) be easily cut into the hillsides, giving a four metre wide single carriageway relief road, activated at high landslide alert times. These three dangerous gullies are on a 300 metre section

of The Rest and be Thankful.'

The cost of such a canopy has been estimated by Mr Clark to be around £4 million.

Working with retired civil engineer, John Reid, Mr Clark has come up with an outline sketch of his proposed canopy.

Mr Clark's letter goes on: 'Transport Scotland have ruled this out on a cost basis.'

'They have produced

an overly complicated design stretching to 1.2 km at a cost between £105-£120 million.'

As he left the taskforce meeting, Transport Minister Derek MacKay was asked what he thought of Mr Clark's idea.

Costs

He replied: 'We discussed that, and I don't actually think his particular proposal addresses the issue, because we scoped-out where all the incidents have been and it wouldn't actually

protect every part of the road. I would also challenge the costs. I am surrounded by engineers who tell me that there is no way that such a structure could be built for four or five million pounds. It [the canopy option] wouldn't be cost-effective.'

'Looking at cost-benefit analysis, you don't spend hundreds of millions of pounds without knowing what the benefits are.'

'I think it's wrong to say that all the risk is in just one small section,

and by focusing on this it resolves the issue and is a permanent solution.'

'No, it's not, because incidents and landslips have happened at various locations, and there are other issues such as flooding, so I think we should have a range of measures.'

'That's why I think a tunnel or a canopy at one point is not the solution.'

'I think the other measures will make a difference, but I remain open minded about any proposal put to me.'

No funds could spell end of project

A PROJECT that has been monitoring the misuse of alcohol in Mid Argyll could end if it does not secure funding by March.

Community Action Mid Argyll (CAMA) project, delivered by Encompass in Ardrishaig, has been running for two years. Intended to run for three years, it received £66,000 from the Robertson Trust.

The funds were withdrawn after Argyll and Bute Council's Alcohol and Drug Partnership awarded a new contract to Addaction, at the end of 2014, to tackle alcohol and drug abuse in Argyll.

Peter Garrett, manager of Encompass, said: 'Our project is about empowering individu-

al areas to come up with ways to tackle substance abuse in their communities. Following the changeover in addiction services we understood the trust's decision to withdraw funding in the project's final year.'

Peter and his colleague John Woods, project co-ordinator, have spent the past 12 months tightening the belt.

The pair have dedicated their time voluntarily to the project and have also created a community hub, with private space for counselling sessions, computer access and a meeting area. Peter and John have also been working with Mid Argyll Youth Development service to provide a space for Ardrishaig's first youth club.

Anyone using the office space, on Glenburn Road, is asked to make a donation which helps Peter and John cover daily running costs.

Now, Peter is working to secure funding and is applying to The Robertson Trust once again. He also hopes community groups will be keen to support the hub and the tackling of alcohol and drug misuse in the area. If they cannot secure funding by April the project and community hub will be no more.

Although it is a worrying time for their project, the pair remain optimistic. Peter said: 'I am confident we have a shot at securing funding. We have proven that we are dedicated and

will do what it takes to make this work. We are also hopeful Ardrishaig Community Trust might be able to come up with something.'

The team needs around £26,000 to carry out phase three of the CAMA project.



John Woods, left, and Peter Garrett are determined to carry on. 08_a0hub01

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Bistro boom for the Fisher family

AFTER six months in business a Lochgilphead bistro owner tells how it has become quite a family affair.

John Fisher, owner of the Smiddy Bistro on Smiddy Lane, Lochgilphead, took over in June 2015 and has turned the lunch time cafe into a

fine dining restaurant for families in Mid Argyll.

John, the head chef in the restaurant, has enlisted the help of his son, who is also a chef, John Jnr, daughter Arran, and wife Catriona to help him.

He said: 'My son John

works at The Chestnuts Hotel in Ayr. It is a prestigious place and he runs the kitchen there.

'John started with me in November and works Friday and Saturday nights, to support me when we get really busy.

'We get on well and

make a good team. We really bounce off each other.

'My wife works in the office and manages the accounts and laundry, which is a great help. Arran comes in to help on evenings and weekends, when she has time off school.

'I want to be here for a long time and I'd like to keep the business in the family now.'

John Snr admits that the first six months have been times of trial and error, but he has found most of the changes he has made have worked well and broadened the clientele.

He said: 'One of the big changes we have made is that we are open on a Sunday, this is a big deal because not many places, around here, are.

'My Sunday roast has proven popular with customers, old and new, and I want to continue to please those who have supported me in

the transition.'

Although the former pub chef has put his own touch on a new menu he is always willing to take specific requests and try to meet them. John said: 'I cater for gluten-free, dairy-free and if I can adapt the menu on request I do. Everything here is made from scratch, including the desserts, which I think surprises people sometimes.

'I also support local businesses by trying to source meat, fish and groceries from shops in Lochgilphead in particular. It's really handy as well, because if I run out of anything I can pop round the corner without waiting on big deliveries coming from afar.'

A series of themed nights, such as Italian, Indian, Mexican are coming up soon so go to the Facebook page www.facebook.com/Smiddy-Bis-



From left: Waitresses Arran Fisher and Alix McKinlay with young chef John Jnr. 06_a05smiddy01



John Snr in the kitchen at the Smiddy Bistro. 06_a05smiddy02

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Big plans for Inveraray Community Hall

PLANS to redevelop Inveraray Community Hall were laid out for the public to view last Saturday, and scores of locals took the opportunity to have their say.

The group leading the project, Inveraray Community Company (ICC), hosted the event at Inveraray Church Hall, with Andy Davey of Simpson and Brown architects in attendance to answer any technical questions.

Simpson and Brown were commissioned to carry out an options appraisal on the run-down community centre - the former Inveraray Public School built between 1906 and 1907.

The architects came up with three broad alternative approaches:

- Retaining and re-developing the original building.

- Retaining only the front facade and re-building behind this.

- Demolishing the

REPORT By COLIN CAMERON
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



Councillors Sandy Taylor, left and Donnie MacMillan review the plans for a new Inveraray community facility. 06_a05invcommco02

existing structure with entirely new build.

After discussions with the community company and wider consultation, it was decided that option one (use existing building) and three (demolish and rebuild) were too inhibiting and

too extreme, respectively.

The preferred option - to retain the facade facing the church and otherwise rebuild - is now being developed.

The new centre would include a large multi-purpose hall for

sports, functions and the like along with two smaller halls, kitchen, changing room and a meeting room. The plans feature seated outside terraced areas to front and back of the building.

Andy Davey said: 'The community hall sits on a central site in a very important planned town, and deserves much better.'

'The potential for creating a community hub here is enormous.'

'Although the old school building is not listed, it is in a conservation area and has been recognised as having heritage value - so the frontage does have recognisable value, but not in its present state. And though the retention of the frontage adds to the costs, it will help to lever-in other funds.'

He continued: 'The overwhelming response from people who came along to the exhibition

has been really positive. People want a new community facility, and will gain a building which will offer all sorts of public benefits, helping to invigorate the community.'

Attending the exhibition were Mid Argyll councillors, Donnie MacMillan and Sandy Taylor. Councillor MacMillan said: 'I would like to congratulate the people who have taken this project so far, and I'm quite sure it will be an outstanding success.'

Sandy Taylor added: 'I'm delighted to see that the proposals that have come forward involve the redevelopment of the existing site rather than going somewhere else. I'm also pleased that this is part-funded by CARS money, which is administered by the council. Also, the new community centre would be an ideal place to hold council meetings, as In-

veraray is so central.' Adrian Davis, chairman of ICC, explained: 'We will take away the views expressed by people here today. There might be a strong bias towards or against one of the proposals presented, and that will inform the final development of a single preferred design to be used to apply for further funding.'

'The amount of com-

munity support is clearly evident today, and that is vital to future funding applications.'

On the subject of funding, the community company announced at the exhibition that it has been awarded £8,000 from Awards for All Scotland, helping to purchase the community centre site and pursue additional sources of funds.



With the neglected community centre in the background, architect Andy Davey, second left, flanked by community company trustees Adrian Davis, Martyn Webster and Cathy McInnes. 06_a05invcommco03



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PRE-REGISTERED

2015 (15) Peugeot 208 1.2 VTI Active Petrol



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FOLLOWING the latest pledge by the Scottish Government to spend a further £4million on debris fencing, it is no wonder the people of Argyll feel deflated.

A woman almost died, in what must have been a harrowing experience when hundreds of tonnes of debris fell from the Rest and Be Thankful. This poorly-thought suggestion is not the what the people want to hear.

The fencing seems to be causing a more hassle than it is worth, with the closure of the road every time there is a landslide to allow for the removal of the debris.

A canopy, proposed by Donald Clark, owner of the George Hotel in Inveraray, has been dismissed by the Transport Minister.

Despite Mr Clark's estimation that it would cost between £4 and £5million, the minister also stated that the canopy option is not the solution, but arguably neither are the proposed fences.

While the minister talks about Argyll staying 'open for business', some beg to wonder, does he know what the implications are following a landslide? Or what it is like to live in a place where there is only one road in and one out?

Mr Mackay also said that he remained open to proposals. Mid Argyll, get your thinking cap on.

The Argyllshire Advertiser wishes Sally Loudon at Argyll and Bute Council the very best on her new venture as Chief Executive with COSLA.

Meanwhile, *The Advertiser* is sorry to hear of the end of Councillor Douglas Philand's time as Depute Provost, and wishes him the best of luck for his future.

who's who at your argyllshire advertiser

Argyllshire Advertiser
Argyll Street
Lochgilphead
Argyll PA31 8NB
Tel: 01546 602345

Chief Reporter:

Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Reporters:

Amanda Crawford
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
Eala MacAlister
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Receptionist:

Lisa Smith
adverts@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Head Office:

Wyvex Media
Lochavullin Industrial Estate
Oban
PA34 4HB

opinion

e EMAIL

t TWITTER

f FACEBOOK

l LETTER

Time for solutions, not mitigation

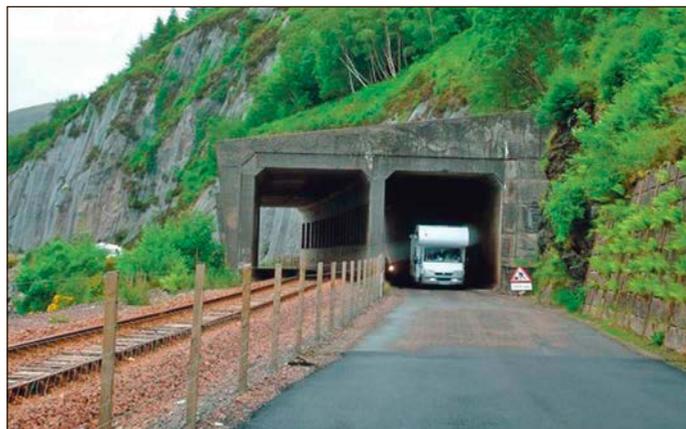
Sir,

I attended the A83 task force meeting in Arrochar on Monday, attended by Derek MacKay MSP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, where he announced £4 million funding to improve the Old Military Road diversion route and provide more improved netting to mitigate the effects of any future landslides on the Rest and be Thankful.

This investment is greatly appreciated, but is this wisely spent?

The previous investment has helped to avoid many road closures and danger to the travelling public but still does not fully protect this vital artery. Look at the incident on December 30 when a car was swept by a landslide on to the roadside barrier and was left straddling it; the car came perilously close to tumbling 300 feet down the hillside. Mitigation measures did not protect in this instance.

I have consistently argued that a simple, safe, open sided flow-over canopy (closed outer edge at the top three gullies) be cut into the hillsides, giving a four metre wide single carriageway relief road, activated at high landslide alert times. These three dangerous gullies are on a 300 metre section of The Rest and be Thankful. Transport Scotland have ruled this out on a cost basis. They have produced an overly complicated design stretching to 1.2 km at a cost between £105-£120 million. If the Dawlish sea wall and twin mainline railway tracks can be completely rebuilt at a cost of £35 million in eight weeks,



The shelter between Attadale and Stromferry.

then team at Transport Scotland has got its design and costings seriously wrong.

Another important fact is this 300m canopy would permanently protect this section; remove the steepest, most dangerous slope on the A83 from the equation; and avoid the mobilisation of 12-plus personnel and eight to 10 vehicles to operate the diversion route - which recently took 26 hours to activate due to safety concerns.

For much of December and early January this diversion route was only open during daylight hours.

It is time for solutions and not mitigation.

There are many thousands of tonnes lurking within these three gullies. Perhaps not a lucky escape next time.

Donald Clark,
George Hotel,
Inveraray.

Harangue leaders over the Rest

Sir,

I understand that the latest proposal by the Scottish Government for the Rest and be Thankful is -

1. More netting.

2. Improvements and/or making old military road two lanes partially or completely.

Regards the netting, it does not work as the recent near fatal accident illustrated.

The boulder that required to be removed, or any other boulder liable to come down could easily hit the old military road.

So both latest proposals do not provide a permanent, safe solution.

I enclose a photo of the Attadale shelter on the A890. A single lane type of shelter like this is what is required on the A83 on the 400m stretch where the major landslides have occurred. Donald Clark from Inveraray has been suggesting this for some time.

We need to spend our money wisely and the netting and military road have been temporary measures.

We now need to construct the permanent solution and not waste money on any more measures that are not safe.

All MSPs, our MP, councillors, businesses affected and users of the A83 need to write, telephone, email and harangue those in charge to do this and not waste any more money on unsafe measures.

Support the A83 task force

and start shouting about this before a life is lost.

John Reid,
23 Fernoch Crescent,
Lochgilphead

Appalling heating in Ardrishaig Hall

Sir,

I was privileged to attend a truly great performance by the three young musicians of the Beinn Artair Piano Trio on the afternoon of Saturday January 16 in Ardrishaig Public Hall.

In a concert organised by the Mid Argyll Arts Association it was one of the finest examples of professional musicianship we, in the audience, have enjoyed in many years.

However, the conditions in which these players were required to perform was nothing short of outrageous. The appalling heating arrangements in the hall meant that the audience, and particularly the performers, were subjected to positively Arctic conditions.

Does nobody understand one of the basic laws of physics that warm air rises? To place so called heaters high on the wall is beyond comprehension.

Although we, in the audience, suffered, I personally felt embarrassed for the players, particularly the pianist who, despite a portable heater, needed to frequently rub his hands to restore circulation.

This is insulting and nothing short of a disgrace.

I understand that a number of folk no longer attend dances there because of the conditions.

Come on Ardrishaig, pull your collective fingers out.

Fred Davies,
Tarbert.

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

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Call to MPs to back fishermen as protected area talks heat up

AS FISHERMEN protest against proposed Marine Protected Area (MPA) restrictions in the Firth of Clyde, a Tarbert businessman shared his views.

A protest went ahead at Holyrood on Wednesday, following The Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) call to local MPs to support communities that will be affected.

The proposals were initially launched in June 2015, but after countless objections the Scottish Government released a revised proposal.

Arguing

The SFF is arguing that the Scottish Government has not listened to the voices of people in communities that are going to be affected.

Tarbert, which has the biggest fleet on the west coast, Campbeltown and Carradale fishing communities are all facing uncertain futures, as the



Councillor John McAlpine to fight for the fishing community.

restrictions will threaten the livelihoods of families who have fished for

generations and the future of currently thriving businesses.

Tarbert man Ian Macintyre, owner of Ian Y Macintyre for 46 years, inherited the family business that he grew up with.

He said: 'The local fishermen reckon that the MPAs will put them out of business.'

'It is not just the fishermen, there are the processors on the land. And then the haulage companies that transport the likes of prawns that will be affected too.'

Worry

'The biggest worry is the proposals for Loch Fyne and the lower Clyde.'

The fishermen support MPAs, but not to the extent the government wants to impose them.

'It's the wider areas that are the problem. That is what will kill the fishing business.'

'Fishermen will have to go further afield and then will be affected by weather conditions,

some say they may as well give up if the restrictions are imposed. As for Tarbert, tourism isn't strong enough on its own to keep it going.'

Councillor John McAlpine, of Tarbert, is determined to educate and involve councillors from Dunoon, Mid Argyll and Kintyre after taking a position on the Environment, Development and Infrastructure committee earlier this month.

He said: 'The proposals are a massive blow to the fishing community. They want to destroy fishing as we know it. If the restrictions are placed there will be almost no areas for fishing.'

Vacancy

'There is a lack of fishing expertise on the council just now and that is why I took the vacancy on the committee. 'It's no-one's fault, it's just that fishing is a dif-

ferent way of life and a lot of people don't know about it.'

'I intend to make sure Argyll councillors are aware of it.'

Bertie Armstrong, chief executive of the SFF, said: 'We fully support the concept of MPAs and have long campaigned for the need for conservation zones to meet core sustainability and environmental objectives.'

Agreed

'However, the South Arran MPA as it stands goes far beyond what was agreed upon during the initial consultation, which comprised a set of sensible measures that was even approved by the government's own statutory nature adviser, Scottish Natural Heritage, as being the preferred option for meeting the twin objectives of marine conservation and sustainable fishing.'

Mid Argyll pool closed for staff training

FAMILY fun sessions at Mid Argyll Community Swimming Pool today (Friday) have been cancelled.

The MACPool will be closed from 4pm until 5pm to allow time for staff training.

A spokesperson from the pool said: 'We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but we hope you understand the need for us to keep our staff up to date with their training.'

For more information go to the Mid Argyll Pool Facebook page or call 01546 606676.



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Post Office to close for refurbishment

A MID Argyll post office will close for two weeks next month as part of a refurbishment plan.

Some of the work that Lochgilhead Post Office on Argyll Street will undergo includes a 'vibrant' facelift and the re-positioning of two counters. The branch will also extend its opening hours when it reopens.

Damian Mulholland, area manager, said: 'We are making it easier for customers to get their cash, send and collect their mail and do their banking because we know how important these services are to local residents.'

'We are confident that this vibrant new-style Post Office at the heart of the local community will meet

customer needs. This modernisation is part of a major investment programme, the largest in the history of the Post Office and will secure services for the future. The investment marks a commitment to no more branch closure programmes.'

Opening hours will increase by four-and-a-half hours on Saturdays and new times will be

from 9am until 5:30pm Monday to Saturday.

The Lochgilhead office will close at 5.30pm on February 3 and will re-open on February 19 for the refurbishment to take place. During that time post office services will be available from the nearest branch, Ardrishaig Post Office on Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig.

Defibrillator training under way in village

TRAINING on how to use a defibrillator got under way in a Mid Argyll village after a woman raised more than £2,000 for the equipment.

Tayvallich resident Caroline Abernethy single-handedly raised the funds for the life-saving kit and is keen to let villagers know.

She said: 'We are so far out in Tayvallich that emergency services can

take some time to get here. There have been a few incidents over the past few years when a defibrillator could have been of use.'

The former nurse wants people in the village to feel confident about using the heart-starting machine and has enlisted the help of The Sandpiper Trust, which provided the defibrillator, to roll out the training programme.

The first training event took place on Wednesday this week in Tayvallich Village Hall.

The defibrillator will be situated outside the Tayvallich shop, which means it will always be accessible if it is needed.

Caroline is hoping to take a training course this year, which would enable her to deliver the training to people locally.

She said: 'I want people to come and see the device and want people to come forward for the training. The training is about giving people the confidence to use the defibrillator.'

Caroline also hopes she can set up a first responders team in the village, but is having a break just now after spending two years raising the £2,750 for the defibrillator.

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'Fair fa' yir honest, sonsie face'

IN A traditional tribute to the Scottish poet church members and guests flocked in to a Lochgilphead church hall on Saturday for a Burns Supper.

Almost 60 people attended the celebration of Robert Burns at Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall.

Young piper Jamie Baxter had the honour of leading the presentation of the haggis, before Ian Campbell addressed it.

After a three-course meal the audience enjoyed a medley of Burns songs and poems performed by John Summers, who played piano and Bob Miller, who played the fiddle.



Ian Davidson gave a speech and read The Immortal Memory to the eager audience.
06_a05lochburns02

The Immortal Memory was proposed by Ian Davidson, but was more an 'immoral' memory considering Burns' infidelities and turbulent love life.

There were light-hearted gender digs in the Toast to the Lassies proposed by Bruce Robertson and the response was delivered by Margaret Davidson.

Jim Morrison will be remembered for cavorting around the room during his rendition of *Holy Willie's Prayer*, to the tune of Stripper.

Everyone belted out some of Burns' greatest songs led firstly by *Auld Lang Syne*, which lit up the hall and made hairs stand on the necks of everyone there.



Ian Campbell addressed the haggis after piper Jamie Baxter led its presentation. 06_a05lochburns01

Lochgilphead Girl Guide's top award

A LOCHGILPHEAD volunteer followed in the footsteps of her mum and sister by receiving the highest accolade from Girlguiding Scotland at the weekend.

Former Lochgilphead High School pupil Zoe Lawrence, 20, was given the special achievement award at the Girlguiding Annual General Meeting on Saturday afternoon at the George Hotel in Inveraray.

She travelled the world to raise money for charities and to take part in diving and skiing adventures in an effort to secure the Queen's Guide Award.

Zoe, who started out her Girlguiding career at Ardrishaig Brownies in 2008, has been working towards the highest achieving available to her for the past few years.

She said: 'It is a big achievement and I am really proud to have it. It is really hard to get because there are a number of things you have to do to fit the criteria.'



Morag Smith presented the Queen's Guide Award to Zoe Lawrence. 06_a05guides05

'Now, I will continue volunteering. This is the last achievement until I get awarded for years of service.'

Zoe's older sister, Kirsten, was presented the Queen's Guide Award six years ago and mum Christine is the County Commissioner for Argyll.



Jenny Pendreigh was also awarded with her Leadership for Rainbows award at the event. 06_a05guides04

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Former committee members at Tarbert Senior Citizens Christmas Party. 06_a05seniors01

Tarbert senior citizens celebrate

ONE table of guests at the Tarbert Senior Citizens Christmas Party never thought they'd be sitting on the other side of the fence, after running the event for 12 years.

On Friday former committee members came together, as they do every year, at a back table in Tarbert Village Hall and enjoyed the celebrations.

Amongst them were Christine Dickson and Elma McGougan who

enjoyed reminiscing about the years they spent running the annual event.

When Christine took over as chairlady for the committee in 1968 she never thought she'd be sitting on the other side of the fence.

She said: 'It was a different time then, the committee was looking for new people to take over and I was in my late 20s at the time, so was young enough to take it on.'

'I was the on the committee the longest out of this table and with this group we had a committee of 12 people. We were all young and really mucked in. Even my husband used to run about and help us out picking up things here and there for the event.'

'In the beginning we had to beg, borrow and steal. Local restaurants and hotels would give us plates, chairs, cutlery. All of that kind of thing.'

The members faced all sorts of hiccups in the early years. Elma said: 'The first year we made the soup we burnt it because we didn't know we had to keep on stirring it. We were all just young and learning.'

When the former committee took over the event it was a 'small affair', with just 30 or 40 people attending. By the time they hung up their chef hats there were 150 people attending.

Christine was delighted to see a rise in the number of people to attend the event this year.

Christine Dickson said: 'For a few years it was quite quiet, with spaces at tables and it was a shame to see. There are quite a lot of new people this year and it has picked up again this year.'

Elma said: 'We did not think that we would ever sit down to the dinner. It is great sitting and enjoying it now.'



Christine Dickson holds an Argyllshire Advertiser from 2001 which reported one event she led. 06_a05seniors02



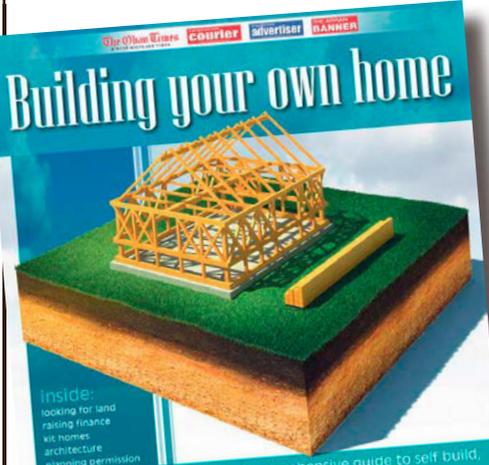
The current committee celebrated a successful evening. 06_a05seniors03



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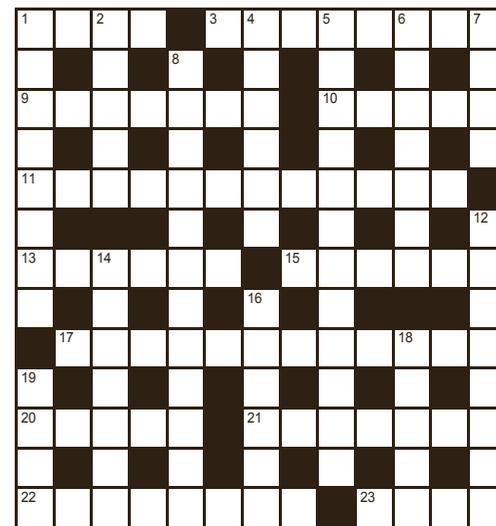
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GRADUATION



IONA MACINTYRE
Daughter of Lorraine and Angus MacIntyre, Ford, grand-daughter of James and Violet Brown, Ford, and the late Angus and Mary MacIntyre, graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a Bachelor of Nursing, Paediatrics. She has taken up a Staff Nurse post in Critical Care at Children's Hospital, Glasgow.

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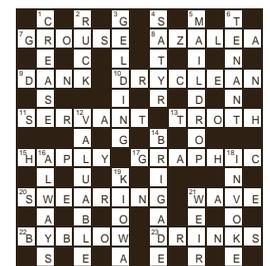
Across

- 1 Bar (4)
- 3 Etiquette (8)
- 9 Heartfelt (7)
- 10 Got up (5)
- 11 Binding that adheres without glue (8,4)
- 13 Strip for take-off (6)
- 15 Served between the starter and main (6)
- 17 A place to sit? (12)
- 20 Copy (5)
- 21 Radio frequency (7)
- 22 Not cold now (6,2)
- 23 Intelligence (4)

Down

- 1 Dairy (8)
- 2 Child (5)
- 4 Sell to the public (6)
- 5 Crumpet holder (8,4)
- 6 Fall, on plant? (7)
- 7 Bank claim (4)
- 8 Shop which sells an assortment of goods (7,5)
- 12 Crudeness (8)
- 14 Without expectations of winning (2-5)
- 16 Seen it all before! (4,2)
- 18 Circumvent (5)
- 19 Roast (4)

Last week's solution



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Margaret and Duggie MacNeill with their Citizen of the Year shield. 06_a05senior04

Citizens of the Year

A TARBERT couple who raised almost £14,000 were awarded Citizens of the Year at an annual ceremony at the weekend.

Cornerhouse pub licence holders Margaret and Duggie MacNeill jointly received the accolade at the village's Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

The couple, who had no idea the award was going to them, were given the title just days after they announced the sub total of the money they had raised for local charities and events since 2013 was £13,819.

Suspicious Margaret said: 'I was asked to come down for a picture because we had donated some money to the event, but I smelled a rat.'

Art show a hit for high school pupils



Fashionista Rhianna Duff, of Lochgilphead, exhibited her project, Go in to the Woods Today. It was laced with reality and fantasy, a mixture of life drawings, print design and fashion design. But the woodland and medieval theme remained prominent throughout her work. She took inspirations from films and her local surroundings, branding her project 'scary and ominous'. She is planning a career in fashion design. 06_a05art02

PUPILS showcased their art work at their first ever exhibition hosted by a Mid Argyll school.

Three of Lochgilphead High School's advanced higher art students welcomed dozens of guests to view their work which was displayed in the corridor of the main hall on Tuesday.

Ellie Donald, 17, Rhianna Duff, 18 and Kelsey Campbell each plan to shape careers out of their craft skills and will say farewell to Lochgilphead later this year, before they head off to follow their dreams.

Despite there being just three compared to a strong 10 entrants last year, art teacher Neil Cinnamon isn't worried.

He said: 'This is normal, it was quite unusual to have as many entries as we did last year. This year the students are dedicated and are never out of the department - during and even after school. And



Budding film maker Ellie Donald, of Ormsary, has applied to Edinburgh School of Art to study film and television. She spent two months making and editing a film for her final piece of her project and portrayed a young man coming of age. She said: 'It's about growing up and leaving home and I used young Charlie, who I babysit sometimes, to play the young boy and my friend Allan Cameron to play the young man who is coming of age. I took a lot of inspiration from my own village and used the beach as a prominent theme in both my film and in my artwork.'

they are all planning to go to art school, which is quite different from the group last year, of which only three went to art school.

'This is good for them because they get to put their work up on the

walls and see each piece and how they relate to each other. They never get the chance to do this and are always going to other people's exhibitions. This is their own show and it's brilliant for them.'



Kelsey Campbell based her project on her rural and isolated life up in the hills overlooking Glen Shira. She used her project, entitled Up on the Hill, to explore isolation through painting and was inspired by contemporary artist Jenny Saville. She hopes to go to college to study fine art or illustration, but failing that she will travel Europe in a bid to expand her knowledge of the profession and to pick up new techniques. 06_a05art01

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Union leader calls for direct Kintyre dairy support

AS FARM milk prices continue to bump along at their lowest level for decades, the region's farming union chairman has called for direct financial help to keep Kintyre and Bute dairy farms afloat.

In the week that the National Farmers' Union of Scotland described the dairy farming crisis as 'unprecedented in severity and duration', John Dickson, newly-appointed chairman of the union's Argyll and the Isles region, said: 'The milk issue is definitely the most pressing and most crucial for our region. The longer it goes on, the worse it gets, and the danger is that farmers will give up or cut production, and it will get to the point when there's not enough milk to fill a tanker.'

'I don't think anyone wants to see the end of dairying in either Kintyre or Bute, because it contributes a massive amount to the economy in both areas.'

He went on to appeal

for urgent help: 'I would say that dairy farmers in this area, because of the very low price they are getting for their milk, are needing some direct financial help, just to tide them over,' said Mr Dickson.

'They are milking cows at a loss, so every month they are losing money. The banks have been understanding up till now, but for how much longer?'

'We need to have some financial help directed at dairy farmers in Argyll and Bute to help them get over the next six months to a year.'

NFU Scotland's policy manager, George Jamieson, said: 'It is critical and undeniable that all parts of the supply chain must better share the risks and the rewards of the volatile market we now face. Dairy producers are currently carrying too much of the burden and have not benefited enough from the opportunities.'



John Dickson.
06_a05nfuschair01

'Analysts remain convinced that the future is positive for the dairy sector, but for this to be a reality then we must see tangible evidence that processors, retailers and all end users, governments and the consumer can all work collaboratively to overcome the massive challenges of peaks and troughs of volatility and competition.'

'Scotland wants to be a part of dairying's future, but all parties cannot take dairy farmers for granted.'

Kintyre farmers tell of contracts paying 15 pence per litre, or as low as 10 pence for some.

John Dickson continued: 'There is a feasibility study going on relation to the future of Campbeltown Creamery.'

'Let the feasibility study come up with an answer, and hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel. If not, dairy farmers are going to give up. Longer term, part of the solution might involve Bute milk coming to Kintyre.'

He concluded with a call to support the union, commenting: 'NFU Scotland is not perfect, and I've criticised it in the past myself, but it's the best lobbying organisation we've got. The NFU has a relationship with ministers and civil servants, so it is definitely the way to get things done.'

Farming Focus

Ewen Campbell,
SRUC Kirkton & Auchtertyre farms manager

IT IS the start of a new year, a time when it is customary to look back and take stock of what's been happening over the past 12 months.

It will come as no surprise to any reader that one of the main features of 2015 was the weather - which can be summed up simply as wet, wet, wet! The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office weather station outside my office at Kirkton was 3,586 mm (141 inches) which was 1,058 mm more than the 1991-2010 twenty year average. So there was not only a lot more rain than 'normal' but it was also incessant, with rain being recorded on 292 days throughout 2015. All this wet stuff had impacts on the running of the farms.

Following a wet January, we had a short respite during the first half of February, but the rain soon returned with a vengeance giving us a wet second half of February and a wet March. This made feeding the sheep challenging, and a muddy business. Fortunately, we then had a relatively dry, sunny and at times warm April, which was ideal for the beginning of lambing time. But again, after this May was cool and wet, as were June, July and August.

Although the animals did not suffer too much from these conditions, it played havoc with our day-to-day farming operations. Ploughing was one job which was abandoned altogether in favour of direct drilling, which allowed us to keep to our schedule of re-seeding at least one field each year. Just when I was debating whether or not to cut the grass for silage, we experienced a brief dry spell in the middle of August and we managed to get the grass cut and baled.

Thankfully after all the summer rain we had a bit of an Indian summer, and it was relatively warm and dry through September and early October. In fact, October 1 2015 was not only the warmest October day on record at 20 degrees celsius, but was actually the first time that this temperature has ever been recorded in October. Like the rest of the country, November and December were very wet. In fact, the wettest month of 2015 was December,

when a total of 738 mm (29 inches) of rainfall was recorded, making it the wettest December and the wettest calendar month since records began.

One of the few positives from these conditions was that the grass kept growing almost until Christmas, and no supplementary feeding was required until the



A snowy scene at Kirkton.

c05kirkton01no

New Year. At pre-tupping, the ewes averaged 55 kg and were in good condition, which is good for the start of the mating season, and they were in much the same condition when the tups were removed in the first week of January. At this time we dosed them for fluke and treated them for ticks. Last year, we had a couple of incidences of tick-borne fever in our lambs so we have decided to take a 'belt and braces' approach to ticks this year.

As I have mentioned in a previous article, the weather was also the main reason for taking our cows down off the hill early and putting them inside. They should start calving in about three weeks and appear to be in just about the right condition. The sight and sound of a shed full of contented cows, lying down, chewing their cud as the rain hammers off the roof, is one that I find very enjoyable!

Last year, sleet or snow was recorded falling at the weather station on 42 days and lying snow was noted on 43 days. A depth of 20cm of lying snow was recorded on January 14 and 18cm on March 3. As in the previous winter, we had snow on the mountains above 600m that lasted well into spring, with a few patches on some of the surrounding Munros not melting until August. And it looks like we are on track for more snow in 2016.

But let's hope we see a bit more sun and a lot less rain through 2016, particularly at key times during our farming calendar. For now though, I better

Change of heart eases funding blow

A SCOTTISH Government funding package worth £30,000 has been agreed to provide agricultural training opportunities for young farmers.

The grant was agreed during a meeting between the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs (SAYFC) and Minister for Young People, Aileen Campbell.

The announcement comes hot on the heels of news that Scottish ministers had axed an annual grant to SAYFC worth £66,000 - equivalent to 13 per cent of the youth organisation's annual income.

Rural Affairs Secretary, Richard Lochhead, said: 'I am firmly committed to helping increase opportunities for young farmers

and other young people in rural communities, and I recognise the valuable work of the SAYFC.'

'That is why I am pleased to be able to give the organisation a grant of £30,000 towards the delivery of agricultural and rural training and development activities for its members.'

'During their meeting today, the SAYFC updated the Minister for Young People on their plans for securing the long-term sustainability of their organisation, and the use they are making of the advisory support package provided through Lloyds Foundation, including advice on alternative funding sources and assistance with presenting proposals.'

'As part of the on-going nation-

al discussion on the Future of Scottish agriculture, we have also been in discussion with the association. I look forward to their continued involvement in helping to realise my vision of a productive, innovative and profitable future for Scottish farming.'

SAYFC national chairman, Scott Wilson, said: 'We are grateful for this funding offer which will help ensure we can continue providing personal development opportunities for rural youth throughout Scotland. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss with Aileen Campbell the association and its value to young people. We look forward to working with Mr Lochhead and his team.'

WANTED

Landrover Defenders from 1990-2015, all Japanese pickups 2 or 4WD, Toyota Landcruisers, Hilux, MOT'd or not.

All models required.

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or 07875 671994.

Window woman's new campaign just the job for others

A WOMAN whose shed windows were fixed by a kind-hearted volunteer, after they blew in during Storm Frank, is now focused on helping others.

Last month Karen Cameron, 33, of Lochgilphead, took to Facebook to ask if anyone could help to save her mobility scooter from being drenched and was overwhelmed when offers to repair the two windows flooded in.

It was Stephen McCormick, of Bridgend, who raced to the job.

Stephen is manager of the window department at Macleod Construction and since the temporary repair in December has returned to complete the job.

After seeing the story in the *Advertiser*, Jane Macleod, company secretary insisted that it would cover the cost of perspex and asked Stephen to repair the shed. She said: 'We are proud that Stephen picked it up from Facebook and proud that he went to her rescue as quickly as he did.'

'We felt it was our duty to provide the perspex and complete the work for her, following Stephen's heroism.'

The kindness she has experienced has led to Karen launching a Facebook page, which provides people in Mid Argyll with a platform to ask for help.

Karen said: 'The help that I got was priceless.

It was amazing and I thought that a site where people can ask for and offer help to each other would be a good idea.

'It could be anything from changing a light bulb to asking for advice. There are no limits and people can use it however they wish, as long as there are no adverts or sales being posted.'

Karen launched the page, called Charity Begins at Home, just two weeks ago and it already has 500 members.

She added: 'I've seen two or three members getting help and a lot of people have messaged to say it is just what the area needs.'

To join the group go to www.facebook.com.



The planter at the end of Inveraray's Main Street. 06_a03rashes01

Green Grow the Rashes, O

JUST in time for Burns Night, Argyll and Bute Council cultivated something for the Bard at Inveraray.

A council planter was spotted at the cross in the Royal Burgh with

a healthy crop of *Juncus effusus*, otherwise known as common, or soft, rush. This is the very kind of grass that Robert Burns refers to in his famous poem and song, Green Grow the

Rashes, O. *Juncus effusus* might just become a more common sight yet as the authority grasses over most of the region's flower beds and borders in a bid to cut spending. *The Ad-*

vertiser asked the council to comment, but had received no reply as it went to press. Burns also wrote, in 'To a Louse': 'O wad some power the giftie gie us, to see ourselves as ithers see us'.

“We've moved from being a very small business to one which employs nearly 50 people.”



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**Your guide to the
new registrations**



The Isuzu D-Max

A pick-up without
compromise



*Best year in a
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Sleek and sporty

Peugeot 308 GT Line is a cut
above your usual hatchback



*Tips and advice
for all-round
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Renault Kadjar crossover range

Renault seems to have found a winner with its new mid-sized crossover Kadjar range.

The Kadjar is available in a range of petrol and diesel engines, including four-wheel-drive options.

Even the entry level Expression+ comes well equipped as standard, including air conditioning in the most basic model. An impressive array of gadgets peaks with the Kadjar Signature Nav, which boasts a Bose stereo, 19 inch alloys and touchscreen satnav.

Curvaceous and bold styling sets this car apart. It simply exudes quality, feeling thoroughly well built.

The cabin is spacious, well laid out and featuring legroom a-plenty, with all the storage space a family could want.

Boot space in the Kadjar is slightly greater than the Nissan Quashqai, on which the Renault model is based. All in all, it just feels better than its long-established Japanese cousin.

The raised driving position gives excellent visibility, with grippy handling on corners and responsive controls. Big tyres mean a little road noise becomes apparent at slow speeds and on rough tarmac, but this does little to detract from the fun experienced driving this car.

And it's well priced too. Peter Semple, of Scotland's most established Renault dealership, WD Semple of Inveraray, said: 'I have been dealing with Renault for many years, but I think the Kadjar is just a really outstanding car. It drives very well, offering great value for money.'

It certainly is well priced, with lots of equipment as standard. The Kadjar is a fantastic option as a family car or for anyone with hobbies needing plenty of gear hauling around. The Renault Kadjar is, simply, a quality car at the right price.



The new Dacia Duster Commercial



What you see is what you get with Dacia.

This Renault-owned manufacturer prides itself in squeezing the maximum bang from owners' hard-earned bucks, and the new Duster Commercial does just that.

In comparison with other commercial vehicles on the market, refinement and fancy equipment are at a premium, but what you do get in spades is value for money.

Dacia vans have been available in Europe since

the 1970s, but this is the company's first venture into the UK commercial market.

The Duster Commercial is effectively a factory conversion of the standard car, which means the rear seats have been replaced with a 1.4 metre cargo deck and the rear doors have been retained, along with the windows.

The range has one engine option - Renault's tried and test 1.5 litre dCi diesel - with 107PS and peak torque of 240Nm. Four-wheel drive costs more, but offers

surprisingly impressive off-roading ability.

The load area is practical, and will take anything up to 1.4 metres in length, while the metre width between the wheel arches allows a euro pallet to be carried sideways.

So much for the plus marks. On the negative side, there is no protection for the windows, the interior can be prone to damage and there's no full-size bulkhead fitted as standard. The rear window also lacks cladding or cover to keep out prying eyes.

The Duster Commercial is a solid, if unsophisticated, workhorse, offering outstanding value and an attractive option to those who need a small van with off-road capability.

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FIND US

The Isuzu D-Max – a pick-up without compromise

The Isuzu D-Max delivers the perfect blend of rugged ability with performance and comfort, making it the ideal work mate for professional tradespeople and recreational users alike.



Isuzu D-Max Fury

The tough-yet-refined Isuzu D-Max, which went on sale in July 2012, is available as a double cab, single cab and, for the first time in the UK, extended cab body configuration featuring rear-opening side-access panels. The single, extended and entry-level double cab variant form the utility range of models, named Isuzu D-Max. Buyers seeking more sophistication can opt for the pick-up in Eiger, Yukon, Utah and Blade specifications in the 'premium' range.

Powered by a highly fuel-efficient, 2.5-litre twin-turbo common-rail diesel engine, the Isuzu D-Max generates 163 PS and peak torque output of 400 Nm from 1400 rpm, available with purpose-developed six-speed manual or five-speed automatic transmissions. The D-Max achieves impressive fuel economy of 38.7 mpg (combined).

The Isuzu D-Max pick-

up underwent one of the most comprehensive development programmes in the company's history. Succeeding the hugely-popular Rodeo, the D-Max is the most efficient and refined Isuzu pick-up ever produced, while retaining the legendary toughness for which the brand has become renowned the world over. It is also a highly capable load-lugging workhorse with 4x4 models certified to

tow a class-leading 3,500 kg (braked) / 750 kg (unbraked), with payload capacities between 1,058 - 1,136 kg (depending on model).

The D-Max has been recognised for its all-round capabilities with prestigious industry awards: the VansA2Z 'Pick-Up of the Year' in 2013, 2014 and 2015, Fleet Van's 'Pick-Up Truck of the Year 2014' and Trade Van Driver Magazine's 'Best 4x4 Trade Pick-Up 2014'.

The D-Max was awarded a four-star safety rating by independent vehicle assessment organisation, Euro NCAP. The results mark out the new pick-up as one of the safest vehicles in its segment.

In the UK, prices range from £14,999 to £26,999 (Commercial Vehicle on-the-road / CVOTR), allowing a VAT-registered company to reclaim VAT on the purchase of a D-Max.

To ensure the D-Max is built to last, it underwent 4 million kilometres of endurance testing, the equivalent of 100 times around the world. In recognition of its inherent toughness, the Isuzu D-Max was the first pick-up in the UK to be offered with a confidence-inspiring five-year / 125,000-mile warranty.

The wheelbase of the D-Max is 3,095 mm (45 mm more than Rodeo) while the overall length (bumper-to-bumper) has increased by 215 mm to 5,295 mm. The track of both the two-wheel-drive and four-wheel-drive variants has increased by 50 mm (over Rodeo) to 1,510 mm and 1,570 mm respectively. Width between the wheel arches is 1110 mm.

The increased dimensions contribute to a more spacious cabin, improved ride and handling, and greater safety. Despite its longer

and wider body, the D-Max has a usefully tight turning circle of 11.8 metres (4x2) / 12.2 metres (4x4).

Owners and operators will benefit from ultra-low total cost of ownership, thanks to competitive insurance ratings, high residual values, low-cost contract-hire packages and a pioneering, comprehensive warranty package. As a result, the D-Max is one of the most economical pick-ups on the market.

Finally, the D-Max comes with a joint-industry-leading five-year / 125,000-mile warranty, and was the first pick-up in the UK to be offered with such comprehensive peace-of-mind. Running costs are kept down by 12,000-mile or 24-month service intervals, three years recovery and assistance cover, a three-year paint warranty, and a six-year anti-corrosion warranty.

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WRX STI

All colours available for immediate delivery

Sleek and sporty, the Peugeot 308 GT Line is a cut above your usual hatchback

Aerodynamic, confident and undeniably good-looking, it sits just above the Allure and snugly behind the GT range from Peugeot.

The GT Line boasts a range of sports additions, including twin exhausts, black rear diffuser, lowered suspension and 18" Diamant alloys. Attractive LED front and rear lights, including full LED headlamps, complement the special feel, but there's more inside.

The interior features bucket-style seats finished in a plush grey fabric with contrasting red stitching and with a leather edging. The colour theme continues elsewhere in the cabin, including the smaller-than-usual sporty steering wheel.

A large touchscreen digital display offers a digital entertainment centre, climate control, satnav, bluetooth phone, parking sensors and cameras - plus all the performance information you could ever wish for.

Leg and headroom for driver and front passenger is ample, but the rear passengers with longer legs might find themselves a bit cramped.



Peugeot says that its latest powerful range of BlueHDI diesel engines comply with Euro 6 emission standards, provide 'extraordinary fuel economy and CO2 emissions'.

A smooth six-speed transmission linked to the 1.6 litre diesel unit copes with ease in most situations, cruising effortlessly at motorway speeds; equally at home nipping around town. The steering is light and responsive, automatically adjusting to become heavier for the open road to balance greater speed.

Sporty style, with big alloys and lowered suspension mean that is a little compromise on ride comfort, cushioned somewhat by the GT Line's comfy seats.

Points to note include plenty of storage space in the boot, a pleasing Golf-like 'clunk' when doors are closed, and tinted side and tailgate windows.

So, for anyone looking for a car with good looks inside and out, some of those special touches and all the bells and whistles imaginable - yet still offering family practicality - the Peugeot 308 GT Line is well worth a test drive.

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Official fuel consumption for the Volvo V40 T2 R-Design (manual) in MPG (l/100km): Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ Emissions /km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.

Finance subject to status. Retail sales only. *Subject to availability at participating dealers only on vehicles registered by 31st March 2016. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Return, Part exchange the vehicle, (ii) Retain, Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee/Amendments may be required. Volvo Car Credit RH-1 1SR. You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. The service offer is only applicable when purchasing on Volvo Advantage Personal Contract Purchase on vehicles ordered between 01/01/2016 and 31/03/2016. Services must be carried out at a Volvo Authorised Repairer. Retail offer only. Excludes fleet operators and business users. See volvocars.co.uk for full terms and conditions. We are a credit broker (not a lender) - we can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

Strathmore gears up for another exciting year with Volvo

As Volvo Car UK celebrates its best sales performance in 21 years and receives yet another safety award for the XC90 at this year's What Car? Awards, Strathmore looks ahead to another exciting year with the Swedish manufacturer.

The V40/V40 Cross Country was the biggest-selling model in the UK, with 17,068 sold, followed by the XC60 (13,920) and the V60 (3,353).

Demand for the all-new XC90 was also strong. A total of 2,981 were sold in 2015, which highlights how well Volvo's new design direction and high-tech connectivity features have been received by customers.

Volvo has announced significant plans for further product launches over the next few years, and the latest model to arrive at Strathmore will be the new Volvo S90, Volvo Cars' entry ticket to the premium saloon club.

The S90 marks a giant step forward for Volvo as the Swedish car maker is better known for its SUVs and estates. However, with the launch of the S90, Volvo is clearly intent on shaking up the premium saloon segment with its distinctive executive class saloon.

Equipped with a host of new technologies, ranging from cutting-edge safety to cloud-based apps and services, the S90 is further

proof of the Swedish brand's continuing transformation.

"With such a strong range of cars to sell and some excellent-value finance deals to offer, at Strathmore we're looking forward to another triumphant year with Volvo", comments Strathmore dealer principal Norman Leishman.

"Given the vast selection of Volvo models available at our showroom, even if you can't make it to the dealership, at Strathmore we're happy to provide a delivery service to customers. We understand that time can be difficult to find sometimes so we offer free collection and delivery for cars being serviced, at home or at work test drives (pre-booking required) and also local drop-offs for customers leaving their vehicles with us.

"As the longest establish Volvo retailer in the UK, whether you are looking for a new Volvo or a Selekt Used Volvo, the loyal and knowledgeable team here at Strathmore are able to offer the very best advice when it comes to you and your Volvo", adds Norman.

For more information on the services available, the full Volvo car range or to arrange a test drive, telephone the dealership, located on Arran Road, on 01738 622156 or visit www.volvocarsperth.co.uk.

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Model shown is AYGO x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual with optional OUTstyle pack at £12,240. Prices correct at time of going to press. *4.9% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of AYGO (excluding x grade) between 18th December 2015 and 31st March 2016 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 30th June 2016 on a 3.5 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-35% deposit. †1 year's free comprehensive insurance offer is subject to purchase being made via Toyota Financial Services on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) only and is available on AYGO models (excluding x grade) when ordered and financed between 18th December 2015 and 31st March 2016. Vehicles must be registered by 30th June 2016. All drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year and have had no more than 1 fault claim in the last 3 years, or have had no more than 1 minor motoring conviction in the last 3 years. Offer is limited to the insured plus up to four additional drivers. If there are any drivers aged between 18 to 24 inclusive, a telematics box will be fitted to the car and all drivers consent to their driving data being captured and transmitted. The policy may be cancelled for persistently poor driving. Terms & Conditions apply (available on request) - these will be confirmed in the documentation issued when your policy is taken out. Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC, registered office Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over contracted charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through AccessToyota. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.

AYGO x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 78.5 (3.6), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO₂ Emissions 95g/km. The mpg & CO₂ figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

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Visit Helensburgh for eateries, shopping and superb motoring



The beautiful town of Helensburgh has recently been given a facelift

Helensburgh Motor Sales is an independent, privately owned company having traded for 39 years. It has represented the Toyota brand since inception and is consistently recognised for excellent customer care in Scotland and the UK. In July 2015 it was honoured to represent the Subaru marque. From its two sites in Helensburgh, it covers Argyll & Bute and Dunbartonshire areas with a one-stop shop for new and used car sales, service, parts and Kitemark approved accident repair centre.

So what do our customers say?

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 stars. 4 months ago
I use Helensburgh Toyota without hesitation. After 15yrs of great positive experiences in both repairs and sales I have found the team friendly, honest, customer focused and precise to the max. Always a pleasure, no dramas, no surprises, just outstanding.

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 stars. 20 days ago
Excellent service, helpful, friendly advice. Now bought five cars from Helensburgh Toyota.

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 stars. 4 months ago
This is the third Toyota that I have purchased from Helensburgh Toyota. I travel some 40 miles to use this dealership, when I have a Toyota dealership at my doorstep. The reason, the friendly efficient staff - great team from sales, servicing and parts. An ongoing pleasure to deal with.

Helensburgh Coastal Destination Town

We can uplift and deliver or provide a free courtesy car whilst we carry out your yearly servicing. Just let us know what is best for your needs. You will not be disappointed with the excellent service we provide. Helensburgh town has undergone a recent facelift and is well worth a visit. In October 2015, Helensburgh was described as a "coastal destination town". Come and experience the excellent choice of restaurants and coffee shops or do some sightseeing.

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We have been serving the Oban and Lorn area for many years with Toyota and now with Subaru, and if you can't come to us, we will bring your chosen car to you to experience. Whether it is one of the legendary 4x4s, Rav4, Forester or Outback, or one of the smaller popular models like Aygo and Yaris, just call us and arrange a time that suits you. Door to door service.

Some Great Cars and Deals

The 2016 Toyota RAV4 now benefits from hybrid technology, combining petrol and battery power with zero road tax and improved economy, whilst the Toyota Aygo gets free insurance for over 18-year-olds with an attractive low-rate finance offer. The Subaru range with its emphasis on all-wheel-drive for great road holding and acclaimed engineering excellence benefits from 0% finance on Forester and XV models plus a 5 year warranty.



The popular Toyota Aygo available with free insurance for over 18's



Subaru XV comes with a 5 year warranty

Best year in a decade for British car manufacturing as exports reach record high



British manufacturers made more cars in 2015 than any year since 2005, according to figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). Production increased 3.9% on 2014, with output at 1,587,677 overtaking pre-recession levels for the first time.

Appetite for British-built cars grew significantly in other key and emerging regions, demonstrating the strength and diversity of UK manufacturing and product. In the US, demand rose by more than a quarter (26.5%), making it the UK's biggest trading destination outside the EU, ahead of China. Meanwhile, notable growth was also seen in Australia, South Korea, Turkey and Japan with volumes up 53.7%, 55.2%, 41.1% and 35.4% respectively.

A record number of cars – representing 77.3% of total production – was for export, with 1,227,881 units leaving the UK, up 2.7% on 2014 levels. Challenges were experienced in some global markets such as China, where demand fell by 37.5%, and Russia, where export volumes declined 69.4%. However, the economic recovery in Europe, the UK's biggest trading partner, boosted demand for UK-built cars considerably by 11.3% in 2015. The region now accounts for 57.5% of all UK car exports.

British consumer and business demand for British-made cars also contributed to last year's success, with the home car market rising 8.1% on the previous year. One in seven new cars registered in the UK in 2015 was made in Britain.

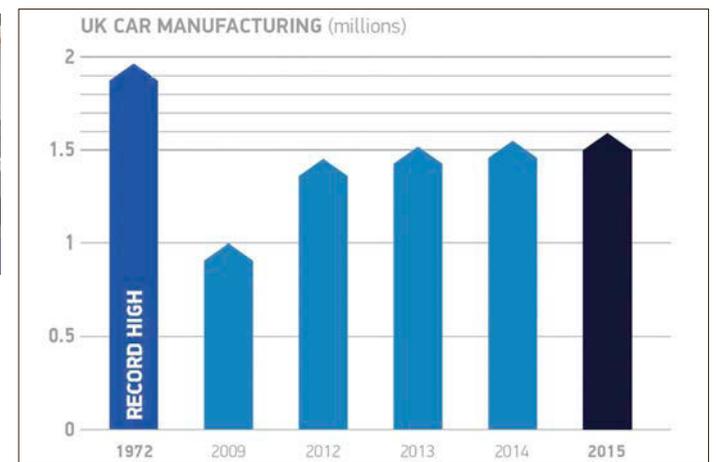
Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said: "Despite export challenges in some key markets, foreign demand for British-built cars has been strong, reaching record export levels in the past year. Achieving these results is down to vital investment in

the sector, world class engineering and a committed and skilled UK workforce – one of the most productive in the world.

"Continued growth in an intensely competitive global marketplace is far from guaranteed, however, and depends heavily on global economic conditions and political stability. Europe is our biggest trading partner and the UK's membership of the European Union is vital for the automotive sector in order to secure future growth and jobs."

Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne said: "Backing Britain's car industry has been a priority for this government and today we see the industry going from strength to strength."

"I am hugely encouraged that manufacturing is at a 10-year high and exports are at a record level. All this means



jobs and the security of a pay packet for workers and their families.

"Our plans to rebalance the economy mean we have to continue to build on our great manufacturing strengths in the Midlands and the North of England, and work together to ensure that Britain continues to prosper as a global leader in car production." The performance of UK automotive is very different compared with UK manufacturing as a whole, according to Office for National Statistics figures, which show the average manufacturing output to have slowed in recent months. Eight brand new car models were produced in UK plants in 2015, and with £2.5 billion of fresh investment committed to the sector in 2015, more are set to follow in the coming months.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Vitara range mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km): Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO₂ emissions 131-106 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Vitara range: *Vitara SZ4 1.6 Petrol Manual available at £13,999 to Vitara SZ5 1.6 DDiS ALLGRIP TCSS with Rugged Pack available at £23,149. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st January 2016 to 31st March 2016 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. **SZ5 models only. †S2-T and SZ5 models only. Model shown: Vitara 1.6 SZ4 available at £13,999 on the road. (Single-tone metallic paint available at an additional cost of £430, dual-tone paint available at an additional cost of £800.)

Vitara awarded a best buy at the What Car? awards

Suzuki celebrated good news at the 2016 What Car? Magazine awards as the Vitara was awarded a 'Best Buy at less than £15,000' accolade along with the Swift Sport model. In the Small SUV class and priced at £13,999, the Vitara 1.6-litre SZ4 was comprehensively judged by the editorial team and announced as the best overall model in its price bracket.

Jim Holder, Editorial Director of What Car? comments: "In SZ4 trim the Vitara doesn't just sneak into this price category; it's more than £1,000 beneath it. Even then it comes complete with niceties such as climate control, cruise control, Bluetooth connectivity and a DAB radio.

"The 1.6 litre engine might not have a turbocharger but is smooth and more than capable in the Vitara. It's also economical; our True MPG testers managed to get within 3.9mpg of the official figure. The Vitara drives well, too; the suspension is firm enough to resist roll without ever becoming uncomfortable and the controls inspire plenty of confidence. The five-speed gearbox is enjoyable to use, too. Practicality is a real strong point inside, with plenty of leg room front and back."

He added: "Cargo space is impressive in its size and also accessibility; the boot opening is wide with a low loading lip. The interior is

also solidly put together, with piano black trim to add a little class. To top it all, there are also plenty of customisation options. It really is a complete package for very little outlay."



Standard equipment for all models is comprehensive and also includes seven airbags, alloy wheels and front and rear electric windows. Suzuki's latest ALLGRIP four wheel drive technology is available as an option on SZ5 models and is standard equipment on the recently introduced S model.

The new Vitara S provides a more sporting and dynamic character to the Vitara line up and is the first Suzuki to utilise its new BOOSTERJET technology. The engine is a 140PS 1.4-litre direct injection turbocharged unit. It has compact dimensions and offers 220Nm of torque available from just 1,500rpm through to 4,000rpm. CO₂ emissions are 127g/km and just one gramme higher for the optional six speed automatic transmission.

The Subaru WRX STI - Performance with style

The muscular proportions of the WRX STI convey a sense of power and stability. For the new-generation model, key design themes found on previous-generation models – notably the bonnet scoop and large rear spoiler – are still there, but have been evolved to give a more sophisticated yet purposeful look.

Subaru's 2.5-litre turbocharged Boxer engine – generating the evocative Subaru 'burble' exhaust note – is complemented by the brand's Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive technology, giving the car unprecedented levels of performance and traction. Agility and driving enjoyment are further enhanced by the car's low centre of gravity, the new hydraulic steering and re-worked short-throw gear shift.

Design

The new Subaru WRX STI builds on the model's role as the brand's flagship performance saloon. The all-new body further develops the model's iconic appearance, with more distinctive styling. A low, wide body emphasises the car's stability, presence and sporting intent.

Exterior

The body shell of the new WRX STI incorporates a higher percentage of ultra high-tensile steel. This has resulted in a



body that is 140 per cent stiffer than the previous model, yet with no increase in weight.

The front of the WRX STI displays Subaru's trademark hexagonal grille, now in gloss black, while the newly-designed hawk-eye LED headlamps and lower placement of the front fog lamps highlight the car's wide and low stance.

The WRX STI's sculpted profile sees the base of the A-pillar moved forwards by 200mm, while the C-pillar transitions more smoothly into the prominent belt line. Combined with a lower roofline and a new shark-fin audio antenna, these subtle changes make the car's appearance more coupé-like.

Interior

The all new cabin of the WRX STI leaves drivers in no doubt as to the car's performance intentions.

The small-diameter D-shaped steering wheel sits in front of an instrument binnacle housing a dual-dial layout with 3.5-inch full-colour LCD and aluminium rings for a sporty look. The red lighting is suitably evocative and is made more noticeable by the contrast with the white needles.

Sports front seats, complete with embossed 'STI' logo on the head restraint, are finished in Alcantara with leather side bolsters and have been shaped to be both supportive but also supremely comfortable. There

are further red highlights on the black seat upholstery, while stainless steel sill plates, additional red lighting elements and carbon fibre-look trim on the centre console enhance the performance car ambience. At the same time, all the controls have been designed to be simple and intuitive to use.

Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive

The WRX STI retains Subaru's legendary Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive (AWD) system with a centre differential, which allows drivers to safely exploit the car's high levels of traction, stability and agility.

Engine and transmission

The new Subaru WRX STI is fitted with an evolution of the existing 2.5-litre horizontally-opposed Boxer engine found in the previous model. The revised engine retains the proven benefits of the horizontally-opposed layout while achieving greater mechanical efficiency and a more immediate accelerative response.

Generating 300ps at 6,000rpm and 407Nm torque at 4,000rpm, the engine powers the WRX STI from 0-62mph in 5.2 seconds and on to a 159mph top speed. The WRX STI returns fuel economy of 27.2mpg on a combined cycle and CO2 emissions of 242g/km.

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Driver advice: Vehicle maintenance

Proper vehicle maintenance is essential to keep yourself and others safe on the road. In 2013, 42 people were killed in crashes caused by vehicle defects, with hundreds seriously injured[i]. If you drive, you are operating a fast-moving piece of heavy machinery that needs to be kept in the safest possible condition.

Good maintenance can save you money as well as avoiding breakdowns or potentially devastating crashes. Badly-inflated tyres can mean you use more petrol, while putting off minor repairs can make them far more costly in the long-run.

You should carry out regular 'walk-round' checks of your vehicle, once a week and before any long journeys, which need only take a few minutes. The main things you should look out for are:

- **tyre tread wear.** Look out for tread wear indicator bars on tyres – small bumps in the main grooves which indicate the minimum tread. Change your tyres well before your tread gets to the legal minimum (1.6mm in the UK). Brake recommends replacing at 3mm, as tyres can be dangerous in wet conditions with less than this. If you drive with tyres worn down to below the legal limit, you could face three penalty points and a £2,500 fine, or it could cause a deadly crash.
- **tyre pressure.** Buy a hand-held tyre pressure gauge and check the pressure

weekly, when the tyres are cold. The correct pressure will be written in your vehicle's handbook.

- **general tyre condition.** Check for cracks, bulges or bubbles on the sides of your tyres. These are signs that the tyre is damaged and at risk of blowing out. If you see any of these, get the tyre checked by a professional, and replaced if necessary.
 - **lights are working.** Check lights are clean and bulbs aren't blown (reflect against a wall, or ask a friend to help).
 - **oil, water and fluids.** Check oil and water levels, and other fluids such as power steering, windscreen washer and brake fluid, are well above minimum levels.
 - **wiper blades.** Check they are in full working order and replace if worn.
 - **wheel fixings.** Check wheels and wheel fixings for defects, including loose nuts.
- If you drive a commercial or specialist vehicle, there may be additional checks you should make. Check with your employer or consult your handbook.
- Setting off and while on your journey, look out for:
- **problems with, or noises from, your brakes.** Brakes usually make a noise when



worn, but if you notice any problem with them, get them checked immediately by a professional mechanic. It's a good idea to test brakes weekly and at the start of long journeys, following your walk-round checks, by applying them gently while driving very slowly on a flat, empty stretch;

- **warning lights on your dashboard;**
- **excess noise or smoke from the exhaust;**
- **smoke from under the bonnet;**

- **fluid leaking from under the vehicle;**
- **smell of hot electrics, fuel, or a burning smell;**
- **unusual sounds from the engine;**
- **a pulling sensation from the steering.**

If you have any suspicion at all there's a problem with your vehicle, take it to a garage immediately – putting it off could cost you cash, result in a breakdown, or worse, lead to a serious crash.

Editorial courtesy of
 **Brake**
 the road safety charity
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Professional servicing

Don't try to fix safety-critical components yourself. Always use a qualified mechanic to work on your vehicle. Make sure you get your annual MOT and your vehicle is serviced in line with your vehicle handbook.

If you're driving an employer's vehicle, speak to them about who is maintaining it and when it was last checked. Ask your employer to ensure it is maintained in line with the vehicle handbook. Encourage them to make use of Brake's guidance for companies on fleet safety (see www.brakepro.org).

Just because a vehicle has passed an annual test or been serviced, it doesn't mean it will be safe until the next service. A brake pad (the material that keeps your brakes working) may be only just above legal now, and worn out and dangerous well before your next service. Talk to your garage about the level of wear on brake pads and tyres, and any other problems your vehicle might

experience in the coming months, so you know if you should pay them a visit between services.

Faulty batteries are one of the biggest causes of breakdowns, so get it tested, particularly before cold weather sets in. Many garages offer free checks.

Choosing the safest vehicle

Buy the safest, most reliable vehicle you can. To find out the safest car models, visit Euro NCAP which tests and rates them. Before buying a second-hand vehicle, get it checked over by an independent, qualified and experienced mechanic. It's better to pay for a mechanic than buy a car that isn't safe. See our factsheet on choosing safer vehicles for more information.

[i] Reported Road Casualties Great Britain: 2013 Annual Report, Department for Transport 2014.

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Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

A MEETING OF THE MID ARGYLL, KINTYRE AND THE ISLANDS AREA COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN ROOM 2 OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, STEWART ROAD, CAMPBELTOWN

AT 10.30A.M. - WEDNESDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2016

Members of the public are welcome to attend and a public question time will take place for 30 minutes during the meeting. Questions can be asked on the day or can be submitted in advance to the Area Committee Manager, Helensburgh and Lomond Civic Centre, 38 East Clyde Street, Helensburgh G84 7PG. Telephone: 01436 657605.

The Agenda for the meeting is available to view at the Servicepoint, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead and at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
 Douglas Hendry, Executive Director - Customer Services

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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
15/03491/PP	Installation of plant equipment (refrigeration and air condition units) and penetration of external wall for services	Land South West of Inveraray Primary School The Avenue Main Street Inveraray Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Inveraray
15/03502/PP	Erection of 44 dwellinghouses and formation of vehicular access	Land North of Sunnybrae Tarbert Road Campbeltown Argyll and Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
16/00003/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (part retrospective)	Land at Freasdaill Windfarm, East of A83 at Gartnagrenach and South of Whitehouse, Tarbert, Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Harbour Street
16/00142/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and workshop/garage	Land South of West Skeroblin Farm Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6NX	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
15/03202/PP	Change of use of agricultural land to form extension to existing burial ground	Land East of Kilkerran Cemetery Kilkerran Road Campbeltown Argyll and Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
16/00113/LIB	Demolition and replacement of existing gatehouse to form ancillary residential accommodation	Green Oak Low Askomil Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6EP	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED)

Notice is hereby given that Argyll and Bute Council, M and K MacLeod Limited and Highland and Islands Enterprise have submitted a Masterplan to Argyll and Bute Council in respect of Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2015 - Strategic Masterplan Area MAST 1/9 Kilmory Strategic Business Site inclusive of designations MU3004 and BI3001 (Light Industrial, storage and distribution, tourism and commercial recreational use).

A copy of the Masterplan (reference 16/00233/MPLAN may be inspected Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm at Planning and Regulatory Services, Area Office, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD and by logging on the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications during the period of 28 days beginning with the date of this notice.

Any person who wishes to make representations to the council about the Masterplan should make them in writing to Planning and Regulatory Services, Area Office, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD before the 26th February 2016.

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.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website.

Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

COUNCILLOR'S SURGERIES

Councillor Anne Horn (E.W.2 Kintyre and the Islands)

Councillor Horn will be holding a drop in surgery in the Gigha Hotel, Isle of Gigha on Tuesday 2nd February 2016 from 2.30pm - 3.00pm.

Councillor Horn can also be contacted by email - Anne.Horn@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01880 820496. She will also be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Sandy Taylor (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)

Councillor Taylor will be holding a drop in surgery in the Adrishraig on Monday 1st February 2016 from 4.30pm - 6.00pm.

Councillor Taylor can also be contacted by e mail - Sandy.Taylor@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01546 604184. He will also be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Donald Kelly (E.W.1 South Kintyre)

Councillor Donald Kelly can be contacted by email - Donald.Kelly2@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by telephone 01586 810193/07977 327751.

Councillor Kelly will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Rory Colville (E.W.1 South Kintyre)

Councillor Rory Colville can be contacted by email - Rory.Colville@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by telephone 01586 820209.

Councillor Colville will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor John Armour (E.W.1 South Kintyre)

Councillor Armour can be contacted by email - John.Armour@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by telephone 01586 552404.

Councillor Armour will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Robin Currie (E.W.2 Kintyre and the Islands)

Councillor Robin Currie can be contacted by email - Robin.Currie@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by telephone 01496 301369 (work)/07795 222849 (mobile) / 01496 850517 (home).

Councillor Currie will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Dougie Philand (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)

Councillor Dougie Philand can be contacted by email - Dougie.Philand@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by telephone 01546 604114.

Councillor Philand will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

Councillor Donnie MacMillan (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)

Councillor Donald MacMillan can be contacted by email - Donald.MacMillan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by telephone 01546 603222/07555 994109.

Councillor MacMillan will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

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Integrated approach to energy efficiency

AN A drive for warmer homes and businesses a £14 million fund will allow councils across Scotland to make homes, public buildings and businesses more energy efficient, Social Justice Secretary Alex Neil has announced.

Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) will help improve warmth in buildings and homes, drive down energy bills and work towards reaching climate change targets. The fund will help local authorities to pilot new and innovative approaches to energy efficiency with community groups and businesses, which can then be taken forward when SEEP is rolled out fully from 2018.

Mr Neil said: 'More than 900,000 energy efficiency measures have been carried out across homes in Scotland since 2008. SEEP will work with businesses and the commercial sector to see how we can achieve similar successes. This pilot phase will allow councils to test the effectiveness of new approaches to energy efficiency.

'The pilot projects will integrate support across various

building types, to evaluate the impact of innovative approaches to funding and delivery, and to test the market appetite for energy efficiency investments in the commercial sector.

'Across Scotland we have allocated more than half a billion pounds since 2009 on a raft of measures to help the most vulnerable people in our society heat their homes affordably. SEEP will help extend these measures to ensure homes, businesses and public buildings can benefit from a similar approach.

'This funding will now help local authorities develop projects and help ensure Scotland leads the way in energy efficiency.'

The projects will build upon and integrate existing domestic energy efficiency programmes, bringing together support from the Scottish Government's low carbon infrastructure transition programme, with the Home Energy Efficiency Programme Scotland (HEEPS): area-based scheme.

Wilson Shaw, chairman of the National Insulation Asso-

ciation in Scotland, said: 'We welcome this new approach to supporting energy efficiency in Scotland. Funding like this is a much-needed boost to the insulation industry and will help support hundreds of jobs across the country.

'The Scottish Government's HEEPS schemes have been effective in improving the energy efficiency of our homes. It is important to build on this and I especially welcome the promotion of an integrated approach which should improve our ability to help both homes and businesses across Scotland.'



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PERSONAL NOTICES

Congratulations Mum 90 Today

Love from all the family, here and Canada. xx



THANK YOU

Jennie Brown of Dewar Avenue, would like to thank all family and friends for their lovely cards, flowers and gifts on the occasion of her 80th Birthday.

All very much appreciated.

Happy 50th Birthday Liz

Love Mum, Dad, Gordon, Scott, Mark and Adam
xxxxxx



Happy 30th Birthday Lucy



John and Ismay Duncan, Dental Practitioners wish to inform all patients that the practice will change ownership on February 5, 2016. The new owners will be Raghu and Sakshi Verma Lal. We would like to thank all of our staff and our patients for their loyalty over so many years and wish our successors an equally long and happy time in the practice.

CELEBRATE A LOVED ONE'S BIRTHDAY WITH A PERSONAL NOTICE?

Call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345



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west coast recruitment

Senior Nurse (2 Posts)

Based in Argyll & Bute (Managed Care)
Grade C

Ref 54845 – 18.75hrs per week permanent contract
Ref 54268 – 18.75hrs per week fixed term contract until
31st March 2017

Marie Curie provides free specialist support and care for patients with terminal illnesses and their families. We aim to give patients the best possible quality of life, meeting all their medical, spiritual and social needs, while also providing their families with all the emotional support they need.

An excellent opportunity has arisen to join a unique Multi-visit team and really make a difference to patients nearing the end of their lives: by working to provide appropriate care and support they need at the time they need it.

As a Senior Nurse supporting the Clinical Nurse Manager your role will be to case support patients at End of Life, support and supervise the clinical staff, liaise with District Nurses and other Health Professionals and deputise for the Clinical Nurse Manager when required. Experience and knowledge of the needs of palliative care patients are essential to this role.

The role is office and community based and base will be confirmed depending on successful applicants location. Must be willing to travel to patients' homes or hospitals to plan and review care requirements, working with the other professionals involved in patients care.

Closing date: 8 February 2016.

To apply, please visit our website
www.mariecurie.org.uk/jobs

For an informal discussion please contact
Lynne Millar on 07796 172481.

These roles are subject to enhanced checks from the Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly Criminal Records Bureau). Marie Curie Cancer Care aims to be an employer of choice and is committed to equal opportunities. Charity reg no. 207994 (England & Wales), SC038731 (Scotland).

mariecurie.org.uk/jobs



Care and support through terminal illness



Tobermory Youth Hostel

Seasonal Hostel Manager (14/Mar/16 to 10/Oct/16)
Seasonal Hostel Assistant (16/Mar/16 to 10/Oct/16)
Live-out positions, Closing Date: 3/Feb/16

SYHA Hostelling Scotland is a self-funding charity operating a network of over 60 exceptional youth and affiliate hostels. We are currently looking to appoint a Seasonal Hostel Manager and a Seasonal Hostel Assistant for 2016 season at our Tobermory Youth Hostel.

We are looking for individuals who understand our charitable objectives and can commit themselves to place people at the heart of SYHA, welcoming all guests through our inclusive and accessible culture, embracing diversity as well as understanding different needs of everyone who has contact with SYHA Hostelling Scotland whilst delivering the best possible standards of Customer Service to our guests. You will be undertaking reception duties, cleaning/housekeeping, laundry and basic catering duties and may also be required to stay overnight at hostel as and when required.

You will have worked successfully in a customer facing role with excellent communication skills, flexibility, adaptability, IT literacy, cash handling and ability to work in a small team as well as unsupervised. A good knowledge of the local and surrounding area to assist guests with their travel planning would be an advantage along with catering experience.

Further information on this position and to obtain job description and application form please visit: www.syha.org.uk and forward your application form with covering letter to Argyll Group Manager, Oban Youth Hostel, Corran Esplanade, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5AF or argyllgroupmanager@syha.org.uk.

Scottish Youth Hostels Association (also known as SYHA Hostelling Scotland) is a registered Scottish charity, No. SC013138



Due to an internal promotion, we have a vacancy for a Contracts Surveyor based in our Oban office.

This would suit an individual with a commercial background within the Electrical or FM sector.

Excellent career opportunities and benefits package.

Consideration will be given to applicants who have a strong Electrical background and are willing to receive training to achieve the standard required.

As an organisation, we encourage further training and education for our staff.

Please send your applications c/w a copy of your CV to:

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19, Stevenson street, Oban, PA34 5NA
01631 564203
amacpherson@fes-group.co.uk

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E-Mail - manager@inveraray-castle.com

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As we enter a new era, we are looking for a dynamic individual to join our fantastic team, who will engage with our customers in the communities that we serve and possess the skills and personality to be a conversation starter, good listener and creative thinker. Although this position is Campbeltown based willingness to travel is essential.

Whilst experience in this field is preferred, it is more important that the newest member of our team has drive, ambition, a positive attitude and the desire to learn, develop and advance in their career.

If this sounds like you then we would love to hear from you. We offer full training and support, excellent rates of pay, a pleasant working environment and all the benefits associated with a major employer in the West of Scotland.

A full driving licence is essential. Closing date: Friday 5th February 2016.

In the first instance, please email your CV to Fiona Bennett, HR Manager at fiona@wyvexmedia.co.uk or call Nicky Murphy, Advertising Director (Designate) for an initial discussion on 01631 568000



BADDEN FARM NURSERY

Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SF

STAFF REQUIRED

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Previous applicants need not apply.

Contact Jennifer or Jean on
01546 600072.

Redevelopment Project Manager

Following a successful Round 1 Heritage Lottery Fund bid, Kilmartin Museum is seeking to appoint a Redevelopment Project Manager to progress our major redevelopment project. The Manager will work in the key areas of capital fundraising, procurement, grant management, and oversee the next stages of the architectural design. This is a full time project funded contract until June 2017 with the likelihood of further extension, subject to successful funding applications. The salary is £29,150 per annum. Some remote working may be considered, subject to business need.

Funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Argyll and Bute Council.

For more information and an application pack please email kay@kilmartin.org or phone Kay Owen on 01546 510 278. Closing date 12 February, 2016, interviews will be held during the week commencing 7 March, 2016.



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GAS TECHNICIAN

CAMPBELTOWN

SALARY RANGE £23,950 TO £29,632

(PLUS SIGNIFICANT EXTRA STANDBY PAYMENTS)

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- You will be expected to deputise as a Team manager when required, additional payments will be made
- Work variable hours and participation in a high frequency standby

What we are looking for from you

- You will have at least 5 years relevant operational experience in an engineering or gas related role and be adaptable and flexible
- You will be able to communicate effectively with both employees and customers at all levels
- You will have a formal Engineering Qualification at City & Guilds/HNC level or above

What can we offer you?

- A great opportunity to join one of the largest gas distribution companies in the UK
- A competitive starting salary with the opportunity of progression, plus significant standby and call out payments
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- Excellent benefits including discounts with retailers, child care vouchers and a car plus scheme

The successful candidate will also be expected to participate in a high frequency standby rota covering all aspects of SIU activities, therefore a full valid driving licence is essential.

To apply, please download an application form from our website www.sgn.co.uk or request one from jobs@sgn.co.uk. All applications must quote reference number 1613ext.

Applications must be received by close of business on 12th February 2016.

SGN is an equal opportunities employer



Quarriers

Ventilation Support Workers Ref. 12106

Fort William and Oban (20 hours) £19,414 per annum pro rata

In this challenging role, you will be part of a team who provide overnight ventilation/suction support to a small child in Fort William and Oban. Working on your own within the family home, there are posts available to work 20 hrs per week, including weekends, to meet the flexibility of the care package and we will also expect you to provide cover for colleagues during periods of holidays or illness. This post requires undertaking personal care tasks.

You should have experience of working with disabled children or adults; have a positive attitude towards all children and young people and have a genuine empathy for parents who need support to care for their child at home. You will be required to have access to your own transport to undertake this role.

In return for your willingness to learn and grow, we will train and support you to provide a professional service to a high standard that respects the individuality and confidentiality of children, young people and parents, and enables you to build a rewarding future with Quarriers.

Please note that IT skills are required for all Quarriers vacancies.

We are holding an open day on Friday 19th February from 10-3 in Fort William. For the opportunity to come along and find out about working for Quarriers please contact Marie McGregor on 07531 194029.

Closing Date: 15 February 2016.

Quarriers is a registered Scottish Charity No. SC001960.

www.quarriers.org.uk/jobs



PERSONAL ASSISTANT/ CARER

Campbeltown Area Two posts
We require a personal assistant/ carer to assist a gentleman with day to day living tasks in his own home.

Hours negotiable
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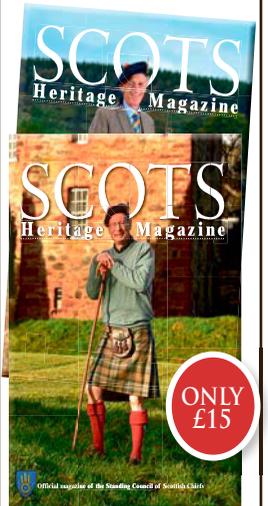
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Isle of Tiree Ref: DVR00457

01546 604334

Closing date: 12 February 2016.
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www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs



Area Manager

Loch Etive, near Taynuilt

Dawnfresh Farming Ltd, part of the Dawnfresh Seafoods Group, is the largest Trout Farming Company operating in the UK. Our Marine and Freshwater farms are located throughout Scotland, England and Ireland.

We are currently looking to identify a suitably qualified and highly motivated individual to undertake the role of Area Manager for our five seawater farms on Loch Etive, near Taynuilt, Argyll.

As Area Manager you will be fully responsible for the day to day planning, running and reporting of all five farms, 25 staff and producing >3,000t annually of 5.5kg Rainbow Trout (Steelhead).

Reporting to the Production Manager, the successful candidate will already be a Farm Manager within the aquaculture industry. Essential skills will require the demonstrable aptitude for managing and motivating personnel plus an ability for developing site infrastructure and establishing best farming practice, with first class planning and organisation abilities and a high degree of computer literacy. In addition, applicants should have a full driving license.

We offer an attractive salary package along with the opportunity to develop your management career within a company at the forefront of UK trout farming

Our production in Loch Etive is expected to double within the next 2-3 years with the re-development of existing sites and the further potential for opening new production in a separate geographic region(s).

Assistance with relocation may be available.

If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, by 15 February 2016, to:

Jane McCusker, HR Advisor, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS. Office 01698 810008, E-mail: jane.mccusker@dawnfresh.co.uk

Informal enquires can be made to Gideon Pringle, Mobile 07747 487232, E-mail gideon.pringle@dawnfresh.co.uk

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

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CAMPBELTOWN : The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE
LOCHGILPHEAD : Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8NB

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The advertisement displays several calendar options:

- ScottishField THE PREMIER SCOTTISH CALENDAR**: FROM **£11.95** including P&P
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- Isle of Arran**: FROM **£7.95** including P&P
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 A large red diagonal banner across the center reads **WHILE STOCKS LAST**. The background shows various scenic Scottish landscapes and calendar grids.

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



It is interesting that so often people talk about having a treat like chocolate or cake as being wicked.

Calories are counted as sins and people made to feel guilty for indulging in them.

As I think of the many folk starving in our world, I think they would regard having any food as a blessing and certainly not as a sin.

I wonder when this negative attitude to enjoying a treat began.

Of course we have to eat sensibly and not indulge in food that is not good for us.

But surely we should not regard a treat as a sin.

I think we need to be careful about using the word 'wicked' to simply describe a little indulgence or to think we are 'sinning' when we eat a bar of chocolate.

The dictionary definition of 'wicked' is 'evil or morally wrong'.

Surely eating some cake doesn't cast us into the darkest depths.

Perhaps we should reassess this concept.

Perhaps we should say that while we have stockpiles of food and throw much of it away when many are starving, then that is wicked.

Perhaps we should say that when we live in an affluent society where more and more people have to use food-banks, then that is a sin.

Perhaps we should wonder why there is enough food in this world for everyone, yet many go hungry.

As we go to sleep tonight with a full stomach, there will be millions who have not eaten for days.

When they pray, 'Lord give us this day our daily bread' – that is literally what they mean.

Let us long for a world where all are fed, where all are able to share in the abundance of the earth's resources and where no one is hungry.

But we need to share more than our cake to make this happen.

INVERARAY

Burns recitation competition

INVERARAY Burns Club will support its local primary school's annual supper today (Friday).

The club will run its annual Burns recitation competition together with Minard Furnace and Inveraray Primary schools.

Primary six and seven pupils will recite the well-known *To a Mouse* poem in front of three judges from the club.

Children were welcome to recite an extract or the entire poem for the event. Results will be reported next week.

Inveraray Kids on the Run return to action

A RUNNING club returned this week following the Christmas break and welcomed a new member.

Jogscotland's Inveraray Kids on the Run club rejoined for its first session, which was held indoors, with a strong turnout of current members.

The runners and team leaders welcomed young Ryan to the group for the first time.

Leader Fiona Corner said: 'We had a fast and furious warm up with

a game of steal the cup and then a very successful obstacle course, which was made to be more difficult than last year.'

Children took part in four repetitions of the course and leaders had them working hard to improve and progress in each round.

Fiona said: 'It is always good to assess progress with a timed run and we had some really successful pacing and timing in our minute runs. Everyone was very enthusiastic.'

Experienced runners took their time to support newer members on the evening and newcomer Aray McLaren secured the title of Runner of the Week.

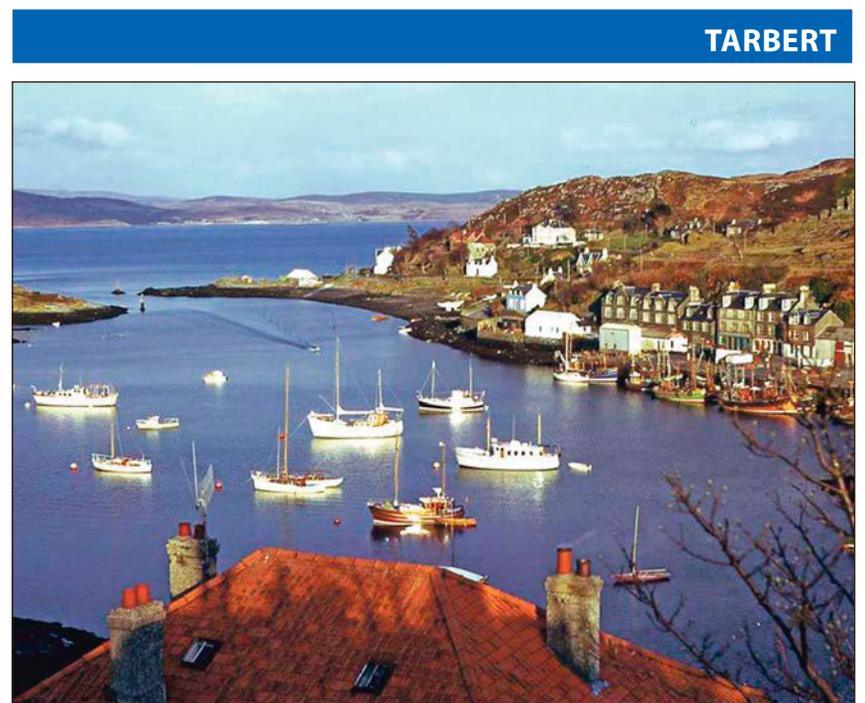
Fiona said: He worked hard and improved after listening to advice. He is a pleasure to have in the group. Well done Aray and indeed to the whole group.'

FURNACE

Walk for cancer charity

RESIDENTS across communities in Mid Argyll will take part in a colourful walk in aid of a cancer charity next month.

Organisers Sybil Masters and Sharon MacInnes are welcoming people from all over to join them for a Bra Walk



Tarbert harbour pictured in 1975. The image was just one of many posted online at All Things Tarbert community Facebook page by Stuart Livingstone.

in aid of breast cancer awareness for which any money raised will be donated to the Beatson Cancer Clinic.

Sybil Masters said: 'I had seen in some magazine's that this was quite a popular and fun fundraiser, but they always seem to take place in big cities with a lot of people. I wanted to do something here and when I spoke to Sharon she said that we could.'

'We do try to organise events for the community and this is a really fun way to raise money for a good cause.'

The event will take place on Saturday February 27 and will see

families decorate bras and parade from Argyll Caravan Park along the back road to Furnace from 5.30pm until around 7pm.

When people arrive back to Furnace they will be able to enjoy soup and sandwiches at the village hall ahead of a presentation of prizes to the best decorated bra's in a male and female category.

Those attending the evening event will hear live music performed by TJ Mac and there will be a fully licensed bar. For more information contact Sybil at Furnace Village Store on 01499 500668.

ARGYLL

PARENTS of toddlers in Argyll and Bute are reminded their two-to-three-year-old child should be registered for a free early learning and childcare place next month.

Registration will take place from February 1 to 5. Parents are invited to visit their chosen nursery between these dates to complete the application process, bringing with them the child's birth certificate. For further information, visit www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years or call 01369 708503/708517.

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YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

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2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed

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instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

BIRTHS



AGNEW

Alistair and Kirsten (nee Millar) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of a son, Lawrie Robert, on December 18, 2015 at Aberdeen Maternity Unit. Both well.



RAMSAY - MCCALLUM

Stephen and Carol are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their perfect little boy, Lyle Graham Ramsay, born on January 18, 2016. John and Moira, Lamont and Margaret are over the moon. Special thanks to midwives and staff at Campbeltown and Paisley Hospital.

WELCH - Jonathan and Christina, Cairnbaan, are delighted to announce the birth of their son Archie David on December 24, 2015 at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. Grateful thanks to midwives at Lochgilphead and Paisley.

DEATHS

BONE - Peacefully at home, Shaldon, Knockscalbert Way, Campbeltown, on January 22, 2016, Margaret Baillie MacIntyre, in her 86th year, dearly beloved wife of the late Bobby Bone, much loved mother of the late Robert and Neil and a loving grandmother of Miranda and George. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church on Friday, January 29, 2016 at 1.00pm. Funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. No flowers please.

BRODIE - Suddenly on January 20, 2016 at FVRH Larbert, William John (Bill) aged 72 years. Beloved husband of Betty, nee Docherty, loving dad of Emma and Craig, much loved granddad of Sarah and a good friend and father figure to Johnny.

KILGOUR - After a short illness, at Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, on January 26, 2016, with her family by her side, Margaret Dawson Kilgour, aged 63 years, of Lochindaal, 32 Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead. Dearly loved mum of Keira and Aidan, and good friend to Sadiq and Sarah. A loving sister of Mary, Joan, Alison and Robert. A dear sister in law, aunt and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend to many. Founder member and supporter of the MS Centre, Lochgilphead. Funeral service will be held today, Friday January 29,

2016, at Lochgilphead Parish Church at 1pm. All friends are respectfully invited to attend. Bright colours preferred, black tie optional. Family Flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to M.S Therapy Centre, Lochgilphead.

LEES - Olive. Peacefully at home, on Saturday, January 16, 2016, Olive (aged 103 years), beloved wife of the late David Lees, loving mother of Marilyn, Laura and Russell and a much loved granny and great granny. A service of committal will be held at Craighton Crematorium (off Paisley Road West), on Friday, February 5 at 1.30pm, followed by a service of thanksgiving at Ibrox Parish Church, Carillon Road, at 2.15pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Bright dress welcomed, family flowers only.

MCKINLAY - On January 25, 2016, peacefully at home, Alexander Galbraith McKinlay, aged 49 years, beloved son of Flora Paterson and the late Alexander McKinlay, stepson of Jock Paterson and Nan Robertson, partner of Lisa Lewis and a dearly loved dad, brother and papa, loved by all. Funeral service at the Highland Parish Church, on Friday January 29, 2016 at 11am, interment thereafter at Kilkerran Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Macmillan Cancer Support.

MCMILLAN - Peacefully at Auchinlee Residential Home, Campbeltown, on January 22, 2016, John McMillan (Jackie) in his 88th year, formerly of 7 Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Bel, much loved father of Thomas, Mary and Jackalene and a loving granda of Jamie, Stuart, Shelley, Sean, Callum and Eve.

NICHOLLS - Alan and Alasdair Cameron, formerly of the Schoolhouse, Southend, wish to let all their friends in Kintyre know that their sister Anna Cameron passed away peacefully at her home in Inverness on December 2, 2015.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CAMPBELL - The Family of the late Elizabeth Sinclair would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy received in their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the Doctors and Nurses at Campbeltown Hospital for their kind attention, to the Rev. William Crossan for a very fitting and comforting service, to David McEwan for the beautiful music, to T.A. Blair Ltd, Funeral Directors for excellent professional services, to Ardshiel Hotel for catering and to all who paid their last respects at the church and graveside. The collection for Cancer Research UK raised £710.

CHRYSAL - The family of the late Alasdair Chrystal would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the sympathy and support shown following their sad loss. Thanks go to the staff at the Mid Argyll Hospital for their compassionate and professional care during Alasdair's short illness, to Stan Lupton Funeral Directors, Rev. Roderick Campbell for an uplifting service and to Ethel the organist for playing some of Alasdair's favourite tunes. Thanks to the shopkeepers of Inveraray for their show of respect which was noticed and to the staff of The George Hotel for the catering. Special

thanks to Stuart Liddell for piping at the funeral. Last but not least thank you to all of ours and Alasdair's friends for attending the service and showing your respects to a much loved member of the community. The retiral collection raised the generous sum of £1650 which will go to The Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital and Inveraray Pipe Band.

FERGUSON - Maureen - Phyllis, Jack and family would like to thank Roddy and Fiona from Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their very excellent service following Maureen's death. Thank you also to the Reverend Hilda Smith for her kindness and her service and to Dadie and her family for their help when we weren't there.

MCLACHLAN - Frances - The family would like to thank everyone who attended Frances's funeral on January 18, coming out in such terrible weather was greatly appreciated. We raised over £240 for Cancer Research UK from the collection alone. Thanks to Dr Roderick Campbell who took the service. Although he did not know our Mum, personally, he spent a great deal of time with the family finding out about her life and who she was. Dr Campbell also suggested the dram and oatcakes after the interment, great idea. Thanks also to The George Hotel who provided the dram and oatcakes and the funeral tea. Thank you to The Scotch Heather Shop for the lovely flowers provided. The ladies of the church deserve thanks for both the flowers in the church and the music. Caladh Funeral Services provided a professional and singular service, thank you. Mum would have loved it.

MCMILLAN - The family of the late Agnes (Nan) would like to thank everyone for all their love, support, cards and expressions of sympathy during such a sad time. Sincere thanks to all the staff at Kintyre Nursing Home for their special care and support. Thanks also to the Reverend Ann McIver for such a lovely service. To Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for their professional guidance to the family. Finally, we would like to thank everyone who attended the service and graveside. The retiral collection will be donated to Dalintober Beach Restoration.

MCSPORRAN - The family would like to thank everyone for their love and support and for the cards, floral tributes and expressions of sympathy received following their recent sad loss of Elizabeth (Lizzie). Grateful thanks to the staff at the Kintyre Care Home for their care and kindness over the last year. Special thanks also to Rev W Crossan for the personal and fitting tribute, to T A Blair for the compassionate and professional funeral arrangements and to the Ardshiel Hotel. Finally, sincere thanks to everyone who attended at the church and graveside and who contributed to the retiral collection for the Highland Parish Church.

PICKFORD - Ronald (Ronnie) - Margaret, Claire, Susan, Kate and family would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who attended the funeral and to those friends and neighbours who sent kind thoughts and wishes following the sad loss of Ronnie, who passed away on January 1, 2016, following a hard fought battle with lung cancer. Thanks to Dr Lyons and Dr Cauwston and the nursing team at Drumchapel health centre for all the care and consideration shown towards Ronnie and family.

ROSS - Jean and the family of the late Leonard Ross would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their many kind expressions of sympathy and support following their sad loss. Our grateful thanks to paramedics Lorna and George for their prompt and efficient help. Sincere thanks to Dr Phillips, Dr Ward, Dr Simpson, Dr Helliwell and all the staff of the A & E and Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital for their kindness and exceptional care, which was greatly appreciated. Also thanks to all the staff of the Lochgilphead Medical Centre. A special thanks to the Rev Hilda Smith for a comforting service and to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for all the arrangements.

IN MEMORIAM

DREGHORN - In memory of John, a loving husband, father and grandfather, who died January 30, 2015. Still loved and remembered. Janette and family.

EDWARDS - In loving memory of my beloved husband, Anthony, who passed away January 28, 2015. Still loved and remembered. - From his loving wife, Sadie, Mike and all the in-laws.

MACBRAYNE - In loving memory of our dear mum and gran, Jessie, who passed away on January 29, 2015. Always in our thoughts. Katrina, Janette, Duncan and families.

MITCHELL - In loving memory of my dear husband, our dear father, father-in-law and grandpa, Jimmy (The Butcher) who died so suddenly but peacefully on January 29, 1991. Memories are like the stars that shine, they last until the end of time, we think about you every day, and in our hearts you will always stay. Cathie and family xxxx.

CHURCH NOTICES

Highland Parish Church



SCO02493

Sunday 31st January 2016
The service will be held in the Church at 11.15am and will be led by Rev Anne McIvor
Tuesdays
Badminton Club meets in Kirk Street Hall
Primary 1-5: 6.30 - 7.30pm
Primary 6-7: 7.30 - 8.30pm

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNESIDE AND KILBERRY

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 31st January 2016
Skipness Service 10.00am
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Mr John Morrison
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735
Everyone very welcome
Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622
Skipness SCO04280

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Sunday 31st January Services
in Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm
and Evening Communion Service in Ardrishaig at 6:30pm

Scottish Episcopal Churches
Everyone Welcome
Christ Church
Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sundays 11.00 am
Eucharist service
Coffee & Cake follows the service
St Columba's, Pottoalloch, nr Kilmartin (SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month
9.00am Eucharist Service
3rd Sunday of the month
3.30pm Evensong
Scottish Prayer Book
All Saints, Inveraray (SC025646)
Saturdays
Eucharist Service
Father Simon Mackenzie
Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran
01546 602315



LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 31st January 2016
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome
Every Tuesday
1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Bumps, Babies and Toddlers
Every Wednesday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Drop-In Cafe
More info. at www.lpchurch.co.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 31 January 2016
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Minister:
Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell
Morning Service in Lochgair Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Morning Service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
All Welcome

free church of scotland
George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 31st January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Jeremy Middleton
2.00pm Explorers Club for all Primary school children
Wednesday 3rd February
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
Saturday 6th February
9.00am Prayer Breakfast
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SCO09980

CHURCH NOTICES
LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SCO11686
Sunday 31st January
Service 11.15am
Next Generation Triple C Creche
Rev P Wallace
Tuesday 2nd February
Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am
Boys' Brigade
Anchor Boys 6.00pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Church Hall
Wednesday 3rd February
Guild Coffee Morning
Church Hall 10am - 12 noon
Thursday 4th February
Choir 7.30pm
Friday 5th February
Lunch Club 12.00noon

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)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 31st January 2016
Morning Worship
Kilmartin 10.00 am
All welcome
SCO 02121

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
SUNDAY 31st January 2016
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by a light lunch
SPEAKER: George Stewart 'The Dove-tail Joint'
THURSDAY 04 February 2016
7.30pm
(Please note change of time)
Prayer, Word and Sharing
All Welcome

Lochgilphead Baptist Church
All Welcome
Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
All Welcome
Sunday 31st January 2016
Morning Service 11am
mainly music
Tuesdays at 10.15am
Jumpstart
Fridays from 10am
Scottish Charity SC015187

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 31 January
Bellanoch Church
Prayer meeting 10:30 am
Morning Worship 11:30 am
Monday 1 February
Tayvallich Church
Prayer meeting 10 am
Tuesday 2 February
Tayvallich Church 7:30 pm
Congregational Board
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 31 January 2016
11.00am Family Communion Service
Tuesday 2nd February
10am - 12 noon
Coffe Morning restarts
All welcome
Wednesday
12.30pm at the Free Church
Joining in fellowship with Campbeltown Free Church for Prayer and Bible Study
For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 0586 551237.
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 31st January
Epiphany 4
Holy Communion 10.45am
Details of services are on the church door.
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Service
11.00 am
with Sunday School followed by refreshments
Pastor Chris Holden
mainly music
10.00 - 11.30 am
every Thursday (term time only)
Registration required
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

THE SALVATION ARMY
Campbeltown Corps
Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009359
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046

Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
Army Kidz
4.00pm Evening Worship
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME
Tuesday
Lunch Club - 12.15pm
Home League - 1.30pm
Wednesday
7.00 pm Make and Munch
Craft Group
Thursday
7.30pm Bible Study
All welcome

Parking permits in police spotlight

POLICE in Scotland can now immediately identify people who misuse disabled parking permits thanks to a national agreement with local authorities.

Officers can access information on the Blue Badge Improvement Service database, after it was agreed with councils, which allows them to pinpoint people abusing the scheme.

A spokeswoman from Argyll and Bute Council said: 'This is a very positive step in tackling the abuse of the scheme and one which we warmly welcome.'

Deputy Chief Constable Rose Fitzpatrick said: 'Our officers will now be able to verify instantly any Blue Badge issued anywhere in Scotland. This means we will be able to tackle those people who selfishly, and sometimes fraudulently, abuse the Blue Badge scheme.'

Education hero search

IF YOU know a teacher who always motivates their class or a classroom assistant who goes the extra mile, now is the time to show how valued they are by nominating them for a Scottish education award.

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for education and lifelong learning, councillor Rory Colville said: 'Argyll and Bute schools and education staff have an excellent track record in the Scottish Education Awards, including winning the coveted head teacher of the year award, and I don't expect this year to be any different. Our teachers are committed to delivering the best quality learning experience.'

The awards are open to any publicly funded school. Nominations can be made on the Scottish Education Awards website until noon on February 15.

Tarbert teen named Employee of the Year



A YOUNG Tarbert man was awarded Employee of the Year at a Mid Argyll event.

Mason Monks, 18, was the winner of the Rotary Club of Mid Argyll's Ian McCartney award and received a £250 cash prize.

Mason has worked as a store man at Harbro Ltd for two years and at the club's Christmas dinner and award ceremony in December he was described by his employer 'as a good example of how, with encouragement, a young person can thrive at a job'.

Every two years the Rotary Club runs the competition for employees aged

between 16 and 25 in Mid Argyll. It is designed to recognise young people who are making an outstanding contribution to their company or organisation.

The award is in memory of the late Ian McCartney, who was a prominent, well-respected member of the club and owner of PPD Ltd, based in Lochgilphead. His family sponsor the award and donate the cash prize in his name.

Mason was chosen from four strong candidates selected from a number of entries.

Mason Monks was presented with his award by Jean McCartney and Rotary Club President Brice Robertson at the club's Christmas dinner.

Tributes paid to former Bishop

TRIBUTES have been paid to former Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, Bishop Iain Murray, who has died aged 83.

Bishop Murray, who died on January 22, was appointed to the role of Bishop in December 1999 and served until 2008.

Bishops had been gathered at the Royal Scots College in Spain when they heard the news and mass was held in Spain on January 23.

His successor, Bishop Joe Toal, who is now Bishop of Motherwell, said: 'We ask God to grant him eternal rest after his fruitful and hap-

py ministry as a priest and bishop in Scotland. We appreciate all that he did for the church in our country over the past 60 years of his priesthood'

Archbishop of Glasgow Phillip Tartaglia, who is also president of the Bishop's conference of Scotland, said: 'During his active years as a bishop, Ian Murray played a full part in the life and work of the Bishops' Conference contributing with humanity, faith and humour to everything that we did.'

'He will be sorely missed. May God rest his generous soul.'

Easy does it at new music club

A NEWLY formed music club will hold its pilot session on Wednesday in Lochgilphead.

Led by local artists who have played at the likes of MAMAFest, The Easy Club aims to become a musical hub for anyone who wants to listen, play or learn to play instruments and sing.

The club will be open to everyone of all abilities, but its wants to appeal mostly to people who are disabled, suffer ill mental health, those who have learning difficulties, people with long-term health conditions and people who experience social isolation.

The Easy Club will host its first session in the Resource Centre on McEwan Road in Lochgilphead from 7pm until 9.30pm and it will see three local artists perform and welcome people on the evening to join in.

Hugh Fife, the man behind the formation of the group, said: 'The pilot project is to gauge the interest that is out there in such a group.



Vinny Hutton will play music with the audience encouraged to participate. 06_a37mam30

And the idea would be to go from there and run workshops for members of the club.'

Workshops would mean hosting tutoring sessions with locally established artists who would deliver lessons

in percussion, singing, guitar, and many other instruments.

Hugh, of the band Sanctuary, said: 'The Easy Club is going to be focused on audience participation and getting people involved in

playing at the group.' The idea for the Easy Club name originated from the title of a former Scottish folk band that once performed in Ardrishaig. Sanctuary was formed several years ago at Argyll and Bute Hospital. The large band includes patients now discharged, others with a history of mental health problems, disabled people and volunteer players, and has performed many times at the Hospital and at many community events around Mid Argyll. Most of the musicians set to lead sessions at the club are members of the band.'

At the session on Wednesday artists to play include Sanctuary, Moss Roads and Vinny Hutton.

Hugh and his group have teamed up with many local third sector organisations to deliver the project to people in Mid Argyll.

Hugh added: 'The desire for such a club is very great, and the health and recreational benefits would be significant.'

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Football with a slight twist

A WALKING football tournament is set to take Mid Argyll by storm and local groups and organisations are being urged to enter teams.

The game was originally for people who have difficulties playing the traditional game but want to stay fit and healthy, but it became popular with everyone of all abilities.

As part of the new craze to have swept Scotland a steering group dedicated to the launch of Walking Football in Mid Argyll has been formed and will host the first Walking Football Festival in Lochgilphead in April.

Organisers hope that Lochgilphead can form teams to take part, as there are already teams in Oban.

Billy Singh, Walking Football Development Officer at Paths for All said: 'This Walking Football Festival is great news for the game

in Scotland as it continues to grow in popularity. We have seen that Walking Football really has the potential to improve people's lives.

'Walking Football has seen a surge in popularity in recent years with teams and projects developing in settings from football clubs, local authorities, community groups, sports clubs and in healthcare settings.'

The steering group is made up of a partnership between NHS Highland, Argyll and Bute Council and the Third Sector in Mid Argyll (TSI) and Paths for All.

Anyone over the age of 18, who wants to try it out should head to a taster session to be held on February 20 at Mid Argyll Sports Centre from 1pm until 3pm.

For more information contact Lynda Syed, of TSI, via email lynda@argylltsi.org.uk.



The medal and trophy winners at Atlantis Leisure Centre in Oban. 16_t05badminton01

Double winners bring home the trophy in schools badminton championships

LOCHGILPHEAD boys brought home two trophies after taking part in a badminton tournament this week.

Aaron Whitefield and Josh Coates of Lochgilphead were joint winners in the boys' doubles competition at the Argyll and Bute Badminton Championships 2016 on Monday.

Josh later won the boys' singles competition at the event, which took place at Atlantis Leisure Centre in Oban.

He and partner Shannon Wilson were runners-up in the mixed doubles, Iona MacNicol was runner-up in the under 19 girls singles and Martyna Madej and Megan Danson were

runners-up in the under 14 girls doubles. Rhuaridh Brown and Ciaran McPhie were runners-up in the under 19 boys doubles competition.

School pupils travelled from Lochgilphead High, Campbeltown Grammar, Dunoon Grammar and Oban High to take part in the event.

Scottish AFL results

LAST Saturday's results: Scottish Amateur Cup, 5th round - Campbeltown Pupils 1, St Patrick's FP 2; Centenary Cup, quarter final - Dunoon 2, Ferguslie Star 3; Hall Cup, quarter final - Carlton YM v Dunoon Athletic postponed; Premier Division - Oban Saints 2 East Kilbride Rolls Royce 1; Premier Division One - Drumchapel Amateur Colts 5, Lochgilphead Red Star 1; Premier Division Two - Tarbert 3, Milbeg Villa 3.

Lottery numbers

TARBERT Football Club's lottery numbers drawn on Monday night were 13, 14 and 18.

There were no winners therefore the total to be won next week is £200.

The numbers drawn in the Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery draw this week were 5, 15 and 16. There were no winners this week and next week's jackpot will be £700.

Kilmory Camanachd Club's lottery numbers drawn this week were 3, 4 and 11. There were no winners, which means next week's jackpot will total £900.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1300

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

I MacIntyre Meadows Cres Lochgilphead

R Gillies Nursery Cottages Ford

All you have to do

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

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

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

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

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

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

Please ensure when cutting out your coupon that the reference targets are intact. Failure to do so may invalidate your entry.



Name.....

Address.....

Tel No.....

I enclose £1 for 10 crosses (tick box) The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 10, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Ten crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Crosses must not overlap Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

Sisters scoop first prize at winter athletic tournament

TWIN girls from Lochgilphead stole the show at an indoor athletic tournament at the weekend.

At the Mid Argyll Athletic Club annual indoor competition in Mid Argyll Sports Centre on Sunday Jemma and Jorja Macdonald, aged seven, were the stars.

The pair excelled in the under seven age group and took a joint 1st place with equal points overall, ahead of Jodie Allan from Ardrishaig.

Coach and organiser Bill MacCallum said: 'The twins are talented and exceptionally competitive and this was evident in the two running events where Jorja just inched out her sister on the line each time with impressive times of 27.1 for three laps and 59.2 for the six laps.'

'Jemma had the upper hand in the jumping events and set a new Argyll age record in the standing long jump with 1.45metres.'

Young Jodie Allan also improved the Argyll age record in the

javelin with a 10metre throw. This event, held in Lochgilphead, was the first in a series of local area competitions being held across Argyll this winter.

There was a three-way tie for 1st place in the under nine girls contest when Kyra Robertson, Ardrishaig, Ruby



Ollie van Well, six, from Lochgilphead.
a05_athletic02

Phillips from Glassary and Ella Pollock from Craignish finished on equal on points after seven events.

Eilidh Cameron from

Inveraray and Kirstin Blair, Lochgilphead Primary, dominated in the under-11s, but Eilidh took the top spot and title of overall winner with just two two points ahead of Kirstin.

Eilidh was the champion in her age group and won four events including the three lap race in 23.9 and 6 lap in 54.1.

Jilly Lefebvre from Kilmichael Glassary, and a pupil at Lochgilphead primary, was the winner in the under-13 age group. Jilly won all seven events excelling in the six lap race recording an impressive time of 50 seconds.

The 11-year-old was the Argyll champion in the under-11s last year and she will be hard to beat in the older age group this year.

Only one point separated Jodie Robertson and Erin Downie in the under-15s. Jodie won the three jumping events and the shot putt and Erin impressed in winning the three lap, six lap and speed bounce.

Despite a high rate of youngsters attending

weekly training events the number of entries in the boys categories was disappointing. But there were several fine individual performances.

Alfie Smith from Tayvallich was the under 13 champion after a close contest with Jake Gillespie from Lochgilphead. Alfie won five of the seven events including a 1.43m high jump and 9.22m shot putt. Jake stood out in the three lap race winning in 21.9seconds and the speed bounce.

Two Ardrishaig boys shared the top places in the under 11s with Ruairaidh Green the winner just ahead of Logan Allan.

Callum Green made it a family double success emulating older brother Ruairaidh in the under nine age category.

Ross Hamilton from Lochgilphead and Cameron Gilmour from Ardrishaig shared the top spot in the under seven's and in the under 15s it was Joseph Harper from Slockavullin who dominated winning six events including a new



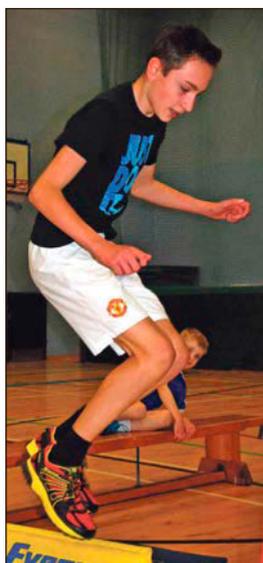
Twins Jemma and Jorja Macdonald took joint overall in the under seven category. a05_athletic06

PB of 1.50metres in the high jump. Joseph had to settle for 2nd place in the shot putt which was won by Shaun Doy from Kilmichael. Another Kilmichael boy Donald Ferguson was

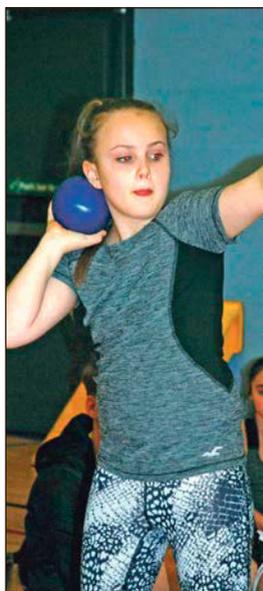
the under 17 winner. The final will be at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Sunday, March 20.



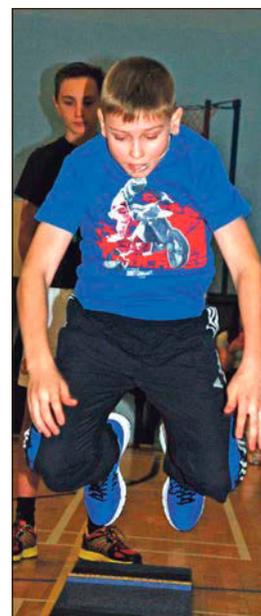
Erin Downie, 14, from Lochgilphead taking part in the long jump competition. a05_athletic01



Jake Gillespie, 12, from Lochgilphead taking part in the speed bounce. a05_athletic04



Eilidh Graham competes in the shot putt competition. a05_athletic05



Arran Robertson, 11, from Cairnbaan. a05_athletic03



Joseph Harper, 14, from Slockavullin won first overall in the under 15s. a05_athletic10

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