



Top marks for Riverside Rascals

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Mid Argyll trainee wins top award

See page 7

Spring comes early at Tarbert charity concert

See page 8



Libyan holiday horror

'We went to sleep listening to the sound of gunfire'

GENEROUS, compassionate and courteous is how one Mid Argyll man has described the people of Libya following a two-week holiday he'll certainly never forget.

Andrew McIlvride, from Craobh Haven, has spoken exclusively to the *Argyllshire Advertiser* following his trip to the Arab country last month.

Andrew, along with his girlfriend, Lorraine Ludman, were looking forward to seeing the country, tipped by travel agents as 'the' place to be this year.

But just days after arriving in Tripoli, Andrew and Lorraine, became very aware of

EXCLUSIVE

REPORT by
JENNY SUTHERLAND
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

the troubles brewing in the city as anti-government protesters attempt to overthrow Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Arriving in the country on February 12, Andrew explained: 'The previous weekend was the Profit Muhammad's birthday. There were fireworks but certainly no signs of trouble; it was a carnival-type atmosphere.'

But within three days, things had changed.

See more on Page 2



Andrew McIlvride from Craobh Haven was given a pro-Gaddafi flag whilst holidaying in Libya. He said: 'I felt like I'd been handed the sword of Damocles.' 06_a10andy01

Parents react to schools' list

PARENTS and communities in Minard and Achnamara have been left angry but determined following last Thursday's council meeting, which saw elected members vote in favour of proposals that could see rural schools closed.

Councillors voted 19 -14 to go forward to a pre-consultation process to consider the impact closure would have on communities.

More on Page 5

Arrests after glass thrown

A MAN and woman have been arrested and charged by police after a glass was thrown in a Lochnell Street pub.

Police were called to the hotel at 12.51am on Sunday after the incident, which involved a 27-year-old man and a 36-year-old woman.

The pair were arrested and charged with an alleged breach of the peace and vandalism.

Lorry lands in Tarbert garden

THE RESIDENT of a house in Tarbert got a shock last week as a lorry plunged into her garden.

The lorry slipped off the road and came to rest in the garden of a house in Glenfield, Tarbert last Thursday night.

No-one was injured and a road accident report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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Ferry journey to remember

SAILING to Mull will never be the same for one Kilmichael woman after being serenaded by none-other-than British pop group, Mumford and Sons.

Dianne Smith from Bridgend was making one of her regular ferry trips to the island when she was joined by the West London act. The 30-year-old admitted: 'I didn't have a clue who they were.'

The Brit Award winners were making their way to Mull last Wednesday for a one-off sell-out gig in Tobermory.

Dianne, who works as an apprenticeship officer, said: 'They started playing REM songs and I thought 'Oh they're pretty good.' The barman told me they were Mumford and Sons.'

'They definitely deserved that Brit Award.'



Little Mirren Angus, aged four, is one of the youngsters benefiting from Riverside Rascals 'excellent' day care. 08_a10report01

Top marks for Riverside Rascals

Staff delighted as unannounced inspection results in glowing report

A LOCHGILPHEAD day care nursery is celebrating this week after receiving an outstanding Scottish Care Commission report.

Riverside Rascals proprietor Jean McPhee is delighted that the hard work of her and her staff has paid off.

The nursery, based in Oban Road, caters for up to 49 children from the age of three months to school age.

During the unannounced inspection, reporter, Laura Skelton, noted: 'The provider/manager and staff continued to promote a very strong ethos of involving parents and children fully in the life of the service.'

In her report, Ms Skelton added: 'Staff gave children very good ownership of their own play and learning.'

'They encouraged their contributions to planning activities and incorporated their ideas into the learning programme.'

Commenting on the glowing report – which contains 'excellent' ratings – the highest mark awarded in a care commission inspection, Jean said: 'Myself and my team are delighted with the report. It's a reflection of the hard work carried out daily.'

'Our vision was to have a centre of excellence and the inspection report reflects this with all these excellent grades.'

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Libyan holiday horror

'Each day we would go down to Tripoli's Green Square where there was a lot of pro-Gaddafi people around. They were all good-natured,' explained Andrew. 'Around the edge of the square were a lot of people who would come over to us and who would indicate their wish for change but there was no animosity; it was very peaceful and at no stage did we feel threatened.'

It was whilst standing observing the protesters that Andrew was handed a green pro-Gaddafi flag.

He said: 'I felt like I'd been handed the sword of Damocles.'

'I very quickly and carefully folded it away – I didn't want to be seen showing favouritism to either side.'

On Friday night, Andrew and Lorraine went to sleep listening to the sound of gunfire on



the outskirts of the city.

But despite being caught up in a such a high-profile humanitarian crisis, Andrew speaks very highly of the people of Libya. He said: 'The guides treated us like family and that added to our sense of security.'

'It's not just those affected by the fighting but the people who require ordinary household and medical supplies – they're the ones suffering.'

'I feel heart sorry for the ordinary people out there; they're so generous and considerate.'

Lorraine was able to fly

safely out of the city to Dubai whilst Andrew had a 'fluttering' moment when his scheduled flight was delayed.

'I was due to fly home at 4pm on my booked flight and at 3.55pm the flight details disappeared from the screens but I was fortunate to get through and get on my plane.'

'When I boarded, the chief steward and captain said 'I bet you're glad to be on board' and it was then I felt a sense of relief.'

Lorraine plans to fly back to Libya on the first available flight to help their friends affected by the fighting.

Lochgilphead boy racers warned

A GROUP of 'boy racers' were warned by police about their driving last Friday.

The men were spoken to by officers after they were seen and heard revving their car engines and racing each other, near to the Bank of Scotland building in Poltalloch Street, Lochgilphead.

Driver warned after Lochgair incident

A MAN in his 20s was warned by police about his driving following an incident on the A83 at Lochgair last Friday night.

Officers spoke to the man about his conduct at the roadside at around 11.20pm.

Police take man to hospital

POLICE were called to help a man found 'heavily intoxicated' near Ardrishaig last Saturday. The man, aged 37, was found with a head injury and was taken to the Mid Argyll Community Hospital.

Pipe band bounces back

Mid Argyll pipers close 20-year gap

MID ARGYLL Pipe Band is back on the competition circuit this year – the first time in almost 20 years the band has played competitively.

In full swing

Under a new president and pipe major, the band will embark on the competition trail and preparations for the season ahead are in full swing.

Lochgilphead brothers, Struan and Lewis Thorpe, are now putting the band through their paces.

Struan, who took over as pipe major last year, originally began his piping career with the Mid Argyll band, and is now part of the Grade One Scottish Power Band.

He is also in his honours year at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama where is studying traditional music.

Brother, Lewis, is a tenor

drummer with Grade One Boghall and Bathgate Pipe Band. Lewis is the current European solo tenor drummer drumming champion, so with a wealth of experience under their belts the brothers will ensure the Mid Argyll band is fully prepared for the season ahead.

The boys' father, Jim Thorpe, said: 'The boys have been getting the band together for workshops where they've been practising marching, standing positions, etc – all the things they need to know for piping in competitions.'

The Mid Argyll Pipe Band currently has 11 pipers, five side-drummers, four tenor drummers and one base drum. The majority of the band is under 18-years-old.

Anyone interested in supporting the band should contact Jim Thorpe at jim_thorpe@btinternet.com



Phosphorous flare found by Michael

Ormsary boy Michael Logan stands in the crater left after the phosphorous flare was exploded by the Royal Navy.

Flare find sparks bomb squad action at Ormsary

A NINE-YEAR old Ormsary boy found himself at the centre of a military operation this week after finding a phosphorous flare on a Mid Argyll beach.

Michael Logan, along with his dad Neil Manchester, was out walking his dog on the beach at Loch Caolisport last Friday morning when he stumbled across a mysterious metal object.

Neil said: 'We took a photograph and sent it to the Coastguards who contacted the Royal Navy bomb disposal team, which identified the object as a very dangerous

military phosphorous flare that had been washed in on the tide.'

A weapon used since World War II, phosphorous flares can cause serious burns or death when exploded.

Having examined the object the naval explosive experts confirmed the flare was too dangerous to move and so exploded the flare on the beach. A large crater now marks the spot on the beach where the device was found.

Michael said: 'It was very exciting to see and hear the navy blowing it up, but it's a bit scary that things like this

can be found on a beach. I hope if anyone else finds this sort of thing they will call the Coastguard like we did and get it blown up too'.

A spokesman for the Royal Navy said that devices from both the first and second world war often wash up on the shores of the west coast of Scotland.

'Our primary concern is to ensure any devices found are made safe,' he said. 'If you come across a suspicious object our message is phone the police, they will contact us and the navy will deal with it safely and effectively.'

Cairndow crash results in charge

A MAN has been reported to the procurator fiscal in Dunoon for alleged careless driving following a crash near Cairndow earlier this week.

Police from Lochgilphead were called to deal with two-vehicle crash on the A83 near to Loch Fyne Oysters on Monday at 5.30pm.

No one was injured.

CITB to stay public

A CONSTRUCTION training body, which trains local apprentices, is to be kept in the public sector, the UK Government has decided.

CITB-ConstructionSkills, which also employs people locally, was recently reviewed by the Cabinet Office.

Richard Diment, Director General of the Federation of Master Builders, said: 'The FMB is pleased the Government has decided to retain ConstructionSkills within the public sector.'

'The Government's decision reflects the vital work that ConstructionSkills does to promote much needed investment in the construction sector.'

Tarbert's street lights faulty

STREET lighting in Tarbert's Back Street, Kintyre Place and Kingsway is currently not working because of faulty underground cabling.

Argyll and Bute Council say they are working, alongside Scottish & Southern Energy, on a new electrical supply and new lighting.

Work is scheduled to begin within the next two weeks.

Council win multi-million pound ACHA contract for IT

A MILLION pound contract to provide information technology services for Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) has been awarded to Argyll and Bute Council.

The Council's IT department will work with

the housing association to set up a series of new IT systems over the next three years.

The contract, which

will generate almost £1.5million of additional revenue for the council, is one of its first shared service partnerships.

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Heart of Argyll

TODAY, Friday, will see the Heart of Argyll Tourism Alliance officially launched at a special event in Lochgilphead.

The initiative was originally led by the Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce and has recently received funding as a legacy of the Dalriada Project.

The group behind the initiative is now ready to launch the Tourism Alliance and go live with their website - Heart of Argyll.com.

Scottish charity awards 2011

CHARITIES, community groups and dedicated local champions across Argyll and Bute are being encouraged to have their hard work recognised at this year's Scottish Charity Awards.

The Awards, now in their fifth year, aim to celebrate the best of Scotland's local lifelines. The awards are open to any charity, voluntary organisation, community group or individual charity volunteer or staff member. Public and private sector bodies can also enter through the partnership award.

Deadline for entries is April 8, 2011. Visit www.scvo.org.uk/scottishcharityawards

Tarbert author introduces No Hearts, No Roses

Second novel from Kintyre inspired writer

THE KINTYRE landscape is proving a useful tool for one Tarbert author.

Colin Murray, a born-and-bred Londoner, moved to Torinturk 20 years ago and since then has written two novels, one based on a fictional Kintyre village.

'My inspiration comes from the landscape around Kintyre; it's soggy but wonderful,' explained Colin. His first book, *After a Dead Dog*, draws on Colin's observations of the Argyll-way of living - but his second novel, *No Hearts, No Roses*, is a return to Colin's homeland.

The father-of-one takes his readers back to post-war Britain where laid-back amateur sleuth, Tony Gérard, finds himself caught up in a murderous

goose-chase across London.

'The character, Tony, really drove the story - he determines what happens next,' explained Colin.

And for any future writers, Colin's advice for a good book; plot, character and good writing.

'Discipline and structure are key to writing,' he said. 'A book is an organic thing, with the character really determining what happens.'

Colin, whose wife, Lisa Tuttle, is also a writer, worked in publishing before moving to the West Coast, where he continues to work at freelance editing.

'I've always been a ferocious reader,' said Colin. 'Books and writing are just a way of life for me.'



Colin Murray from Tarbert is now working on the follow-up to his current novel, *No Hearts, No Roses*. 06_a09colin01

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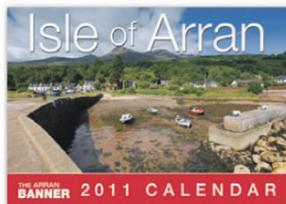
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Youth to quiz political leaders

ARGYLL and Bute members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MYSP's) are getting the chance to quiz leaders of the country's five major political parties tomorrow (Saturday) in Inverclyde.

Key issues

The area has three MYSP's, two for Argyll and Bute and one for Helensburgh and Lomond; Sarah Taylor from Lochgilphead, Ryan MacAlister from Oban and Jeanna Sally from Helensburgh.

The MYSP's will be questioning their Holyrood colleagues on key issues affecting young people. They'll touch on things like sectari-

anism, equally pay and more help for first-time buyers looking for a home.

Speaking ahead of the event, Sarah Taylor, said: 'I'm really excited by the opportunity the Scottish Youth Parliament leader's debate provides for me to question Scotland's political leaders on the main issues affecting young people. I know people in my constituency are worried about government cuts, the future of higher education and how we create a fairer and better Scotland.'

This is the last sitting for MYSP's. There will be another election in March.

Argyll MSP warns on crisis loan cuts

MSP for Argyll and Bute, Jim Mather, has endorsed the concerns of his Westminster colleagues at the announcement from the UK Government that it is to reduce the level and availability of Social Fund Crisis Loans, warning that such restrictions are likely to force people in drastic situations towards high cost or illegal sources of lending.

Mr Mather said: 'By their very nature Social Fund Crisis Loans are a last resort and when I encounter such cases it is clear that this change in legislation will have an adverse effect on the very poorest people in our society.'

Young person animal welfare award

THE SCOTTISH SPCA is inviting nominations for its new Young Person Animal Welfare Award.

The award scheme recognises young people who have either helped animals or demonstrated good animal welfare practices. Nominees must be under 18 years old and can be nominated as an individual or a group.

The closing date for nominations is August 5, 2011.

For more information email education@scottishspca.org.

Meningitis Trust wants Mid Argyll to dunk its biscuit

BISCUIT enthusiasts in Mid Argyll are being asked to dunk their favourite snack into a cuppa this month in support of the Meningitis Trust.

The Big Dunkathon Coffee Break campaign is calling on Argyll folk to hold a coffee morning in March to raise funds for the charity. The trust, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, hopes the annual event will add to the £1.2 million raised so far.

Samantha Porter, event organiser at the Meningitis Trust, said join the dunking revolution. 'Bake some goodies, invite some friends and get the kettle on,' she said.

The Meningitis Trust helps over 20,000 people every year as they face life after meningitis. It raises awareness of the disease and funds research into its long-term impact.

Dinghy thief lands in court

POLICE officers found an Ardrishaig man soaked, up to his waist in water and shivering, after unlawfully taking a boat out onto Loch Fyne, Lochgilphead annex of Dunoon Sheriff Court heard last week.

Darren Newlands-Steele appeared before the town court last Wednesday pleading guilty to taking the inflatable dinghy on August 15 last year. The 20-year-old, of 49B Chalmers Street, was fined £270 by Sheriff Thomas Ward.

Sheriff Ward said: 'You could have killed yourself doing this and got others into trouble.'

Banned from town bar

A LOCHGILPHEAD man has been told he must not enter a Lochnell Street pub for one year after causing a breach of the peace.

Christopher Wilson, of 60 High Bank Park, admitted conducting himself in a disorderly manner and threatening to damage and burn down property, on August 29.

The 28-year-old was also handed a £320 fine by Sheriff Thomas Ward, after appearing at Lochgilphead annex of Dunoon Sheriff Court last Wednesday.

Smoothie morning

LOCHGILPHEAD High School pupils from the 3XL group will be making tasty fruit smoothies next week.

Using the Choose Life Smoothie Bike, the 3XL group will make a selection of drinks for primary 3/4 pupils.

The group have come up with five smoothie options for the day: four named after the primary clans and one to recognise St. Patrick's Day.

Assault arrest

A TEENAGER has been reported to the procurator fiscal after an alleged assault near Kilmelford last Wednesday.

The alleged incident took place on the A816 near the village. The 19-year-old was arrested but released later that day.

Addressing parliament

YOUNG people from Mid Argyll are today, Friday, addressing members of the Scottish Government.

A total of 12 youngsters from the Mid Argyll Project (MAYP) have been involved in the Government's Community Partnerships Project, which allows young people to voice their concerns on a range of issues.



People from Minard turned out in force to protest at the proposed closure of their village school at council headquarters last week. 16_t10minard01

Parents vow to fight for closure listed schools

PARENTS with children at Minard and Ashfield primary schools have vowed to fight on for their children's education after Argyll and Bute councillors again voted on proposals to close schools.

Councillors voted 19-14 to go forward to a pre-consultation process to consider the impact closure would have on the two Mid Argyll communities at a special meeting last week.

The news comes just weeks before the Scottish Government is due to introduce

new legislation, which may change the state of play for rural schools.

The chairman of Ashfield Parent Council, Alka Foster, said the Schools Consultation Act 2010 means Argyll and Bute Council must look into all viable alternatives before proposing closure.

She said: 'Ashfield School has so much potential it is unbelievable the council could find nothing to offer other than closure. Our catchment area is one of the most marketable areas of Argyll and

with the school's fantastic building and facilities it takes little vision to see a hidden Gem.'

Minard Parent Council and community are equally saddened with the announcement.

Chairman of Minard Parent Council Brian Barker said: 'It is disappointing that the council carried though the recommendation to go to pre-consultation, especially when revised government guidance is expected before the end of the month. We find it difficult

to understand why the Council is unable to wait for a few days when they have been working on school closures for the past year.'

At the meeting council spokeswoman for education Ellen Morton said the pre-consultation process was the first of its kind in Scotland. She said she wanted to meet with communities to find out their views and discuss the real impact of closing individual school before going into the consultation stage properly.

Twelve Argyll and Bute schools could go by Christmas

TWELVE schools in Argyll and Bute will go forward to a pre-consultation process for closure.

Forward for a Christmas closure are Ashfield, Minard, Clachan, Skipness, Ardchnonell, Achaleven, Ardchattan, North Bute, Toward, Luss, Rhunahaorine, and St Kierans.

At last week's council meeting spokeswoman for education councillor Ellen

Morton said the purpose of the pre-consultation was to understand the impact a school closure would have on the community.

Asked what her criteria was for selecting the twelve schools she said: 'No councillor would ever close a school on a whim.'

'There is danger of this process becoming a tick box list and that is not the right approach.'

'I have taken a holistic approach. I have looked at every school considering the number of pupils, how many are on placing requests, the capacity of the receiving school, educational benefits, transport, the journey to the receiving school, school building conditions and so on.'

'We want to create a sustainable school estate in Argyll and Bute. I took

into account the schools consultation criteria from the Scottish Government, professional advice.

'I have done a great deal of probing.'

Opposition councillors argued that the plans should be put on hold as new legislation was due to be published by the Scottish Government which may change the state of play for rural schools.

Council's capital budget proposals ready

COUNCILLORS were due to discuss proposals to finalise their capital budget at a meeting in Kilmory yesterday (Thursday).

Argyll and Bute Council has a total £87.2 million in funding over the next three years.

Proposals included spending £15.5 million in the next three years on the area's roads. In the first year £6.9 million would be spent on upgrading and maintaining the network, in the second year £4.8 million, and in the

third £3.8 million. Included in the 2011-12 amount is the £3million approved at the council's last budget meeting on February 10.

£7m for community projects

There is £15.8 million to invest in school buildings, as well as proposals which could allow cash allocated to better lighting, and, if approved, £600,000 has been set aside for new LED lighting.

Nearly £7 million pounds could be approved for community facilities such as the community educa-

tion centre in Lochgilphead.

Council leader, Dick Walsh said: 'We have already made some of the toughest budget decisions in years and are undergoing a number of painful cuts but we must also concentrate on keeping our remaining buildings, schools, roads and libraries in the best possible condition we can for the future.'

'The capital plan aims to improve the potential of our people, our communities and our area.'

Two Ardfern drivers caught on same night

Three times limit driver collided with police car

A NIGHT drinking in an Ardfern pub has cost two men their driving licences after leaving in their cars – one of which collided with a police vehicle.

Appearing separately at Oban Sheriff Court on Tuesday, both Alan Grierson, 47, of 24 Elmbank Road, Port Glasgow and James Hendry, 45, Sana, Craobh Haven, were told that they would have to wait at least a year before re-sitting their driving test after admitting driving while around three times the legal alcohol limit on November 14 last year.

Grierson also admitted colliding with a police vehicle during his drunken drive from the pub towards Craobh Haven.

Hendry, who was found asleep inside his car, was fined £300.

Sheriff Paul Reid fined Grierson a total of £600.

Inveraray drink driver in court

AN INVERARAY man will return to court next month to face a charge of drink driving.

Andrew Montgomery, of Tombrec House, Inveraray, pled not guilty to allegedly driving whilst nearly double the legal limit on an unclassified road between the A819 Inveraray-Dalmally road and the A83 Glasgow to Campbeltown road in the grounds of Inveraray Estate on Christmas Eve last year.

The 45-year-old, who works for Argyll Estates, appeared before Sheriff Thomas Ward at Lochgilphead annex of Dunoon Sheriff Court last Wednesday.

Montgomery will return to the court on April 27, 2011 for his trial.



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Those Were The Days

The Argyllshire Advertiser
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John's on the glory trail

AN ARDRISHAIG boy will be the first youngster to represent Britain in an international sled-dog race later this month.

Ten year-old John Stewart of Idrigil, Tarbert Road, has earned himself the chance to take part in the second Trofeo Topolino Sled-dog event in Pontedilegno-Tonale, Italy.

On March 30-31, he will compete against junior sled-dog racers from all over the world during the event, which takes place high in the Italian Alps.

John's proud mum and dad, Fiona and Alan, will attend the Walt Disney sponsored event with their son after travelling to Germany later this month for training.

To enter the race John had to gain references from two British sled-dog associations and a win in the Scottish Championships last weekend left no one doubting his ability.

Alan, who runs the Kyuk Siberian Racing Huskies team, said: 'This is the chance of a lifetime for John and he's very excited about it.'

At the end of the event, Mickey Mouse will jet in from Paris to present the winners with their awards.

Sneak Preview

HIS GRACE The Duke of Argyll paid tribute to local people during a 'sneak preview' of the new Mid Argyll Swimming Pool last week.

As President of the Patrons of Mid Argyll Community Enterprise Limited (MACEL), the group behind the pool, His Grace was given a personal viewing of the facility last Thursday. MACEL chairman, John MacLean, told His Grace that the company, with the help from local people, had raised a staggering £700,000 for the project.

The Duke of Argyll congratulated MACEL on the 'superb' facility and said: 'It is a marvellous reflection of the people of Mid Argyll.'

After the tour Mr MacLean said: 'Coming along today and giving us nothing but praise shows His Grace's commitment to the local community.'

MACEL organised the tour for the Duke of Argyll, as he will be unable to attend the official opening of the pool on March 16.

Thought for the Week with Marilyn Shedden



A FRIEND of mine has recently bought a little Smart car. As you know this is not a large vehicle! When she was going up the track to High Bellochantuy, she met four-year-old Dougall who looked at the car and in a puzzled tone asked, 'Where is the rest of your car, Fran?'

Dougall is used to tractors and trailers and just couldn't quite fathom the dimensions of such a little vehicle on a farm track.

I thought this a little bit like faith – we don't always need to have a huge amount to get us through the day.

However, sometimes the road does seem too rough or too long, and we just can't face the journey. We feel we do need a tractor and a trailer load of faith to get us up the hill we're on.

Our little car of faith does indeed seem too small.

How can such a small car get up such a high hill, which is so dangerously peppered with pot-holes?

How can our little amount of faith get us up the hill of troubles when it is so peppered with problems?

Where can we find a suitable trailer we can attach to see us through our dilemmas?

Maybe it's not a trailer we need after all, but a word of encouragement or a friendly greeting on our journey.

Maybe the right word at the right time will provide us with a bit of extra acceleration for the last summit.

Maybe when we get to the top and look back we will wonder how we did it, and we will remember that for the next time.

Maybe God will give us a 'Dougall' on the way to make us smile and carry on with the journey.



Down Memory Lane

This year's Mid Argyll Music Festival takes place from March 19-26 and so, in view of this, we thought we'd take a look Down Memory Lane. This week's photograph was taken in 2003 and shows pupils from Craignish Primary. Look out for some more old music festival photographs next week.

Procedures for closing schools are less than transparent

Sir,
Once again the Administration of Argyll and Bute Council have voted to go to consultation on school closure proposals. The Administration had already voted for consultation but then decided against the original proposal at a special Council meeting called by the opposition groups.

I was relieved to see the removal of some schools from the school closure consultation but dismayed to see others now included on the list.

There does not appear to be clear, robust criteria for closing schools in the heart of our communities. How can communities argue for retention of their school when the procedure rules are less than transparent?

Better productive use should be made of our schools within our communities rather than threatening to close them.

Better productive use should be made of our schools within our communities rather than

Letters to the Editor

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threatening to close them.
**Anne Horn,
Councillor - Ward 2,
Kintyre and the Islands.**

Schools debacle

Sir,
The latest proposals for school closures voted through by the Council at their March 3 meeting are no more coherent than their previous efforts; the event was merely another sorry chapter in the ignominious debacle which has become the norm for this Council's education department.

Their new plan, if such it can be called, is without any supporting data, based solely on the impressions formed by Councillor Morton during her recent whirlwind tour of some schools.

Nor am I impressed by the council's assertion that their new approach represents 'greater transparency, greater detail and greater involvement from the communities'.

How can we take this seriously when, for example, their pre-consultation meetings are not open to the public which they are supposed to be consulting, only those who are invited to attend?

And where are the 'greater details' they promise? There are absolutely none – no estimates of the transport costs of the dispossessed school kids, for example. So there isn't any way we can calculate how much money (if any) would be saved by shutting their schools.

There is only one substantial point, a rather nasty one, in this latest plan which distinguishes it from their previous inept attempts. From now on, ALL schools throughout Argyll will be on a permanent hit list. The council slipped in this insidious proviso be calling it, in their habitual doublespeak, 'a review of the schools on an ongoing basis'. So none of our schools will ever again be secure and will

press policy

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

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

have to battle constantly to stay open. The destructive affect of this uncertainty on the schoolchildren, their parents, their teachers, their communities, would be catastrophic. It is unthinkable. So can we please just finish this farce and get back to educating our youngsters.

**S.White,
Struan Cottage,
Minard.**

Election warm-up

Sir,
With the Scottish Parliamentary Election due this May the competing parties are warming up for what could be an interesting contest.

Here is Argyll the sitting tenants are the Lib Dems. This time their prospective candidate Alison Hay will be split with the Liberal George White.

In the past Labour voters have been inclined to vote tactically for Liberal to keep the Tories out.

A split votes is of no use. Labour's polling has increased in the last few elections, so it would be best to vote for the party of their true intentions.

**James Simpson,
Treasurer, Mid Argyll, Islay
and Kintyre Branch of The
Labour Party.**

Sympathetic

approach needed

Sir,
It would seem that British Waterways' Glasgow architects care little for their client's Scheduled Ancient Monument; judging by their current planning application (10/01237/PP).

To quote Historic Scotland's comments on BW's proposal: 'The new buildings would form a dominant, long, high block with a flat front facing directly onto the towpath and basin area. It seems likely that the development would have a significant and detrimental impact on the canal's setting. We would strongly recommend that...the buildings be set back from the basin edge, in order that the mass facing immediately onto the canal be reduced'.

The fact that these same comments were made to them some seven months ago by neighbours to this development shows that squeezing as many three storey houses as possible onto the site is more important to British Waterways. Oh, by the way, if this scheme goes ahead, Traffic Scotland is insisting that traffic lights be placed on the Ardrishaig swing bridge.

Let's hope that our local planning authorities take a more sympathetic approach to our important local landmark.

**Geoff Johnson,
St Clair Way, Ardrishaig.**



Eamonn Staunton's sister, Bridget, receives the Trees and Timber award from Cabinet Secretary, Richard Lochhead on behalf of her brother.

Mid Argyll apprentice wins top award

Trees and Timber Learner of the Year

A MID Argyll forestry apprentice has been named this year's Trees and Timber Learner of the Year at the annual Lantra Land-based and Aquaculture Learner of the Year awards.

Eamonn Staunton, who is completing a Modern Apprenticeship in Trees and Timber with the Forestry Commission Scotland, was among the winners who met the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment, Richard Lochhead.

'Completing a Modern Apprenticeship has been really beneficial as it allowed me to learn from others in the organisation; it also provided a lot of training which I then put into practice during the work placement,' explained Eamonn.

Through the apprenticeship I have been able to raise the standard of my work.

award winner
Eamonn Staunton

'Through the apprenticeship I have been able to raise the standard of my work, and this is just a start. I am driven by a genuine interest in what I do and I hope to achieve great things in forestry and make a positive contribution to the industry.'

Ian Wilson from Forestry Commission Scotland said: 'Eamonn shows an unrivalled

willingness to learn new skills and new areas of knowledge, making the most of opportunities to improve and develop. Studying through the Modern Apprenticeship programme has helped Eamonn immensely, from operation, to conservation and recreation; he has always achieved the necessary high standard and exceeded the expected outputs. Eamonn sets a good example for other apprentices to follow and passes on his knowledge and skills to them.'

The awards, which attracted over 60 nominations, are designed to inspire new entrants to take up a career in the land-based and aquaculture sector and make employers aware of the benefits of a well-trained workforce.

Dalmally mart hosts annual spring sale

UNITED Auctions held their annual early spring sale of all classes of cattle and sheep at Dalmally Auction Mart last Saturday.

All classes of cattle and sheep met a spirited trade with the bullocks averaging 179pence per kilo and the heifers 163pence.

The bullocks averaged £525 per head, showing a decrease of £38.78 while the heifers averaged £435, a drop of £39.08.

Bullocks sold to 202pence per kilo for Charolais crosses from Balliemanoach and heifers sold to 190pence, also Charolais crosses from the

same home.

Blackface hogs from Auch Estate sold to £88 per head, while Suffolk cross hogs from Couston Farm sold to £66. Couston Farm also sold cross Suffolk ewes to £70 with Texel crosses from Larach Bhan, Kilchrenan selling to £59.



Pictured, from left, are Scottish Agricultural College's veterinary investigation officer, Colin Mason, Alison Barr and Fiona Campbell of Dalriada Vets, Lochgilphead, John Forster from SAC Campbeltown, and Justine Armour from Dalriada Vets.

06_a10johnes01

Disease meeting at Ardrishaig

AN INFECTIOUS wasting condition was the subject of a lengthy debate in Ardrishaig last Wednesday night when Scottish Agricultural College veterinary investigation officer, Colin Mason, talked to farmers on Johne's Disease.

Johne's Disease is caused by Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis (commonly known as Map). It is genetically related to the organism that causes tuberculosis, but does not cause tuberculosis in either humans or animals.

Mr Mason talked about the damage the disease can cause to the intestines of affected animals, and in cattle this results in profuse and persistent diarrhoea, severe weight loss, loss of condition and infertility. Affected animals eventually and inevitably die.

Alison Barr, of Dalriada Vets, Lochgilphead, said: 'This practice sees one-two cases of Johne's Disease per year. We have lower incidents than other parts of the country so we are very lucky in that our cattle appear relatively free of it but we must not be complacent.'

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Spring comes early at Tarbert's Charity Concert

Tarbert Youth Music Series a tremendous success

A CAPACITY audience at Tarbert Village Hall was treated to a stunning programme of folk and classical music on Monday.

With 21 young and talented performers from Tarbert and 15 from Lochgilphead, this first concert in the 'Tarbert Youth Music Series' proved a tremendous success.

Springtime theme

Organised by a group of parents, the Tarbert Youth Music Series was created to give talented young musicians from schools across Mid Argyll the opportunity to perform regularly within an informal setting.

With the Village Hall decorated in a Springtime theme, and even the cakes for the interval decorated with Spring flowers and musical notation, the informal ambience was set to encourage the young musicians to give their best performances.

Performers included the Tarbert Academy Folk Group, a piping quartet from Lochgilphead, Loch Fyne Strings, which included performers from both Tarbert and

Lochgilphead, and the Tarbert Academy Vocal Ensemble.

To complete the varied and exciting programme, the audience were also treated to a varied range of solo and duet performances from both High Schools and from Primary Schools across the Mid Argyll area, including piano, vocals, cello, violin, flute, saxophone and trombone.

First

This first concert in the series was particularly aimed at giving young people the chance to perfect their performances prior to appearing in the Mid Argyll Music Festival at the end of March.

Organisers are hoping that relationships forged between young musicians at the various schools will ensure that, at the next concert in the series on Friday June 10 at Tarbert Village Hall, the schools will join forces to encourage the young performers to play together in a variety of combos.

The concert also raised over £200 for the RNLI and the Tarbert Academy school fund.



Tarbert Academy Vocal Ensemble. 04_c10conc02



Members of the Loch Fyne Strings. 04_c10conc04



Pipers and wind instrumentalists from Lochgilphead Joint Campus. 04_c10conc01

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Community Noticeboard

ARGYLL AND BUTE CONCERT TOURS welcome

THE SCOTTISH REED TRIO
 Featuring "Dalriada" by Oliver Searle (World Première)

Mid Argyll - Kilmory Council Chamber
 Saturday 19 March-7.30 (reservations only)
 Phone - 01546 886 384

Kintyre - Lorne + Lowland Church Hall
 Tuesday 22 March-7.30 (tickets at the door)

Kintyre Branch SNP Meeting

Wed. 16 March at 7.30pm
 in Argyll Hotel, Main St, Campbeltown

New members welcome.

ZUMBATHON ZUMBA fitness

Friday 18th March
 7pm - 9pm in the Victoria Hall
 £5 - All money going to Comic Relief

No need to book, just come along on the night.

Contact Aqualibrium on 01586 551212 for more details.

Campbeltown Flower Club

Demonstration
 By David Brodie
 in the Red Cross Hall
 on Tuesday 15th March at 7.30pm

Price £5 - including light supper
 Everybody Welcome

Lorne & Lowland Church Guild

Annual Sale of Work on Saturday 12th March at 2pm

To be opened by Mr. Jim Campbell Usual Stalls

NATURAL HISTORY OF ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF MID ARGYLL

Friday 11th March 2011
 Conservation on Mull, Coll and Tiree
 Colin McFarlane Area Office SNH Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead 7.30pm

Dalriada Accordion and Fiddle Club

30th Anniversary from Prestwick the IAN MUIR TRIO
 Tuesday 15 March 7.30
 The Argyll Inn. Tickets £5. All welcome.

PENINVER PLAYERS DRAMA CLUB

Invite You To **SUNDAY TEA** At Peninver Village Hall Sunday 13th March 2pm

Home Bakes, Sandwiches, Teas, Coffees, Raffle, Bric a Brac

The Bishop and the Big Feller
 Drama at Carnassarie Castle
 March 19th 2pm to 3.30pm

Bob Pegg and friends will lead you through the Castle with stories, music and songs.

Booking is not required for this FREE event

www.kilmartin.org or call 01546 510278

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SCOTLAND Campbeltown Branch

Monthly meeting will be held in the Masonic Lodge on Friday 11th March commencing 1930hrs.

Any new members wishing to join should arrive at 19.00hrs. Medals may be worn.

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Coffee and crafts at SWRI group event

THERE was a brisk trade for coffee, the sales table and raffle at last Saturday's SWRI Mid Argyll Group's coffee morning in the Red Cross Hall.

The Group would like to thank all members of the public who supported their event.

For various reasons it is quite difficult to keep the SWRI flag flying these days

Results:
For Institutes with most points (over 18 members): Dr Dewar Cup: Lochgilphead; (17 members or less): Jessie Gordon Cup: Kilmichael Glassary; Institute with most points per member: Mrs John Sinclair Cup: Kilmichael Glassary; the most points in the Housewives section: Golden Jubilee Cup: Catherine Smith; the most points in Handcraft section: Dunmore Cup: Jean Blackwood; for

and the members are grateful for the £420 raised for funds.

Whilst the coffee was being served judging was taking place in the MS Centre of the many competition entries.

This took a good deal of deliberation by judges Isabella Soudan (floral arrangements), Jim Hatton (bulbs) and members of Kintyre SWRI Group.

the member with most points overall: Mrs Ramsey Cup: Catherine Smith; for the best entry in Floral Art: Baden Quaich: Catherine Smith; most points in 'Flower, bulb and plant' section: Flower Cup: Catherine Smith; theme 'Teddy Bears Picnic': Foursomes Cup: Lochgilphead; the Special competition winner: Mrs Doris MacPhail Cup: Lorna McKellar; best embroidery entry: Celtic Waiter: Lorna McKellar.

Dalriada accordion club celebrates 30 years

JUST over 30 years ago, Bill Black and his Scottish Dance Band struck up to start the inaugural club night of the Dalriada Accordion and Fiddle club, and since then, without interruption, club nights with guest artists have been held every month from September through to May.

'Who's who'

The list of illustrious bands and guest artists reads like a 'Who's who' of Scottish music, and this month is no exception, as the Ian Muir Sound will step up to the mike next Tuesday (March 15) in the Argyll Inn to set feet a-



Ian Muir will get feet tapping at next week's Dalriada Accordion and Fiddle Club's 30th birthday bash.

tappin' and memories winging back over the years.

Ian has long been one of Scotland's foremost band leaders and solo accordionists, a fact recognised by the Royal College in Glasgow, who appointed him first head of the traditional music course started up some years ago and still going strong.

Ian will be joined by Gordon Simpson (fiddle) and Neil Macmillan (piano), two great musicians who have played with many groups in their time, and so a fabulous night of music is sure to be in store for the Dalriada devotees.

A feature of Club nights is always the local and visiting musicians who start the evening off - accordionists, fiddlers, mouthorgan and whistle players, drummers, guitarists, double bass players, pianists have all been heard over the years, and without them the club scene would be all the poorer.

John Hunt, the current club chairman, will start proceedings at 7.30pm for what is sure to be a night to remember and players and spectators alike are extended a warm welcome to come along and 'share in the birthday cake celebrations'.



SWRI Mid Argyll Group's coffee morning was held in the Red Cross Hall last Saturday.

Premiere musical tour to feature new 'Dalriada' Suite

A WORLD première musical tour of Argyll and Bute from March 18-24 by the Scottish Reed Trio will feature Dalriada - a brand new piece by leading Scottish composer, Dr Oliver Searle.

This Suite in six movements will last some 18 minutes and,

fascinatingly, will reflect individual aspects of the six areas hosting the concerts, Bute, Mid Argyll, Cowal, Kintyre, Islay and Oban.

Oliver Searle, born in Edinburgh in 1977, grew up in Berwick, but has strong family connections with Argyll,

in particular with the Isle of Bute. He was, therefore, the ideal choice when the Argyll and Bute Concert Tours agreed to a proposal from the artists to commission this special Suite.

The members of the Scottish Reed Trio are all graduates of

the RSAMD and Catherine Earnshaw (oboe), Frances Pybus (clarinet) and Heather Kent (bassoon) have all worked with Scotland's major orchestras, forming their Ensemble in 2008 out of a shared enjoyment of chamber music.

Big Green Tarbert celebrating success within the community

BIG Green Tarbert's current projects end on March 31 and on March 19 the group will be celebrating its success.

Thirty years from now people will still be eating the fruits of their labours; literally, in the community orchards and more people know how to grow their own food.

And work BGT did on energy reductions in a 1960's block of flats is a key legacy that can be replicated in similar properties across Scotland.

Likewise its Householders Energy Reduction Manual can be used by people in the West of Scotland to carry

out carbon reduction in their homes.

Major asset

The BGT project developed the Community Garden, which won funds to create an outdoor classroom at the Health Centre. This will be a major asset for the community.

Back in November 2008 Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust was awarded a grant from the Climate Challenge Fund and set to work. The aim was to make the area greener, healthier, wealthier, fairer, smarter, safer and stronger through on the ground projects and

help the community face up to Climate Change and Peak Oil.

There have been three objectives: reduce the community's CO2 emissions by using less energy and more renewables; help withstand the shocks from increased energy prices and Climate Change, and

raise well being, particularly amongst the young and those on low incomes.

BGT worked with, and brought together, the whole community, including schools.

See next week's advertisement for details of the celebrations.

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Hereafter tells the story of three people who are touched by death in different ways. George (Matt Damon) is a blue-collar American who has a special connection to the afterlife. On the other side of the world, Marie (Cecile De France), a French journalist, has a near-death experience that shakes her reality. And when Marcus, a London schoolboy, loses the person closest to him, he desperately needs answers. Each on a path in search of the truth, their lives will intersect, forever changed by what they believe might - or must - exist in the hereafter.

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

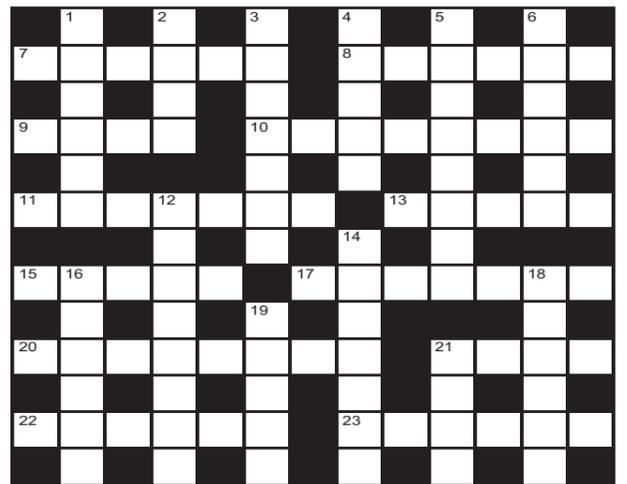
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Across

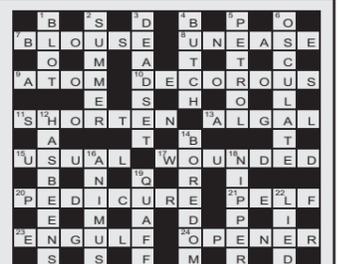
- 7 Mention a spit for the first time? (6)
- 8 Delivery service (6)
- 9 Combustible heap (4)
- 10 Own code (4-4)
- 11 Make (7)
- 13 Written work (5)
- 15 Large North American mammal (5)
- 17 Letter to pants! (1-6)
- 20 Light (8)
- 21 Not us (4)
- 22 Clear (6)
- 23 Discordant (6)

Down

- 1 Words uttered in reverence (6)
- 2 Unclothed (4)
- 3 Science (7)
- 4 A while (5)
- 5 Small drink (8)
- 6 Rice dish (6)
- 12 Untidy (8)
- 14 Remove from self or truck (7)
- 16 Decide not to join in (3,3)
- 18 Boring tool (6)
- 19 Profundity (5)
- 21 Captured (4)



Last Week's Solution



TARBERT

FOUR NEW trustees have been appointed to the board of Tarbert Harbour Authority.

Philip Robertson and Archie McCallum were selected whilst current board members Alan Macdonald and Scott Woods have been reappointed to the board.

Kenny MacNab, chairman of the appointments panel and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees for the authority said the calibre and experience of the candidates was outstanding. He added the new appointments would strengthen the harbour board.

The four men, all from Tarbert, will take up their positions on April 1.

Kenny thanked the two retiring trustees, Steven Bleasby and David McBride, for their time and hard work, which has helped the board achieve much success in recent years.

The installation of 90 new finger berths, the fitting of Cathodic Protection to the Fish Quay and most recently, the award of a £1million grant from the Scottish Government Town Centre Regeneration Fund. This paid for the development of Dickies old Boatyard Site, transforming a derelict corner of the village into a pleasant walkway around the Harbour.

Kenny added: 'The efforts of the last Board of Trustees has paved the way for these successes to be built on.'



LITTLE Holly Guy from Tarbert joined other youngsters last weekend by baking plates full of delicious cakes to raise money for the Tarbert Youth Group's annual Mull Sea Eagle trip.

Helped by mum, Genny, Gail Brack and youth group coordinator, Heather Bellshaw, the youngsters sold enough cakes to raise £117 for their trip in April.

Speaking after the event, held last Saturday, Heather said: 'I would like to say a very big thank you to these girls for all their dedication and to all who helped by donating cakes and buying from us.'

The next event on the youth group's calendar is their Easter eggstravanza April 17.

LOCHAWA

Loch safety meeting

THE annual meeting of the Loch Awe Safety Company, formerly Loch Watch, has been scheduled for June 14.

The meeting will be held in Kilchrenan Village Hall and will start at 7.30pm.

Open day

LOCH Awe Safety Committee is inviting loch users and locals to an open day tomorrow (Saturday) at Ardbrecknish Boat Yard.

The committee hopes former Oban police sergeant Neil Owen will be attending and demonstrating an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), a hi-tech radio controlled plane that can use heat-seeking technology in search and rescue. There will also be demonstrations from the coastguard.

The committee has also begun spending the £8,000 raised by the families of the four fishermen, who drowned on the loch in 2009. They are marking reefs in the loch and part of the open day will be to explain the markers to loch users.

FORD

SWRI hear from Oban Mountain Rescue

AT THE March meeting of Ford SWRI members of the Oban Mountain Rescue Team gave a slide show and talk.

Neil McGougan showed slides of ice climbing in Scotland and Norway. The scenery was breathtaking and the climbing photographs were amazing. Ian Campbell then gave a talk on the Rescue Team. The Oban Team covers a vast area from Rannoch Moor down to Campbeltown and works closely with the Arrochar Rescue Team.

After the talk the other team member present, Hazel White, assisted in answering questions and showing the various items of specialist equipment used.

There are about 35 regular team members and, at a call out, between 10 and 15 initially scramble. To get people off the mountains a helicopter is often used. The RAF and Police helicopters have been used in the past but there is a concern that their services

may be withdrawn.

The Mountain Rescue Team is not restricted in respect of Health and Safety considerations and take the common sense approach.

Anyone wishing to make a donation can do so by visiting - www.obanmrt.co.uk

After an entertaining evening a supper was provided for the visitors from both Kilmichael and Lochgilphead Rural and the many Ford locals who attended.

The competition was to fill a Spectacle case with all that would be required in an emergency. Results: 1. Marie McPhee; 2. Sheena McNair; 3. Sheena Carmichael.

The next meeting, April 6, is to be held at Kilmartin Museum and is a cookery demonstration.

LOCHGOILHEAD

Curling rink to close after 24 years

THE LAST remaining curling rink in Argyll, the Drimsynie Curling Rink, in Lochgoilhead, is to close at the end of the month.

The Campbell family, of Lochgoilhead, who own and operate the ice rink told curlers that the rink would close at the end of the curling season, as a drop in players meant the rink and the Argyll curling league are no longer financially viable.

In a letter circulated to curlers on Monday, the Campbell family said: 'This has not been an easy decision to make. For us as a company to commit the finances to putting in a new ice plant we would have to see that curling as a sport has the potential to grow. Our income from curling over the last few years has shown a downward trend and that does not look like changing.'

Home to the Argyll Province Club, the closure of the Drimsynie rink spells the end to the Argyll league and mid week curling matches on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

The secretary of the Argyll Province Club, the umbrella organisation that incorporates 13 curling, Jim Brown said he was 'saddened' by the news. But he added: 'We knew it was coming as support for curling as a sport has waned in recent years.'

Jim said the Argyll curlers could still compete at other rinks but it would be less frequently because of the distance to be travelled. 'The future of the Argyll Province Club will be decided at our

AGM, which will be held on March 26,' he said.

CAIRNDOW

FyneFest date announced

CAIRNDOW'S dynamic micro-brewery Fyne Ales has announced the date of this year's beer festival.

Billed as FyneFest 2011, the two-day event will take place on June 11-12 in the brewery's Cairndow grounds.

Promising a tempting mix of 'Real Ale, Real Food, Real Music', FyneFest is seeking to build on the huge success of last year's festival, the first the brewery had promoted under its own banner.

Fyne Ales managing director, Jamie Delap, said: 'We were delighted with the success of last year's festival and want to take the event a step further this year. We are using what we learned from last year to lend the festival wider appeal. Whilst the ales will still hold centre stage, they will be matched by the quality of the food and the music which we hope will attract new visitors who may not be immediately drawn to a traditional style beer festival.'

INVERARAY

Piping honor for Inveraray's Robert

AN INVERARAY resident has been presented with a Life Members certificate by the Kintyre Piping Society.

Robert Stewart was presented with his award earlier this week by Willie MacCallum of the Kintyre Piping Society.

Mr Stewart was unable to attend the Society's 60th Anniversary Dinner, held last Saturday in Campbeltown.

Mr MacCallum travelled from his home in Kintyre to present Mr Stewart with his award, which recognises the contribution he has made to the society over the years.

Mr Stewart was delighted to receive the award, which he describes as 'a great honour'.

Master class for history society

HISTORY buffs in Inveraray discovered their artistic flair when the Inveraray and District Local History Society were treated to a painting master class.

Artist Don MacNeil and

his wife Jean, from Newton, joined the society for their March meeting to deliver a 'Scottish Art and Artists' presentation.

But the talk soon became a workshop as members were told they were about to create their own 'work of art'. Setting up all the paraphernalia in an artists studio Don charged the group with painting a landscape.

Attendees took great delight in the project painting their own seascapes complete with seagulls - all with minimal supervision.

Jean produced a splendid seascape of Loch Fyne, with Inveraray as a background, in a matter of minutes, showing the group how the professionals do it.

Inveraray piper plays at Kintyre event

RENOWNED Inveraray piper, Stuart Liddell, helped Kintyre Piping Society celebrate its 60th anniversary on Saturday with a dinner and recital at the Argyll Arms Hotel, Campbeltown.

CRAIGNISH

Fair trade a roaring success

FAIR TRADE shoppers in Craignish went some way to meeting the 90kg Malawian Rice Challenge as the village celebrated 'World Food Night'.

The rice challenge, organised by Just Trading Scotland, tasks churches, schools and communities with selling 90kg of Malawian Kilombero rice - the profits from the sale of the rice are used to educate a farmer's child.

Speaking at the event John Riches, founder of Just Trading Scotland, told the audience: 'If a farmer in Malawi can sell 90kg of rice at a fair price, then he would have sufficient income to send one of his children to high school for a year.'

'It does not matter how much rice a farmer grows if there is no market for it,' he added. 'By providing such a market, individuals and small local groups in Scotland can make a real difference to the lives of the Malawian farmers.'

The event, organised by Craignish Parish Church as part of Fair Trade Fortnight, featured fair trade foodstuffs, crafts and cards from Malawi, Sri Lanka, Madagascar and Palestine for sale.

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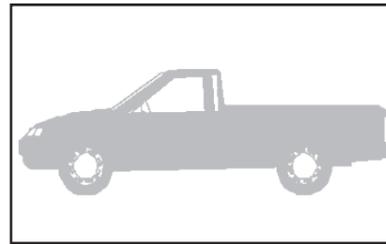


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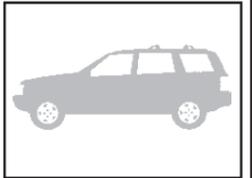


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DOWN TIME AT LOCHGILPHEAD MEDICAL CENTRE

The Scottish Government has decided that the computer system used in most GP Practices in Scotland is no longer fit for purpose. Accordingly Lochgilphead Medical Centre is having to install a complete new computer system and will be without computers from 28th March for approximately 10 days. Following this, all GPs, Practice Nurses, District Nurses, administration and ancillary staff have to be trained in the new system. This will take time!

Over this period, we are asking all our patients to be patient and help us through this process. It is important that patients avoid this time for non-urgent appointments such as reviews and check-ups. Prescriptions should be ordered in advance of the period from 28th March till 6th April.

We apologise for any inconvenience for this disruption and hope that you will bear with us through this.

Ardrishaig Horticultural Society AGM

Monday 28th March 2011
7pm
Argyll Arms, Ardrishaig
All welcome

Ford Boat Club AGM

Friday 18th March 2011
8.30pm
Ford Hall

THE CORRAN SINGERS LOCHGILPHEAD



Following the retirement of our Musical Director, this enthusiastic 30 -strong choir is looking for a Musical Director / Accompanist for September 2011.

If you are interested, please apply in the first instance with CV to:
Mrs M MacCallum (Secretary),
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CAMPBELTOWN LIBRARY EXTRAORDINARY SUNDAY OPENING

In recognition of the final visit of HMS Campbeltown to the town before its decommissioning, the library will open to the public from 10am until 4:30pm on Sunday March 13th. This will allow access to the Internet for the ship's company and an extra opportunity for the people of Campbeltown to use the library as they would on a weekday. It will also ensure that the whole of Aqualibrium is involved in commemorating the ship's visit. Books borrowed on Sunday March 13th will be due for return to the library on or before Tuesday April 12th.

PLANNING

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

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS

● Ref No: 11/00329/PP
Applicant: Mr Scott Woods
Proposal: Installation of replacement windows and formation of additional window opening
Site Address: 1 Bankend Harbour Street Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6UA
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tarbert

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

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services 67/ 69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX by the 01/04/2011

● Ref No: 11/00240/PPP
Applicant: Donald Maxwell MacDonald
Proposal: Site for erection of 8 dwellinghouses
Site Address: The Old Sawmill Tayinloan Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XG
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Tayinloan

● Ref No: 11/00242/PPP
Applicant: Ms Louise Potter
Proposal: Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and outbuilding and installation of septic tank
Site Address: Land West Of Red Gate Lodge Kilmichael Glen Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8QL
Location of Plans: Council Office Manse Brae Lochgilphead

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Councils website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

Any letter of representation the council receives about a planning application is considered a public document. Please therefore note that representations will be made available for public inspection and, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, will be copied on request. They will also be published on the council's web site. The author of such a representation is solely responsible for its content and accuracy.

Anonymous representations will be "shredded" and those marked confidential will be returned to the sender. Neither will be taken into account when the application is being considered. Details of representations we receive on planning applications can be viewed on the council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/publicaccess

Lochgilphead Phoenix Project AGM

Tuesday 15th March 2011
7.30pm
Community Centre, Lochgilphead
All welcome

Cancer Research UK Kintyre Committee AGM

Tuesday 15th March in Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown at 7.30pm
All Welcome

KINTYRE CRIME PREVENTION PANEL A.G.M.

Wednesday 16th March 2011 at 7.30pm
in Conference Room at Campbeltown Police Station.

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RECRUITMENT



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

We are currently recruiting for the following vacancies located at our Marine Site on the Island of Mull:

Senior Marine Operatives (Ref SMO/SM/11/03-A)
(Salary £21,630 to £24,720 per annum dependant on experience)

The ideal candidate will have experience in fish husbandry and have the capability to lead a small team in the day-to-day operations. This position would suit someone who is self-motivated, with good communication and organisational skills and be able to demonstrate prior experience in working within a small, focused team in a constantly changing and challenging environment. They should also have a good understanding of Health and Safety requirements and the awareness of environmental issues. Experience of aquaculture and boat handling is essential for this post, the Company can also offer further development opportunities. Applicants should also have good IT Skills.

Marine Operatives (Ref MO/SM/11/03-B)
(Salary £15,965 to £19,570 per annum dependant on experience)

The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic, self-motivated, have good communication skills and be able to demonstrate prior experience of working within a small, focused team in a constantly changing and challenging environment. Previous aquaculture and boat handling experience is desirable but not essential as the company will also offer further development opportunities through its in-house training and also through external providers.

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For an application form and job description, please contact:
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Tel. No. 01499 600 435 Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 5.00pm Friday, 25th March, 2011
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com



THE MACHRIHANISH GOLF CLUB Machrihanish, Campbeltown, Argyll

Has a vacancy for an APPRENTICE GREENKEEPER

We are looking for an enthusiastic hard working person prepared to work flexible hours to include weekend work on a rota basis. The successful applicant will be required to attend college to work towards NVQ level 2 Sportsturf qualification.

Closing Date for Applications 28th March 2011

Apply In Writing To:

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Salary £24,000 pa

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Closing date 15th March 2011

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Company No. SC321870 / Registered Charity No. SC039637



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

We are currently recruiting for a key individual to assist with the management of our Processing Plant at Cairndow in Argyll:

Plant Processing Assistant Manager (A/PROC/CW/004)
(Salary £23,000 - £26,600 per annum dependant on experience, based on a 40 hour week)

The ideal candidate must have knowledge and proven experience of working within the food processing industry, which will include having several years' practical experience. You will be required to support the Plant Processing Manager, in all aspects of the day to day running operations of the department efficiently and effectively. In addition to co-ordinating product processing, packing, dispatch and supervision and maintenance of all equipment within your area of control, the successful applicant will assist in all aspects of staff management to ensure that the processing process is carried out to the highest of hygiene and quality standards ensuring best practice as well as customer satisfaction is reached. The candidate will have good man management skills, able to demonstrate team leadership and interpersonal skills, with strong IT, communication and organisational skills are all important for this position, as is the ability to work well within the existing team. Applicants will have the ability to problem solve, motivate staff therefore achieving the best results through applying your leadership skills and abilities to manage a large already existing team successfully.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package.

For an application form and job description, please contact:
HR Department, Ardinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH.
Tel. No. 01499 600 435 Email: cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 5.00pm Friday, 25 March, 2011
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

Biomass Project Sales Manager

Biomass heating has an essential role to play in Scotland's renewable energy future. HWEnergy is a fast growing and dynamic company, leading the way in this industry. Due to exciting growth plans we have an opportunity for a Biomass Project Sales Manager to join our team. This role will require a personal and hands on approach to managing customer relationships and achieving sales targets through the development of solutions that meet client needs. You will develop an understanding of individual client needs and objectives, and, with support from colleagues, develop these into detailed designs and proposals. You will have an ability to develop competent technical solutions and a proven track record in a technical or engineering sales environment. Experience in the rural properties sector would be an advantage.

This is a fantastic opportunity to play a leading role in helping grow an established business in one of the most exciting sectors of the Renewables market. Requiring a regular presence at our new HQ, idyllically situated in Fort William, the 'outdoor capital of the UK', the role will involve travel throughout Scotland.

A competitive salary with bonus incentive will be offered. To apply send full c.v. together with current salary to craig.sutherland@hwenergy.co.uk. Closing date for applications is 25th March 2011.



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- Minimum 5 years' required in the following duties:-
- Security and maintenance of house and garden (Basic maintenance skills required include general building knowledge).
 - Duties include chauffeuring and on-call weekend and evening work required.

Ideal candidates should be self-motivated, adaptable and experienced. Accommodation can be provided as part of the employment package. Clean driving license essential. Fluent command of English language necessary. A vehicle is provided for estate duties only, applicants will need their own car. References required.

Please apply with C.V and covering letter to Bidwells, Carn Dearg House, North Road, Fort William, PH33 6PP

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DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

FRIDGE FREEZER upright fridge freezer, £30 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

MICROWAVE oven. Telephone after 6pm, £10 Telephone 01631 720597.

MINI OVEN with rotisserie and grill, new condition, £40ono Telephone 01852 316204 or 07780 801016.

RAYBURN COOKER black, two door oven, oil fired, model 308K, little used approx 5/6 years old. To view visit MacQueens Storage, Glengallan Road, Oban, £750 Telephone 01631 564848.

TWO RING CERAMIC HOB to build into work top, electric, good condition, £49.99 Telephone 01631 730437.

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FIREARMS

RIFLE 243 RUGER M77 Heavy Barrel Nikko Stirling Scope (3-9x40) Sling, cheek piece, good working gun, FAC only, £200 Telephone 01583 431574.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD hardwood blocks, unsplit, delivered free, £49.99 Telephone 07920 116297.

IKEA CORNER TV UNIT and matching CD rack, old wood, medium wood colour. Excellent condition, £49.99 Telephone 07867 558304.

FURNITURE

2 SEATER BED SETTEE greenish blue, metal action, removable arm rest covers, £30 Telephone 01967 421284 Morven.

BEDROOM CABINET with mirror and drawers, £20 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

BUTTERFLY TABLE with 4 chairs light wood and white formica needs some tlc as damp got to varnish but plenty of use left, £15 Telephone 07868 481242.

CHAIRS two upright chairs, blue fabric with wooden armrests, £30 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

DESK wooden writing desk with storage, £30 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

DINING CHAIRS four wooden dining chairs, £49 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

DINING TABLE Wooden Dining Table, Round, £49 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

DISPLAY UNIT Mahogany Display Unit, with glass cupboard and storage. Telephone after 6pm, £20 Telephone 01631 720597.

DOUBLE DIVAN including mattress and headboard, very good condition, £49 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

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MAHOGONY STAINED DINING CHAIRS set of 4, £49.99 Telephone 01631 562750 evenings and weekend.

MAHOGONY STAINED DINING TABLE 80 x 120cm(extending to 180) seats up to 10, £49.99 Telephone 01631 562750 evenings and weekend.

NEST OF TABLES three wooden tables, good condition, £20 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

PINE DOUBLE BED slight damage, £30 Telephone 01631 710608.

SINGLE BEDS selection of single beds, good condition, £15 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

SINGLE PINE BED no mattress, £20 Telephone 01631 730437.

SOFA AND ARMCHAIR two seater sofa and armchair, brown fabric, very good condition, £49 Telephone 01631 720597 after 6pm.

STAG DRESSING TABLE Beautiful mahogany colour with gold colour knob handles. One long drawer, 2 smaller drawers each side. Good condition, £40 Telephone 01631 562936.

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WALNUT DISPLAY CABINET middle walnut door with glass display units either side, £45 Telephone 01838 200672.

GARDEN

GARDMAN GREENHOUSE AUTOVENT automatic vent for use in a greenhouse, similar to Argos 720/4517 page 53. Suitable for 6'x6' or larger, adjustable, £17.25 Telephone 01631 563978.

GARDEN MACHINERY

HEDGE TRIMMER Black & Decker electric hedge trimmer, long cord, not a lot of use, £20 Telephone 07920 116297.

HEDGE TRIMMER Black and Decker, with extra long cable, good working order, £30 Telephone 07747 016900.

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OIL BOILER Worcester Bosch, Daivemoor, utility, 2006, model, 15/19KW, heats 3 bed bungalow, drives ten radiators, with pressure vessel, £350 ono. view Blairmore, near Dunoon, Argyll. Telephone 01369 840849.

HIGHLAND DRESS

KILT JACKET Lovat tweed pure wool kilt jacket, in excellent condition, to fit approx. 40" chest, height up to 5'8", £45 Telephone 01631 570767.

KILT JACKET immaculate bottle green wool kilt jacket, to fit chest approx. 40", height up to 5'8", £45 Telephone 01631 570767.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

GEMSTONE COLLECTION small collection of semi-precious gemstones. Also partially polished gemstones and rough pieces of amethyst and other stones, £30 Telephone 01631 564326.

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HOME ENTERTAINMENT

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ALBA TWIN DECK STEREO midi system with Karaoke, £20 Telephone 01838 200672.

TV STAND modern black glass TV stand, suitable for TV up to 28". As new £100 to buy new, £40 Telephone 01631 564536.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

BACK TO WALL W C PAN new, white, £25 Telephone 07810 450419.

GAINSBROUGH ELECTRIC SHOWER 8.5, white, £20 Telephone 01631 562750 evenings and weekend.

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WIN £1100 JACKPOT

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

Entry will be void if crosses overlap. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries. If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

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

Competition Rules
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners who each receive £25 are:
C Duncan, Skeroblin, Campbeltown and J Muirhead, Crosshill Avenue, Campbeltown

Spot the BALL Competition



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

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

Name _____
Address _____
Tel No. _____

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres' (1 Corinthians 13:7).

BIRTHS



FLETCHER – PHILIP
Julie and Andy are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Elsie May, on February 28, 2011 at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. Another lovely granddaughter for Susan and Blair and first grandchild for Candy and Dave.

O'HANLON – MUIR
– Aaron and Stephanie are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Austin, on February 23, 2011 at the Southern General Hospital. A wee brother for Lewis and Logan. Thanks to all midwives involved.

MARRIAGES

ANDERSON – GREEN
– At St Conan's Kirk on February 19, 2011 by the Rev Liz Gibson, Cameron Edward, King Edward, Banff to Emily Kathryn Stewart, Lochgair.

DEATHS

HIGGINS – Peacefully at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital on March 1, 2011, David Higgins MBE, aged 78 years, of 10 Brodie Crescent, Lochgilphead. Beloved husband of Margaret, loving father of Sandra, Lesley and Tony and cherished father-in-law of Tom. A dear friend and much respected former work colleague to many. Funeral ceremony was held in Lochgilphead Parish Church on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, followed by ceremony at Cardross Crematorium. Margaret and family would like to thank all doctors, nurses, MacMillan nurses and hospital staff for their excellent care to David, and all family and friends for their many kind expressions of sympathy. Sincere thanks to Belinda Braithwaite for a comforting service, to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their professionalism and caring assistance and to all who attended at the church and crematorium.

WILSON – Suddenly after a short illness at The Royal Infirmary Glasgow, on March 2, 2011, Wilma Wilson, née Flynn, aged 51 years, of 59 MacDonald Terrace, Lochgilphead. Much loved mother of Arlene, Michael, William, Christopher and Hannah, and adored nana of Paul and Alexander. Wife of Michael. A dear sister, sister-in-law, and aunt to all the family. Funeral service was held in St Margaret's Church on Monday, March 7, 2011, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BUNTAIN – The relatives and friends of the late Willie Buntain, would like to thank everyone most sincerely, for the many kind expressions of sympathy received, following their recent bereavement. Special thanks to Erskine Hospital for their kind care and attention, Rev Louis Bezuidenhout for a comforting service, Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services, George Hotel for catering and to all who paid their last respects at church and graveside. The collection for Erskine raised £325.00.

MACLEOD – Renee and family would like to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy received at this sad time. Grateful thanks to the Rev Philip Burroughs for his comforting service, to Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for professional services and to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside.

MCALISTER – Brenda and family would like to thank relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy following Donald Neil's sudden passing. Thanks for Matthew's comfort and fine words at church and graveside and to Alasdair and Kenneth for their efficient arrangements.

IN MEMORIAM

DILLON – Remembering today and every day our treasured Karon, who died March 14, 2005, in her thirty-eighth year. Beautiful memories, cherished forever. Of happy years we spent together. Love you always - Mum, Dad and Gill. Forever in my thoughts. Always in my heart. All my love - Aunt Margaret. Locked in our hearts to stay. Precious in every way. - Love Morag and Peter.

HUME – In loving memory of granda and pappy, Johnnie. Miss you always and love you forever. - Lorna and Megan.

MACDOUGALL – Precious memories of our son, Alasdair, who was tragically taken from us on March 13, 2007. Forever young, forever loved, forever in our hearts. A huge miss. - Mum and Dad x.

MACDOUGALL – Treasured memories of my big brother, Alasdair, who was tragically taken from us on March 13, 2007. Your life was a blessing, Your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words. And missed beyond measure. - Lots of love, Keli xxx.

Four years gone by and never a day forgotten. Forever in our hearts and thoughts. Love and miss you. - Nikki, Mhairi and Codi xxx.

MACDOUGALL – In loving memory of our dear grandson, nephew and cousin, sadly taken from us on March 13, 2007.

Time may hide the sadness. Like the smile that hides the tears. But loving memories hold you dear. Despite the passing years. Loved and missed always.

- From all your family in Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead. **MCLENNAN** – In loving memory of Jannette, a wonderful wife, mum and mother-in-law, who died March 11, 2010.

Gone but not forgotten. - Love Ian, Graeme, Julia, Ian, Alan and Nicola. Sleep tight, Granny. Miss your smiling face.

- Love your grandchildren.

ROBERTSON – In loving memory of our dear sister and aunt, Margaret, died March 6, 2006 and our dear brother and uncle, Jim, died March 14, 1997. You're in our thoughts every single day. And in our hearts you will forever stay. - Love Norma, Jim and family.

WARDROP – Our beautiful Lynsey. Somewhere over the rainbow. We love you so much. - Mum, Dad and Fallon. **WARDROP** – Darling Lynsey, deeply loved and sorely missed. - Granny and all the family at home and abroad.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES

Church of Scotland NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Morning Worship
Sunday 13th March 2011
Inverlussa Church 10am
Worship led by Rev C Acklam
All welcome
MINISTER: Rev. Cliff Acklam
SC001002
01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/NKNAPDALECOFS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND KILBERRY LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 13th March 2011
Tarbert Church 11.30am
Sunday School 11.20am
Kilberry Church 2pm
Margaret Sinclair
Interim Moderator
Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Thursday 17th March 2011
Church Hall 7.30pm
For all church inquiries and pastoral care
Telephone 01499 500633
Everyone very welcome

CUMLODDEN LOCHFYNESIDE AND LOCHGAIR (Church of Scotland)
Scottish Charity Number SC016097
Sunday 13th March 2011
Do not put out the Spirit's fire (1 Thessalonians 5:19)
Cumlodden Church (Furnace) 10.30 am
Lochfyneside Church (Minard) 12 noon
Seirbheis Ghàidhlig (Monthly Gaelic Service)
Lochgair Church 3 pm (Tea to follow)
Rev. Roddy MacLeod
Ceud mìle fàilte
All Welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 13th March 2011
Kilmartin 11.30am
Rev Cliff Acklam
After this service Souper Sunday will be served in the Church Hall, Kilmartin and donations in aid of the Church of Scotland HIV / Aids Project will be gratefully received.
All are welcome
Tuesday 15th March
Stated Annual Meeting
Church Hall, Kilmartin 7.30pm
When it is hoped all members will attend
SC002121

LOCHGILPHEAD BAPTIST CHURCH
All Welcome
Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 13th March 2011
11.00am Morning Service with communion
Jumpstart Group
Friday 10.00 – 11.30am
Tonight "The Edge"
P1 – P7
6.30 – 7.45
Scottish Charity SC015187

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH SUNDAY 13th MARCH 2011
11.00 am Worship Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome
SATURDAY 12th MARCH 2011
10.00 am – 12.00 pm
Youth Fellowship Coffee Morning, in the Church Hall
Further information (01546) 606218
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 13 March 2011
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: Graham McLean
"The Journey of the Bride"
All welcome

THE SALVATION ARMY Burnside Street, Campbeltown
Friday
7.30pm
Ian White Concert
Campbeltown Picture House
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
5.45pm Prayer Meeting
6.30pm Evening Worship
Tuesday
12.15pm Over 60's Luncheon Club
1.30pm Adult Home League
Wednesday
7.00pm House Group
Thursday
11.30am Meet 'n' Eat Café
New to you Stall
7.00pm Bible Study
Major Dolores Thomson

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday
10.00 a.m. Breaking of Bread
11.15 a.m. Family Service with Sunday Club
Wednesday
10.00 a.m.
Jelly Tots Parent & Toddlers 8.00 p.m.
Bible Discussion & Prayer
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www.springbankchurch.co.uk
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Highland Parish Church
SC002493
Sunday 13th March 2011
11.15am
Morning Service
Preacher: **Rev Alen McCulloch**
Chaplain, HMS Campbeltown
Creche 0 – 3yrs: Church
FunDay Club(3yrs – P5): Kirk St Hall
JaM (P6 upwards): Church 6.30pm
Service in Stewarton Hall
Tuesday 15th March
Badminton Club
6.30pm – 7.45pm: P1 - P4
7.30pm – 9.00pm: P5 – P7
Wednesday 16th March
8.00pm
Bible Study Fellowship – Manse
DVD: Jesus – Man, Messiah, or More? Pt 1
Thursday 17th March
7.30pm
Kirk Session – Kirk St Hall
Rev. Michael J Lind
Everyone always welcome

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 13th March 2011
First Sunday of Lent
8.30am Holy Communion
10.45am Family Communion
Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: **01586 551141**
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Saturday, 12th March
The Guild Sale of Work – 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, 13th March
HMS Campbeltown Farewell
Worship Service - 11:15 a.m.
(Creche and Triple C)
[Chaplain (SCC) James Campbell. RNR]
Tuesday, 15th March
Mothers & Toddlers - 9:45 a.m.
Thursday, 17th March
Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
Friday, 18th March
Lunch Club - 12:00 noon

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Yachts on the horizon?

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Under 14s go down to Westerton

AFTER an extraordinary run of away cup ties the Lochgilphead Under 14s played their first home game for nearly five months at Ropework Park last Saturday – and their first DF DL league game of 2011.

Perhaps unfamiliarity with their home venue explained Lochgilphead's slow start as Westerton took the game to the D A MacDonald sponsored home team and could have been three up before an unstoppable drive into the top corner gave them a deserved 11th minute lead.

Lochgilphead's only shot on target in the first half was an Aaron Moore free kick which the keeper blocked with his feet. At the other end excellent handling by Ewan McCulloch in the home goal and last man interceptions by skipper Coll McCallum somehow kept the score to 0-1 at half time.

The Mid Argyll boys were more in the game in the second half and after all three substitutes were introduced they started to create chances.

A great Ewan Dudding drive and cross found no takers in the box then Kyle Selfridge saw his shot saved as an equaliser seemed inevitable – and it finally came with 10 minutes left. Lochgilphead's best player on the day, Ryan Deans, drove in from the left and crossed for Dylan Newlands-Steele to score from five yards.

Lochgilphead now looked the more likely winners and on his debut Ruaridh MacVicar almost gave the home side the lead but the Westerton defence smothered the ball before he got his shot away.

In the last minute with Lochgilphead pressing for a decisive goal the visitors broke away and scored the winner.

Lochgilphead suffered again from a slow start and Westerton probably just about deserved the win for their first half domination but the home side can take lots of positives from their second half performance into their next league game away to EDFC Villa in Bearsden tomorrow (Saturday).

Lochgilphead team: McCulloch; Gibson, McCallum (capt), Krawczyk, MacNeill; Selfridge, Moore, Dudding, Deans; Coates, Miller. Subs (all used): Newlands-Steele, Lewis, MacVicar.

Dookers fail to lift league points at home

Tarbert AFC 2 Port Glasgow OBU 3

TARBERT AFC welcomed Port Glasgow OBU to Cil Andreis last Saturday looking to avenge their earlier defeat at the start of the year.

Manager Prentice made one change to the previous week, bringing in Captain Martin to the centre of defence alongside Elliott, moving Johnstone to right back.

The visitors started well and it was evident early on that they were up for this one, as they pressed the home side at every opportunity.

After half an hour Port Glasgow opened the scoring, and it was a shocker from a Tarbert point of view. A harmless ball through midfield should have been intercepted however as the Dookers remained static, the away side mounted another attack down the right. A vicious ball across the box resulted in

Martin putting the ball in his own net, with two attackers lurking behind him.

This sparked a bit of life into the home side, who finally realised they were in a game, and they should have equalised immediately. Prentice released Ronald down the line and his first time cross fell perfectly for MacDougall, however just as he was about to pull the trigger he slipped and the Port defence frantically cleared.

Half time arrived with just the one goal separating the two sides.

Half Time:

Tarbert AFC 0

Port Glasgow OBU 1

After some harsh words from the sidelines, Tarbert were confident they could get themselves back into the match. They were stunned however when the away side

doubled their advantage with the second period only minutes old. Another excellent passage of one touch play put the Port left winger in behind the Tarbert defence, and he advanced to finish well past Martin in goal.

This seemed to make Tarbert even more determined. Mackinnon started and finished the move, playing a one two with Johnson, and drilling a stunning left foot effort past the keeper. Tarbert almost equalised only minutes later when Ronald released Johnson, he advanced past two defenders however his shot went just inches wide.

The game had now opened up and it was end-to-end attacking from both teams. The away side restored their two goal cushion with 15 minutes left on the clock, once again the attack was down the Port

left, and the striker was first to react to a cross, getting the slightest of touches to beat Martin.

Tarbert freshened things up to try and get back into the game, bringing on Smyth, Stuart and MacIver for D MacDougall, N MacDougall and Mackinnon, and it worked to some extent when Prentice scored his 17th of the season to reduce the deficit to one. He collected the ball before beating three OBU defenders and sending an unstoppable left foot shot into the top corner.

It was too little too late for the Dookers, who could not find an equaliser and remain in ninth spot in the Premier 2 league.

Tarbert now travel to play Clydebank College this week, with both teams desperately needing to pick up points.

Crinan Puffer

THE DATE has been set for the next Crinan Puffer race.

Sunday April 17 will see the Scottish Sea Farms Crinan Puffer 8.5 race take place.

The organisers are delighted to announce that Scottish Sea Farms will sponsor the Crinan Puffer 8.5 during 2011-2013.

This year is the second Crinan Puffer running race.

It is a Scottish Athletics sanctioned event promoted by Mid Argyll Athletics Club and organised by MATCC.

Starting in Ardrishaig and ending in Crinan this point-to-point race along the beautiful and picturesque Crinan Canal is sure to produce a fast time for athletes.

The organisers welcome all entrants of 16 years old and over.

Race information and the entry form can be downloaded by visiting – www.midargyll-cycleclub.co.uk

Swim for The Stroke Association

SWIMMERS from Argyll are being urged to consider signing up for The British Gas Great Scottish Swim.

The Stroke Association has teamed up with the organisers of the event, which takes place in Strathclyde Loch in Strathclyde Country Park in September.

Some of the world's best swimmers will compete on the same course as the masses in an elite race.

Anyone interested in taking part and supporting The Stroke Association can find out more at www.stroke.org.uk/greatswims or by calling 0131 555 7243.

Charity fundraisers

ARE you doing a sporting challenge for charity?

Whether you're running marathons or bagging Munros – the 'Squeak' want to hear from you.

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The Under 12s with their new training kits.

New training kit for Soccer Centre U12s

LOCHGILPHEAD Soccer Centre's Under 12s are the proud owners of new training kit thanks to a generous donation from Mid Argyll Youth Project (MAYP).

Stronger identity

Squad coach David McPhee said: 'The new black and amber kit complements the rain jackets and sweatshirts already worn by the boys and

looks great. The squad now has a much stronger identity and we are really grateful to Fiona Kalache at MAYP and Charles Cameron, Hire-a-Joiner for their support during this season.

'As well as the new training kit the boys have also been able to purchase Soccer Centre beanie hats from local company Argyll Embroidery

through their own fund-raising activities.'

Oban football leagues

The squad continues to send two seven-a-side teams, Warriors and Wolves to compete in the Oban Express Primary Football League every Sunday morning.

With only a few weeks of the Winter League remaining the more experienced War-

riors are in strong contention for the league title and their younger counterparts, Wolves are on course to finish in the top half of the table for the first time.

This will allow both teams to compete for the main trophy in the Split League Cup competition to be held at Oban Community Pitch on the last Sunday of this month.

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SFA Level 2 coaching course to be held in April

A SCOTTISH Football Association Level 2 (Coaching Youth Footballers Certificate) course will be held in Oban on Sunday 10 and Sunday 24 April from 10am till 4pm.

This is the next step on the coaching ladder following the Level 1 course held at the recent Argyll and Bute Coaching Weekend in February.

Only coaches who have achieved the Level 1 standard are eligible to attend.

Argyll and Bute Football Development Officer Martin Rae wants as many coaches as possible in Argyll and Bute to achieve the Level 2 standard so he can organise a Level 3 (Coaching in the Game Certificate) course during the summer.

For further details contact Martin on 07767 391843.

Want to be a football referee?

DUE to a shortage of qualified referees in Argyll and Bute, the Scottish Football Association would like to run a refereeing course in Lochgilphead within the next few months.

For further details contact Argyll and Bute Football Development Officer Martin on 07767 391843.

Inveraray lottery

THE JACKPOT for next week's Inveraray Shinty Club lottery draw will be £1000 as there were no winners again this week.

The numbers for this week's draw were 8 - 10 - 19.

Skiers wanted

SKI AND snowboard enthusiasts are being challenged to take on their toughest ever test in a bid to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Skiers are asked to raise £50 to take part. For information call Macmillan Cancer Support on 0141 952 0085 or email eriley@macmillan.org.uk.



Lochgilphead's Sam Bertioli takes control of the ball against Easthall Star.

Lochgilphead U16s lose to late goal against Easthall

LOCHGILPHEAD Under 16s welcomed Easthall Star to Ropework Park on Sunday in what proved to be a tight, physical and hard-fought match in the Glasgow and District League.

Having been beaten by Easthall Star several weeks ago, Lochgilphead were determined not to repeat the mistakes of that day, and lined up a strong team.

Lochgilphead appeared to have more of the play in the first half, with new boy Crossan linking up well with Doull, whose pace got the better of Easthall's defence on several occasions, and MacNaughton, Bertioli and MacVicar all in

Glasgow and District Youth Football League
Lochgilphead SC U16s 1
Easthall Star 2

magnificent form, but unfortunately to no avail.

The breakthrough came after a long ball from midfielder Crossan, which was met by Iain McGuinness on the edge of the box, who shook off Easthall's defence. With only the keeper to beat, he made no mistake and slotted the ball into the bottom corner of the net.

The second half saw Lochgilphead under pressure, but managing to keep the score in their favour, until 25 min-

utes in, when Easthall were awarded a penalty kick, which was duly converted to even the score.

The pressure continued, with goalkeeper Selfridge producing excellent saves, and when Easthall looked as if they had scored, Meechan appeared out of nowhere to clear the ball off the line and out of the park.

With the minutes ticking away, Lochgilphead's defence found themselves in a scramble on the edge of their box, with an Easthall player tipping the ball with his hand on to his team mate, who proceeded to score to bring the score to 1-2, much to the relief of the away support.

Kennedy leads by example - Golf by David Sinclair

HAVING only just qualified for the winter league final on the last day of qualifying mostly due to too many late Saturday nights, Ronnie Kennedy thought that he had better try a different approach. He went to bed early this Saturday and the early night paid off with a great performance on the Sunday - 42 points and an early lead in the four-week

final. Ross Sinclair is one behind but he is not happy - what a surprise! He would be a lot happier if it was a scratch competition as he thinks everyone else is just a handicap bandit but especially Donald Carmichael - Again not much of a surprise there.

Kenny Cameron had another good round, as did Donald

Carmichael and in all fairness to Ross both of them must cut their handicaps during the summer season or there will be an inquest.

Results: 42. R Kennedy; 41. R Sinclair; 39. K Cameron; 38. D Carmichael; 36. A MacAuley; 35. D Sinclair; 31. R Baxter jnr; 27. J Downie; 26. K Cowan. Duffers Derby: 37. G MacDougall; 35. T Angus; 31. J Downie. Nearest the pin 7th J Downie; 9th R Kennedy.

Rock prove too hard for Star to crack

RED STAR travelled to New Merkins on Saturday to face Lomond Rock in the latest league challenge.

In a tight first half it was the home side who took the lead after Star got caught trying to play offside, the winger crossed the ball across the face of goal and the Rock number seven blasted the ball past Kalache in the Star goal.

Star was working hard to get back into the game before half time with Houston's free kick coming back off the bar.

The second half was a much more open affair with both sides looking to attack.

The visitors went close on a couple of occasions with Finlayson managing to get round the keeper but he was unable

SAFL Division 1
Lomond Rock 2
Red Star 0

to finish from a tight angle.

Star struck the bar for a second time when Peacock cut inside from the right and unleashed a shot from 20 yards.

It wasn't to be Star's day however as Lomond Rock grabbed a second goal in stoppage time. The number nine got himself in behind the defence and found the bottom corner of the net to make the final score 2-0.

Red Star is away again tomorrow (Saturday) as they travel to Tollcross to take on Whitehill F.P in Division 1.

Youngsters shine at Lochgilphead v Kintyre rugby trial

THE long-awaited rugby trial between Lochgilphead and Kintyre became a reality on Saturday when 19 enthusiastic boys travelled to Lochgilphead where stalwart of Mid Argyll Rugby Club Duncan Aitken, assisted by Duncan Galbraith and John Forster, agreed to host the event at Lochgilphead High School.

The Lochgilphead boys although slightly younger and lighter were very good at executing the final pass which caught the Campbeltown squad on the hop on several occasions. Lochgilphead took lead with a well-earned try and by swift passing.

Faults began to show on both sides but alertness off the ball allowed Lochgilphead the opportunity to steal another try. All the boys were

guaranteed a game so rolling sub format continued for the whole game.

Undeterred by being two down, the Kintyre team rallied and brought the score back to two apiece. Credit to everyone for a gutsy performance across the board and for the majority a lesson learnt that the basics, are now a must if they are to challenge other teams in Argyll, especially tackling and moving up on opposition.

In the last quarter of the game both sides showed touches of brilliance and lapses of concentration and from deep in their own half Campbeltown managed to win the ball passing through a few hands to Scott Anderson who powered his way to the line to score.

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