

# Failure to resolve broadband problems fuels Tarbert anger

REPORT By EALA MACALISTER  
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TARBERT residents have been angered by slow broadband speeds and their internet repeatedly going down.

Tarbert and Skipness Community Council chairman Bob Chicken was told the problem was with his equipment.

He said: 'BT tried to get me to buy a new router, but I managed to get it for free. The problem was still there after we installed the new router so that wasn't causing it.'

Local bed-and-breakfast owner Mike Wells has had broadband problems for 18 months.

He said: 'It's difficult to quantify but I'm sure we've lost business because of not being able to get back to people.'

Like many in the village, when fibre broadband was installed Mr Wells hoped his problems would be over.

He continued: 'It is better, but not brilliant. It's quite slow but hasn't cut out in the month since we got it.'

'What was also frustrating was speaking to BT customer service centres abroad and I think it is to stop people from complaining to BT.'

Mr Chicken has spoken to people affected and has come to a conclusion on what is causing the problem.

He explained: 'I suspect the problems have been created by the work BT is doing to instal the new fibreoptic system. If BT had come to the community council and explained this could create problems, we would have respected their honesty, and done what we could to warn the community and smooth the way for them. Sadly, BT seems to treat our communities with breathtaking arrogance and not with the honesty and openness that they deserve.'

BT asked the community council to collect phone numbers of affected households but members refused.

Mr Chicken said: 'BT should have information on what areas are affected. The council doesn't have enough people to ask everyone if they have had difficulties and BT refuses to see this as a community problem rather than individual problems.'

Continued on page 3



**Stavros S Niarchos makes her way, under power, up the loch on Tuesday afternoon. Ardmarnoch House, Kilfinan, is seen in the background.**

## Tall ship beauty *Stavros S Niarchos* in Loch Fyne

MAKING her graceful way up Loch Fyne on Tuesday, tall ship *Stavros S Niarchos* is reminiscent of a bygone era. But the 180-foot brig was built as a

training ship just 16 years ago. She is owned by the Youth Sail Training Charity, which promotes the personal development of young people through the

crewing of ocean-going vessels. Around two thirds of the young people sailing with the charity are disadvantaged or disabled.

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# Man rescued from Tarbert hillside

A MAN was airlifted to hospital on the afternoon of Tuesday April 5 after getting into difficulties on hilly ground behind the village of Tarbert.

Scottish Ambulance Service paramedics were called out, but given the inaccessibility of the casualty's location, called for assistance from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA). A coastguard search and rescue helicopter attended.

At around 4.30pm, Tar-

bert coastguard personnel located the casualty on foot and guided the helicopter to the scene.

The man was later airlifted to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, where his injuries are understood not to be life-threatening.

A spokesperson for the MCA said: 'Given the wooded and boggy terrain involved, it was not the easiest to access. The coastguard helicopter attended in an operation co-ordinated by Belfast coastguard.'



The scene of the incident, with Tarbert Castle in the left foreground.

## Police files

### Fence damaged

A FENCE near Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, Cairndow, was damaged by a car that did not stop to report the incident. It happened at 11.05am on March 30 and police are appealing for information.

### Charged

A CAR was stopped on the A83 at Lochgilphead at 2.25pm on March 30, when the 83-year-old driver was charged with not having valid insurance or MOT. A report will be sent to the procurator fiscal.

### Investigation

POLICE are investigating reports that a white Renault van was being driven dangerously on the A83 between Lochgilphead and Tarbert at 2pm on March 30.

### Witnesses

AN ASSAULT allegedly took place at 3.45pm on March 31 in a pub on Lochgilphead's Argyll Street following a disagreement between two men. Police are appealing for witnesses.

### Sheep attacked

A PREGNANT ewe and the twin lambs she was carrying had to be put down after an attack by a dog at Mamm Farm, Glen Shira. The incident took place between 7pm on April 2 and 8am on April 3. Police are appealing for information.

### Tachograph offence

A 39-YEAR-OLD lorry driver travelling on the A83 at Inveraray was allegedly found to be driving without taking sufficient rest breaks.

Police stopped the vehicle during routine checks on April 3 and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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

Newsdesk  
01546 602345

## Vote register deadline

TIME is running out for anyone who has not yet registered to vote if they want to have their say in the Scottish parliamentary elections.

Monday April 18 is the last day for people to register. By doing this, voters will also be registered in plenty of time before the referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union on June 23.

Particular emphasis is being put on 16 and 17-year-olds who will be eligible to vote in the Scottish Parliament elections for the first time. To register, or to check whether or not you are still registered, visit [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote).



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Last week's story – just a bit of 'kid-ology'. 06\_a14aprilfool01

## Just kidding about the goats

THE STORY generated quite a bit of comment, but we have to come clean and admit that last week's page three article about importing Japanese goats to eat Japanese knotweed was, quite simply, an April Fool.

Sadly, no forest-dwelling goat-antelopes, known as serow, will be arriving next month at a cost of £10,000 per head. Neither will BEAR Scotland need ten miles of electric fencing, or to employ contract shepherds to control the beasts be-

side the A83 trunk road.

And, sad to relate, the knotweed menace will return once again to extend its range that bit further in Argyll – with no gnashers to munch it back.

Surprisingly, Italian scientist Dr Laori Fopl hasn't studied serow in the field for four decades. Indeed, the anagrammatic, doctor doesn't even exist. Also failing the reality test is Josephine (Jo) King of the Fund for Understanding Nature (FUN), amongst others.

The story attract-

ed comments such as: 'How are they going to keep them off the road?' and 'what a piece of nonsense when they can't fix potholes', but some were in favour, including one man who thought they would need many more than a dozen goats.

A few (mostly female, for some reason) let us know that they clicked right away, and it seemed to provide a chuckle or two on Friday April 1.

Which was the whole point. We hope you enjoyed it.

## Lochgilphead Co-op refurbishment

LOCHGILPHEAD Co-op will be shut for a few days next week as its refurbishment continues.

It will shut from April 10 until April 15, during which time a pop-up shop will be available.

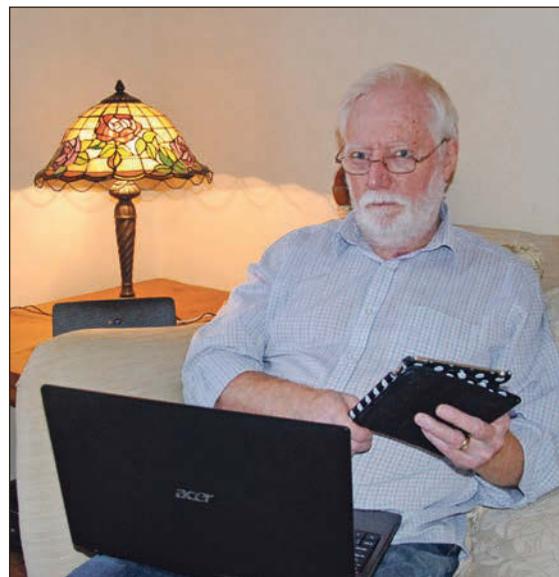
There will also be a pick-and-pack service where customers can hand in orders to Co-op staff who will deliver the items to their door.

The new-look Co-op will be opened on April 22.

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**Tarbert B&B owner Mike Wells suspects he has lost bookings as a result of broadband problems.** 06\_a15btprobs01

## Broadband problems

**Continued from page 1**  
BT said: 'We're sorry to hear that some local people have been experiencing slow broadband. 'We've checked out our networks but have not been able to identify any major issue which could be impacting on speed.

'As broadband speeds can be affected by several different factors, it's important that anyone experiencing difficulties reports this to their internet service provider in the first instance.

'They'll investigate and, if appropriate, raise with the relevant part of BT. With regard to fibre, the one fibre cabinet in Tarbert has been live for some time now

and a second is in the process of being installed. We plan our roll-outs carefully and we're not aware of any reason why the new fibre network should impact on existing broadband services in Tarbert.'

Argyll and Bute councillors have also been made aware of the difficulties.

Councillor Anne Horn said: 'I have spoken with several people who are saying that they are losing their broadband regularly.

'I do believe the fault is the BT network as there certainly seems to be an increase in faults since some BT works were done in the village.'

## Speed limit concerns

CONSIDERATION should be given to lowering the speed limit between Corran and Badens, the March meeting of Lochgilphead Community Council heard.

Convener Andy Buntin said that concerned members of the community had approached him about the matter.

### Junctions

The main issue is the number of junctions leading to housing and commercial premises on this stretch of road.

It was suggested that this section of the A816 should be reduced from a 40mph to 30mph speed limit.

Councillor Donnie Macmillan undertook to pursue the matter with Argyll and Bute Council.

# Expect delays as Inveraray-Cairndow road is repaired

DRIVERS can expect delays next week as work is carried out on a section of the A83 trunk road at Achnatra, with an overnight road closure on Thursday.

Resurfacing work on the 340m section, approximately three and a half miles out of Inveraray in the Cairndow direction, will start on Monday April 11 and last until Friday April 15. The work will be carried out in two stages. Phase one will involve excavation and reinstatement of a short section of the carriageway showing signs of subsidence.

This will be done between Monday and Thursday and will involve a single lane closure between 7am and 7pm.

The second stage is to resurface both lanes between 8pm and 7am, in-

volving an overnight road closure on Thursday April 14 for safety reasons.

A diversion route will be in place via the A819, A85 and the A82, and will be signed in advance to keep motorists informed.

### Deteriorating

A nearby stretch of the same road, between Garron Bridge and Storne Point, has been deteriorating in recent months, with large and deep potholes developing in the wake of recent drainage works.

A spokesperson for trunk road maintenance firm BEAR Scotland said: 'We're aware of the condition of the section of the A83 between Garron Bridge and Storne Point, and our teams are currently designing a repair which will be implemented once completed.'



**The crumbling road surface near Storne Point – due for repair once designs are complete.** 06\_a14a83surface01

## Adult Learning Classes Mid Argyll

ALL COURSES ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Course	Day	Start date
<b>Computing for Beginners Lochgilphead</b> Introduction to Computing for complete beginners. 10 week course.	Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm	21st April 2016
<b>Next Steps in Computing Lochgilphead</b> Using the Internet and building computer skills. 10 week course.	Tuesday 2.00pm - 4.00pm	19th April 2016
<b>Internet Safety Course Lochgilphead</b> Learn how to stay safe online. 10 week course.	Thursday 10.00am - 12.00 noon	21st April 2016
<b>One to One Support</b> Help with Reading, Writing, Numeracy and Driving Theory.	by appointment	Continuous
<b>IT Drop In Lochgilphead Library</b> Support for those with IT queries	Wednesday 10.00am - 12.00 noon	20th April 2016
<b>The Work Shop Café</b> Support for all aspects of employability; view current jobs, computer/internet access, assistance with job applications and CV writing in a friendly café style. Open to all. <b>Lochgilphead Community Centre</b>	Thursday 10.00am - 12.00 noon	Continuous
<b>Tarbert Library</b>	Appointments Available.	
<b>ESOL</b> Conversational English for speakers of other languages <b>Lochgilphead Community Centre</b>	Monday 2.00pm - 3.30pm	18th April 2016
<b>Inveraray Loch Fyne Hotel</b>	Tuesday TBC	26th April 2016
<b>Yoga For Parents/Grandparents and their Children.</b> Come along and learn yoga together. Learn to relax and feel fitter. <b>Tarbert Templars Hall</b>	Friday 10.30am - 12.00 noon	29th April 2016
<b>Grow your own Veggies</b> Learn the basics of growing your own vegetables <b>Blarbiue Roots Project</b>	TBC	May 2016
<b>Sew Creative Course</b> Build your skills to be even more creative with a new technique each week. 8 week course. <b>Lochgilphead Community Centre</b>	Wednesday 12.30pm - 3.30pm Thursday 6.00pm - 9.00pm	20th April 2016 21st April 2016
<b>Singing Workshops</b> Singing for pleasure. 6 week course <b>Lochgilphead Community Centre</b>	Wednesday 10.45am - 12.15pm	11th May 2016

For more information, or to reserve a place please contact:  
sarah.wyatt@argyll-bute.gov.uk 01546 604590  
pam.staley@argyll-bute.gov.uk 01546 604757

# Support our campaign

TAKEN last Friday at the top of the Rest and be Thankful, the photograph, right, shows weather conditions that are all too common in the area.

In weather conditions like this, road signs are flashing a warning - but what they actually mean in practice remains a mystery. Do you turn around or carry on? And how do you take care faced with material coming off the hill at high speed?

Aside from burns running in spate flowing at speed down the steep slopes, if you look closely, the photo also shows a car travelling up the A83 to the top of the Rest.

In conditions like these, the vehicle looks exposed.

The protective netting along parts of the road has regularly caught debris before it reaches the carriageway - but is not the answer for larger flows of material.

And that is why the *Argyllshire Advertiser*, in association with the *Campbeltown Cou-*



rier, is pressing for action - real investment - in a permanent solution to the landslide problem at the Rest.

## Car stickers

And you will shortly be able to support our Invest in the Rest campaign by displaying car stickers - watch this space.

And you can tell us what you think of the situation at the Rest by writing to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk, or comment via the *Advertiser* Facebook page or website.

## Car stickers coming soon - watch this space



# Inveraray project overcomes 'issues'

WORK on four 'priority' buildings started this week as part of an Inveraray conservation programme.

The Inveraray Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) is a £2million-plus project aimed at improving the town's key historic buildings.

To date three repair jobs have been completed, but now the scheme moves up a gear with much-needed work beginning on Arkland, Relief Land, Chamberlain's House and the Old Temperance Hotel.

Argyll and Bute Council's head of economic development, Fergus Murray, said: 'The ambitious regeneration project in Inveraray continues to gain real momentum.'

'Projects that change people's lives can often be challenging and complex and this one has had its fair share of issues to overcome.'

'We're pleased to see it reach this stage. This

## Major work starts on four priority Royal Burgh buildings

is primarily down to the hard work and dedication of the building owners, their agent and the council's project team.

'Work on four of the priority buildings - Arkland, Relief Land, Chamberlain's House and the Old Temperance Hotel - will get underway this week, with the fifth - The Town House - beginning next week.'

'Local firm John Brown (Strone) will be carrying out the small repair works for much of Main Street and Quay Close as well as the major projects at Chamberlain's House and the Old Temperance Hotel. It's great to have local firms involved in this type of work.'

'As well as the building work, we are also running training events,

starting in May, giving local contractors skills, information and techniques which could help them secure work on the various individual projects.'

'Once completed, the repairs to the priority buildings alongside the smaller repairs on other buildings will breathe new life into the town, attracting even more tourists and safeguarding jobs.'

Laing Traditional Masonry of Aberdeenshire will be carrying out the work at Arkland and Relief Land.

The CARS scheme is funded by Historic Environment Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council, with additional support from the council's private sector housing fund. The project will wind up in March 2018.

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# Security guards threatened in Helensburgh robbery

A POLICE appeal has been issued after thieves threatened security guards with weapons before making off with a five-figure sum of cash.

The theft happened around 3am on Wednesday April 6 at the Santander bank premises in Helensburgh, while G4S employees were carrying out a cash transfer at the branch.

Two men entered, approached the employees and threatened them with weapons.

The men then made off with the cash box, which contained a five figure sum of money.

In a statement, Police Scotland said: 'Enquiries are at an early stage, however, the suspects are described as being of medium height, medium build and were wearing blue overalls and masks

at the time of the incident.'

Detective Inspector Douglas Wilson, Argyll and West Dunbartonshire CID, is leading the investigation.

He said: 'Our enquiries are at an early stage following this calculated robbery of a cash box in West Princes Street.'

## Fear

'The employees were placed in a state of fear and alarm as two men entered the premises of the bank, threatened the men with weapons and then made off with the cash box in an unknown direction.'

'A substantial investigation is under way to trace the men responsible.'

'A dedicated team based at Helensburgh police office is currently analysing CCTV.

Officers remain at the scene on West Princes Street and local door to door enquiries are currently being progressed.

'At this time we are seeking the assistance of the public to come forward with any information which could help our investigation. It is possible that someone has seen or heard a disturbance at the Santander bank on West Princes Street.'

'You may have seen men running off from the scene, or heard the sound of cars travelling

at speed. You may not think the information you have is valuable to us, but any information can make a real difference.'

'As part of our larger investigation, your assistance could be critical in tracing the persons responsible.'

Anyone with information is asked to contact officers at Helensburgh police office via 101. Alternatively, please call CRIMESTOPPERS on 0800 555 111 where information can be given anonymously.

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## Lochgilphead SSE shop to close

THE SCOTTISH Hydro Electric shop in Lochgilphead is to shut next month as Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) winds up its domestic retail business.

The shop specialises in selling large electrical appliances, including televisions, cookers, fridges and washing machines.

Team member Mary Campbell said: 'Locals will definitely miss it. It's difficult to get the items we offer in areas like this and when your fridge-freezer breaks you want to replace it right away so food doesn't get wasted.'

For the last two years the energy part of the business has been subsidising the shops so they, and the online shop, will

cease trading by May 15.

SSE said the 119 staff affected across the country could potentially be redeployed within the group and it hopes to avoid redundancies.

Steven Forbes, director of domestic retail said: 'We know some of these shops have been on local high streets for a long time so we did not take this decision lightly, but footfall and sales have reduced considerably and there is, unfortunately, no realistic prospect of that long-term trend reversing.'

'Our priority is to ensure our colleagues are fully supported during this time and we will work to redeploy staff within the SSE group where possible.'

# Mid Argyll reserves blend nature with art for visitors



Who might live in these Tile Trail houses?



Intricate and beautiful mosaic detail from the Moine Mhor Tile Trail.

VISITORS to two of Argyll's best wildlife sites can enjoy nature-inspired al fresco artworks over the coming months.

A newly installed Tile Trail at Moine Mhor National Nature Reserve (NNR) features a series of beautiful ceramic tiles and miniature houses created by young artists from Lochgilphead High School and Kilmartin and Glassary primary schools.

Working closely with artist Lesley Burr and Kilmartin Museum's Madeleine Conn, the pupils produced colourful ceramics inspired by the rich diversity of plants and animals that live in this unique NNR.

Moine Mhor is a showpiece raised bog, one of Europe's rarest and most threatened natural

wildlife habitats. Graceful hen harriers, shy otters, coastal birds and the rare marsh fritillary butterfly can all be found on the reserve.

Using the themes of absence and presence, the Tile Trail also celebrates Moine Mhor's cultural heritage, remembering the people who once lived and worked in the area.

The display is laid along the reserve's appropriately named Tileworks Nature Trail, near the former Tileworks Cottage.

The tile works was set up by the Poltalloch Estate in the early 19th century to make drainage pipes for farmland and bricks and roof tiles for the new town of Kilmartin.

At nearby Taynish NNR, award-winning

artist Jane Smith begins a year-long stint as the reserve's artist in residence this week.

Having travelled the world making wildlife films for the BBC and National Geographic, Jane is now settled on Scotland's west coast.

She said: 'I'm really looking forward to getting out into Taynish. Being a temperate rainforest, the wood is looking wonderfully green and luscious after the wet winter.'

Through a series of exciting events over her residency, Jane will use her knowledge of Taynish's wildlife to capture the many unobserved dramas which happen every day on the reserve. Jane plans to host her first event on the reserve towards the end of May.



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## BT needs to do better

BT SEEMS to be fighting a constant battle with its own network.

We hear of recurring problems across a wide area of Argyll, with BT Openreach vans a common sight parked on roadsides.

But the company seems unable to communicate properly with its own customers. For a communications company, this cannot be a good thing.

Who, among BT's executives, was it that woke up one morning and decided it would be a good thing to move customer service centres thousands of miles – and to another culture – away from the firm's customers. Whoever it was, they deserve to be stuck on the end of a 50-minute phone call to Mumbai that would test the patience of a saint. At the end of which, he would be told he's through to the wrong department. And all in the name of efficiency.

We understand that the infrastructure is complex, but just ask the residents of Tarbert and many others in Mid Argyll how efficient BT's service is.

We have to say that BT is not alone in moving to 'efficient' customer service that is neither efficient nor cares about the customer. Anyone trying to contact a bank or mobile phone provider will be no stranger to exasperating service.

But it is incumbent upon a commercial firm to provide customers with a service they have paid for – and where breakdowns happen, to rectify those.

## who's who at your advertiser

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## opinion

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## Tax credit help from Turn2us

Sir,

The four-year freeze to working-age benefits and tax credits, which starts this week, will no doubt add to the pressures that millions of families already face in meeting everyday costs.

Whilst not a direct cut, the freeze essentially erodes the value of benefits and is set to affect a large number of claimants – many of whom are on the lowest incomes.

As a charity supporting people in financial hardship, we know that other significant benefit changes taking place this month and beyond are also likely to cause confusion and concern.

This includes a change in the tax credit 'income rise disregard' – the amount a claimant's income can increase in-year without seeing a reduction in tax credit entitlement. The disregard is being reduced from £5,000 to £2,500, the same level as when tax credits were first introduced, with an estimated 800,000 people seeing their tax credit entitlement reduced as a result.

April also brings changes to support for housing costs, a reduction in Universal Credit Work Allowances and the introduction of a new single-tier state pension.

We urge anyone who is worried to visit Turn2us.org.uk where they can find further information on the changes and check their current benefits entitlements.

Anyone who thinks they might see a reduction in their income as a result of the changes can check if they're entitled



## A vintage procession hits the road

An elegant convoy of vintage cars streamed through Inveraray last Friday afternoon, all tasking part in the 2016 Scottish Troll Rally. Pictured above is an MGB GT V8 from the early 1970s. 06\_a15carrally01

to any extra help through our Benefits Calculator, and also use our Grants Search to see if they might be eligible for a charity grant or other support.

**Alison Taylor, director of operations, Turn2us, London**

## Paws for Tea and host a party

Sir,

I am writing to ask your animal-loving readers to Paws for Tea and host a tea party on Friday May 13 in aid of a pet charity very close to my heart, Blue Cross.

Their Paws for Tea tea parties are a really fun and simple way to help the thousands of sick,

injured and homeless pets that need Blue Cross every year.

Whether it's at home, in the office or at school, Paws for Tea is a good excuse to enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake whilst helping raise money for a good cause.

My two dogs, Stan and Elsie, are very dear to me and they get so much love and attention; I wouldn't be without them. But sadly not all pets are as lucky. Blue Cross works tirelessly to care for hundreds of vulnerable pets and to help find them happy new homes.

So go on, put the kettle on and sign up now at [www.bluecross.org.uk/teaparty](http://www.bluecross.org.uk/teaparty) or phone 0300 790 9903.

**Pam Ferris**  
Blue Cross Ambassador

## Stop kidding on knotweed

Sir,

Your article on goats eating Japanese knotweed was intended as an April Fool article, but I'm afraid knotweed is no joke.

It is spreading at a terrifying speed and is extremely hard to get rid of. Indeed, it is hard to avoid spreading it further while you are working to eradicate this pest.

Perhaps we should be trying goats, because nothing else is being done on a big enough scale to make any difference.

Time to stop kidding around with this virulent weed.

**Name and address supplied**

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

emails to: [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)  
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If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk); telephoning our senior reporter on 01546 602345 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk). IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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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, Lochgilphhead PA31 8NB, or fax us on 01546 602661.

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



The group enjoy a meal. a15dochas02

# Castle holiday for carers

DOCHAS Carers Centre manager Maggie McLaren couldn't believe her luck when she won a trip away for her and some carers.

Maggie had entered a competition run by the Landmark Trust and had forgotten all about it until she was told she had won.

Maggie, six carers from Mid Argyll and Campbeltown and therapist Jennifer took their holiday at Castle of Park, near Stranraer.

Maggie said: 'I was the cook all week taking our guests around the world with a menu of Scottish, Mexican, Italian and Thai cuisine, whilst Jennifer made the upstairs lounge into a most impressive therapy room you have ever seen.'

'All the carers had a treatment every day which helped them to relax and recharge their batteries. We had lord and lady names and one carer, whose room was on the fourth floor, was the King.'

'It truly was a wonderful experience for the carers and for us



Castle of Park.

although we slept in a caravan in the village. Many thanks to the Landmark Trust for making it possible.'

One of the ladies on the holiday was asked to write a short poem about it.

*Our Castle of Park Holiday*

*Lady Scribe was invited to write a verse,  
And was heard to mutter and utter a curse*

*But, after slurping half a bottle of wine  
Was inspired to pen her very first line.*

*Lady Kale had a fridge full of food*

*And, with therapy and oils she did much good.*

*Some sand and she pranced, wiggled, cavorted*

*Until she became utterly exhausted.*

*Lady Be Happy, was quiet and serene,  
On exploring and walking she was so keen.*

*Chocolate Gateaux was her secret passion  
And, she danced with Lady Kale in a madly wild fashion.*

*Lady Great Shot was chef during our stay,  
Producing culinary delicacies every day,*

*To tickle our taste-buds – to savour and enjoy,  
We all thought the food*

*better than the Savoy.*

*Lord Bopit liked swimming, walking too*

*And checking his mobile to see what is new.*

*Lady Kale spoon fed him with bits of Alfalfa.*

*Lord Bopit tried it then roared with laughter.*

*Lady Malteaser endured a split lip*

*When a flying Malteaser lashed her mouth like a whip,*

*then walked her dog, Shadow, to Abbey Glenuce*

*Before relaxing with a cooling fruit juice.*

*King Hoot – what a man with breast shield and crown,*

*Slept in the tower and had to come down*

*When he wanted a fag or a beer at the pub,*

*But always turned up in time for his grub.*

*Lady Daisy was chosen queen to King Hoot  
But you'd never see her cleaning his boots.*

*She loves a good sing-song and mixes with all.  
At Castle of Park, we all had a ball.*

**This is YOUR paper...**

Send your photos and stories to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

## Birthday fun for over 90s

LOCHGILPHEAD Community Council is looking to trace people in the area aged 90 or over.

This is as part of the celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday, which takes place on April 21.

It will be celebrated with many events up and down the UK

throughout the summer. Anyone 90 or over, or who knows someone of this age, is asked to make themselves known to any member of the community council.

The Lochgilphead Community Council AGM will take place on April 11 at Lochgilphead Community Centre starting at 7pm.

## New bowling season

TARBERT Bowling Club will open for a new season and everyone is welcome to go along and try the sport.

The opening will take place on April 9 at 2pm and it is an ideal time for those interested in bowling to join the club.

**Newsdesk**  
01546  
602345



CalMac will be giving clearer information on ferry sailings.

## New CalMac alert to keep travellers informed

FERRY operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) is adding a new yellow alert to keep travellers better informed about when there might be disruption.

Some find the amber alert confusing as it indicates there could be disruption. This can leave people unsure of whether to travel to the ferry or not.

The new yellow alert

will be used to let people know to keep an eye open for updates and the amber alert will be used if one of more sailing is cancelled or disrupted. CalMac Director of Operations, Drew Collier said: 'Feedback told us that the existing amber alert covered too broad a range of situations and caused confusion. This new yellow alert separates out potential disruption from

actual disruption on a route.

'We are committed to improving the services we offer, and listening and responding to our customers needs plays a big part in this. This change comes on the back of the introduction of a dedicated twitter service updates account which, since it started has sent out 36,000 tweets helping our customers keep up to date

with timetable changes.

'Weather on the west coast of Scotland will always be a challenge so giving customers as much accurate, up to date information as possible will allow them to plan their journey to take account of all eventualities.'

The yellow alert will start from April 11 and will also be used for Argyll Ferries' Gourock to Dunoon service.

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Mid Argyll took part in a walking challenge.

## Mid Argyll takes up walking challenge

IF THERE have been more walkers about than usual it may not just be down to the school holidays but could be a result of the community walking challenge.

People could register their steps via the Living It Up website and count it towards their area's total steps.

There was fierce competition to be the first area of Argyll to

log the goal of 1,000,000 steps – about 500 miles.

### Strong start

Mid Argyll folk had their pedometers at the ready and had a very strong start being at the top of the leader board at the end of March with people walking in a mix of weathers.

Helensburgh then began to pick up the pace and overtook soon af-

ter. Mid Argyll could only watch in despair as Helensburgh's relentless pace saw them widen the gap.

Eventually it was Argyll's island communities that prevailed with Mull and Bute coming in first and second place respectively. Helensburgh and Cowal were next in with Mid Argyll coming a respectable fifth out of 11 areas.

## Club pays tribute to stalwart ahead of Inveraray anniversary

A GOOD crowd gathered in the Inveraray Inn for the March meeting of the Inveraray and District Accordion and Fiddle Club.

Chairman Niall Iain MacLean paid tribute to Angus Paterson from Strachur, who passed away a few days before. Angus was a regular supporter of the club, deputising as MC on occasions, he was a shepherd, bothy ballad singer and true Highlander and will be sadly missed. The condolences of the club have been conveyed to his family.

Supporting players were not plentiful but

this gave the audience a welcome opportunity to hear more of stalwarts Fyne Folk, with Nick MacFarlane on accordion, Sally Hall, Jake MacKay and Alex John MacLeod on fiddles and Agnes Liddell on keyboard.

Newcomer Myles Clark from Lochgilphead on accordion, accompanied by Grant MacDougall on drums also played a nice selection of tunes.

Guest artistes were 2012 Scottish accordion champion, Leonard Brown from South Shields and Malcolm Ross from Arbroath

on drums and they enthralled the audience with a superb variety of sets, with some very amusing stories and jokes from Leonard in between. All too soon it was time for the last set, followed by a well deserved encore, *The Orange Blossom Special*, after which the chairman thanked all the artistes for a great night.

Next week the club welcomes the ever popular Hector MacFadyen from Oban and his Scottish dance band for the grand finale of the season, which also happens to be the 25th anniversary of the club.



Malcolm Ross and Leonard Brown in Inveraray for the March meeting.

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## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

### Campbeltown Bowling Club OPENING OF GREEN

Saturday 9th April  
at 2.00pm  
All fees are now due.

The Royal British Legion Scotland  
**Campbeltown Branch**  
INFORMAL MEETING  
Lodge 141 Recreational Club  
Friday 8th April @ 1930hrs.  
Dress casual

### The Royal British Legion Scotland Campbeltown Branch COFFEE MORNING

Red Cross Hall,  
Kirk Street  
Saturday 9th April  
10.00 - 12.00  
Admission £2  
Usual stalls

Tarbert Gun Club  
**ANNUAL TROPHY SPORTING SHOOT**  
at Barmore  
Sunday 10th April  
12 noon.

### Inveraray & District Accordion & Fiddle Club

Inveraray Inn  
Wednesday 13th April  
At 8.00pm  
Guest Artistes  
From Oban  
**Hector MacFadyen & his Scottish Dance Band**  
Supporting players most welcome

### Glenbarr Abbey Visitor Centre

Spring opening hours for tours and the gift shop  
By appointment only until the 27th May  
Contact Mrs Macalister on 01583 421090 or Mrs Bryce on 01583 421358  
Scottish Charity SC014084

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

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## Black tie ball for charity

A MAJOR fundraising event in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care is to be held in Mid Argyll at the beginning of May.

The formal black tie ball will be sponsored and organised by the Rotary Club of Mid Argyll. A top class band, champagne reception and five-course meal, together with a prize draw, will be features of what promises to be a fabulous evening.

A club spokesperson said: 'The club is delighted to co-operate with Marie Curie on this exciting event.'

'We hope the public will support this important night for such a worthy cause.'

Tickets, £45, are available from Stewart, Balfour & Sutherland, Colchester Square; Fyne Wines, Lorne Street, Lochgilphead, and from Rotary Club members. Further details are on the club website [www.midargyll.rotary1230.org](http://www.midargyll.rotary1230.org) and on social media sites.

The charity ball will be held at Stonefield Castle Hotel on Saturday May 7, 7pm for 7.30pm.

# Dive in and volunteer at pool



Could you join the MACpool team? 08\_a47swimteachers01

MID ARGYLL Community Pool (MACpool) is on the look out for young people to volunteer a couple of hours a week.

In return you can be put through your paces with lifeguard training and there will be the opportunity of paid lifeguard shifts after school and at the weekend. There might also be the possibility of becoming a qualified swimming teacher.

Anyone interested should attend an open day at the pool on April 25 from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. You must be over 16 years old by the end of August, bring your swimming kit and be prepared to get in the pool.

For further information call 01546 606676.

## Benmore weather report

FEBRUARY was a particularly wet month with precipitation 67 per cent above the average of the last 83 years.

There was 13.1 inches of rain over the month.

Maximum temperature was around normal but the minimum temperature was 1.2 degrees below average.

Ground frost was up by 22 per cent and air frost up by 36 per cent.

The lowest minimum air temperature was -4.9 degrees and this was recorded on February 28.

There was hail on two days, February 1 and 2, and winds reached gale force on five days of the month. There was rain

on 27 days and snow or sleet on five days of the month.

March was a more settled month. Precipitation was 20 per cent lower than average but incidents of ground frost was 25 per cent above average.

It was a cold month with air temperature below 0 degrees on six days, but there was snow and sleet on just one day.

The wettest day saw 37.5mm of rainfall on March 25 and there was rain on 24 days of the month.

Report courtesy of Benmore Gardens, Dunoon.



## Dogs must now be microchipped or owners could face a fine of up to £500

DOG owners could face a fine of up to £500 if their pets are not microchipped.

From Wednesday April 6, all dogs in England, Scotland and Wales are now legally required to have been chipped by the time

they are eight weeks old. The chip is about the size of a grain of rice and is inserted under the loose skin on the back of its neck, giving the animal a unique 15-digit code.

If a dog is lost or stolen, the

microchip can be scanned and matched to contact details stored on an approved database.

Charities including the Dogs Trust, some local authorities and some vets will microchip dogs without charging.



Folk musician King Creosote is heading to Crinan.

## King Creosote to play Crinan

FOLK musician King Creosote will play in the Crinan Hotel along with a band of eight other musicians.

The well-known musician, real name Kenny Anderson, will play at the hotel on April 29 having played at Iona Village Hall the night before.

King Creosote is best known as a member of Fence Collective from the East Neuk of Fife and his album *From Scotland, With Love*

soundtracked a documentary of the same name. He will be playing along with his Acoustic Eight, all talented musicians in their own right, and this is sure to make for some great music.

There are only 50 tickets available so anyone who would like to go should get their tickets fast by calling the hotel on 01546 830261. Tickets are £15. Doors open at 8pm for an 8.30pm start.

## Campbeltown Picture House at the Victoria Hall Sat 9 & Sun 10 April



### Kung Fu Panda 3 (PG)

Sat 9, 3pm / Sun 10, 12.15pm / 95 mins

Panda-omium as Po (Jack Black) takes on evil Kai - action-packed fun!

### How To Be Single (15) Sat 9, 5.30pm / 110 mins

Cheeky comedy with Robin (Rebel Wilson) 'helping' Alice make the most of NYC - perfect for fans of *Bridesmaids*, *Sex and the City* and *Friends*

### Deadpool (15) Sat 9, 8pm / 108 mins

Cheerfully demented twist on superhero movies

### Hail, Caesar! (12A) Sun 10, 2.30pm / 106 mins

The Coen Brothers' glorious screwball comedy with George Clooney

### NT Live: Hangmen SPECIAL EVENT CINEMA

Sat 10, 5pm / 180 mins / £12, concessions £10

The hottest show in London's West End comes to Campbeltown. If you've never been to a 'recorded live' performance before, you're missing out on a wonderful experience.

What's the second-best hangman in the country (David Morrissey) to do on the day hanging is abolished? Laugh out loud funny, darkly comic and thought-provoking, *Hangmen* has received fantastic 5 star reviews and great acclaim from audiences.

Advance booking: [www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk)

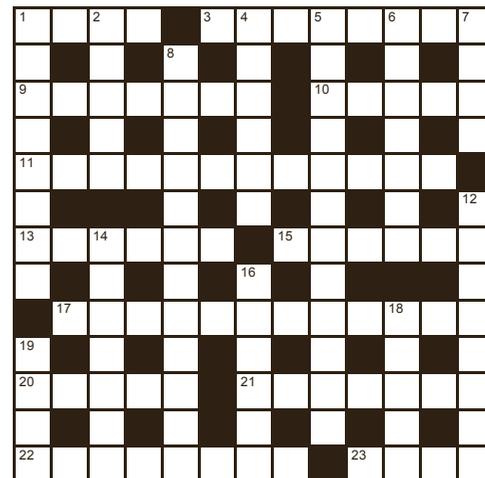
Tickets also at Victoria Hall 30 mins before screenings

Adults £6.50 Concessions: £5.00 Family of 4: £20.00

Presented by Campbeltown Community Business & Film Mobile Scotland in collaboration with The Royal Hotel



## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1 A single time (4)
- 3 Bedtime drink (8)
- 9 Party with alcohol (5-2)
- 10 Bury (5)
- 11 Will not rot (12)
- 13 Complain (6)
- 15 Soporific (6)
- 17 Full of get up and go! (4-8)
- 20 From out of this world (5)
- 21 Shabby (3-4)
- 22 Surgeon, at the end of the line? (8)
- 23 Those people (4)

### Down

- 1 Under the influence of two universities (8)
- 2 Child's throat condition (5)
- 4 Mischievous (6)
- 5 Next in line (4,8)
- 6 Indian Bean tree (7)
- 7 Benefit (4)
- 8 Nervous exhaustion (12)
- 12 Inclination (8)
- 14 Hole (7)
- 16 Town in northern Portugal (6)
- 18 It is necessary for chewing (5)
- 19 Wall part under this rail (4)

## Last week's solution



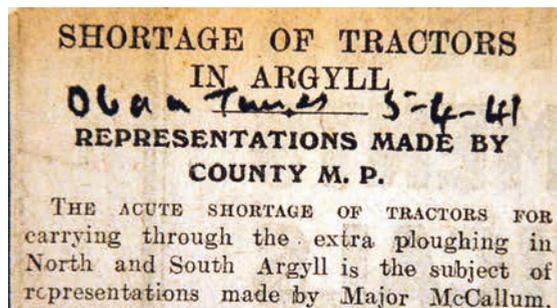
# Argyll's farmers wait on tractors to Dig for Victory

THIS week the *Argyllshire Advertiser* has delved into a fascinating archive, belonging to Rae McGregor of Inveraray, who inherited the record – made up of cuttings from various newspapers – from her father.

Many of the stories concern farming and rural affairs. For much of the 1940s there was a war on, lending an extra dimension to many of the newspaper reports of the time.

So in April 1941, 75 years ago, what were the important farming matters of the day?

In Argyll, it was tractors – or the lack of tractors, to be more precise.



One of the newspaper cuttings about the tractor shortage in Rae McGregor's collection.

Government pressure to bring every possible available acre under the plough to ease a national food shortage extended even to the far corners of Argyll.

#### Starved

Britain was in danger of being starved to defeat in the early war years. Thousands of tons

of shipping carrying vital supplies from the US were sunk in the Atlantic, and rationing had been introduced in 1940. And with farm labourers called to arms, the Women's Land Army were called in to perform many duties on farms formerly done by men.

Food had to be produced, and the Dig for Victory campaign drove home the message that every possible square inch must be utilised for that purpose – whether play park or hill farm.

The farmers of Argyll, more used to extensive hill farming, had too few tractors to fulfil their obligations.

By April 1941, extra government-supplied tractors necessary to cultivate these extra acres had, however, not been delivered.

*The Oban Times* edition of April 5 reported that MP for Argyll, Major Duncan McCallum, had taken up the cudgels on behalf of the county's farmers.

In an urgent telegram copied to the Scottish Office in London and Sir Patrick Laird, secretary of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, Major McCallum wrote: 'Situation regarding tractors for ploughing in both north and south Argyll extremely serious.'

'Please give instructions for the immediate dispatch of additional tractors to Argyll.'

#### Land

The North Argyll Agricultural Executive committee was working to resolve matters, and a letter in the same edition from the group's chairman, Col Bryce Allan, explained that to make the most of what they had, the available tractors had been employed on the most productive land.

The shortage of tractors was due, he said, to bad weather in the south, which had left farmers having to catch up with work. He added: 'We would like to take this opportunity of thanking those patriotic people who have kindly lent us their private machines to help us in this hour of need.'

Major McCallum's telegram seemed to have the desired effect.

The MP received a reply from Under Secretary of State



Farmers in Argyll needed more tractors to meet government ploughing demands.

## Major Duncan McCallum MP

WHO WAS the man who demanded that tractors be sent to Argyll in 1941?

Elected to serve the Argyllshire constituency as unionist MP in 1940, Major (later Sir) Duncan McCallum led quite a colourful life. His father was variety artist Charles Coborn (real name Colin McCallum), famous for the song *The Man who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo*.

He served in the Cameroons and at the Western Front, earning the Military Cross during the First World War. The major went on to act as a liaison officer with the French army in Syria in the 1920s, during which time he took part in a pioneering 1923 motor car journey across the Syrian desert. From

there he went to the diplomatic service, posted to China, Bulgaria and Egypt. At the outbreak of the Second World War he was on General Wavell's staff at the Middle East GHQ in Cairo. On the death of Argyllshire MP Frederick Alexander Macquisten in 1940, Major McCallum returned to Scotland to stand – where he beat Scottish Nationalist candidate William Power to take the seat.

Major McCallum purchased Ardaneiseig House, Loch Awe, in 1947 and became a noted breeder of Highland Cattle. He was knighted in 1955, just three years before his death, aged 69, in May 1958.

He was succeeded as MP for Argyll by Michael Noble of Ardinglas.

for Scotland, Mr J Scrymgeour Wedderburn, stating that 10 tractors had been assigned to Argyll – six for South Argyll and four heading for the north. He added that Argyll now had 24 government tractors, or 27 per cent of the total farm tractors in the county.

Pointedly, he wrote: 'The number available to committees to assist farmers in Scotland as a whole is less than five per cent of the total.'

Memories of these lean wartime days continued to influence government policy right through to the early 1990s, when increased production was at the heart of UK and European farming policy.

Things are slightly different these days within the Common Agricultural Policy, with farm support payment now decoupled from production.

## DIG FOR VICTORY



The famous message had a fundamental importance if the nation was to feed itself.

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# Advertiser farming

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## Focus on pasture to reduce costs



New Zealand grassland expert Trevor Cook.

THE LATEST in a number of grassland experts to offer advice to grazing groups organised by Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) is New Zealand-er Trevor Cook.

A vet to trade, Mr Cook works with farmers advising on how to improve productivity by adjusting feed and management systems.

The QMS grazing group project, with six regional farming participants, began in 2014.

Mr Cook has been impressed with the perfor-

mance of the livestock farms he has visited in Scotland, but he believes the cost of production is still too high.

He produced an annual feed budget for each of the six grazing group hosts after analysing their farms and farming systems.

### Effectively

'The question is how to lower production costs without compromising productivity,' said Mr Cook. 'I believe using

pasture more effectively as the cornerstone of the

feed resource is the way to save money.'

He added: 'The hard Scottish winters should not preclude using a grass system more effectively. Maybe the way to go in Scotland is to supplement the grazing with feed but still out-winter therefore saving housing costs. I can see opportunities in a lot of farms in Scotland to be more efficient in timing and type of feed.'

'What is obvious is that - whether or not we feed

budget - spring is always the challenge. However, by feed budgeting we have far more control. Spring pasture covers can be manipulated if you know what your target is. We've been trialling feed budgeting software and its message is clear - achieving target pasture covers in early March can transform both stocking rates and feed expenditure.'

Alex Brewster, who hosts the Perthshire grazing group at his Rotmell Farm near Dundeld, said: 'It is great to hear Trevor's ideas. He takes a holistic view of the whole farm business and what needs to be done to make it profitable.'

'Maybe in the short term we won't get away from supplementary feeding, but that doesn't mean we cannot take the principles of excellent pastoral grazing systems and find a way to integrate them into our farm businesses in Scotland.'

Michael Blanche,

knowledge transfer specialist with QMS, said: 'It is great having the support of Trevor who has seen first-hand the difference good pasture management can make to efficiency of production in New Zealand.'

'Now, in the final season of the grazing group project, we are starting to see some impressive results here.'

He continued: 'As a result of changes made on farm, all six grazing groups are reporting improved production and/or reductions in costs.'

'Feed budgeting refers mostly to pasture, hence it's a calculation of how much grass stock need to eat at different times of the year and then relating that to the amount of grass grown.'

'Those who have managed to increase their reliance on pasture have been able to reduce the amount of feed they have purchased and have seen a significant benefit to their business as a result.'

## Chip requirement for working dogs

NEW rules mean that all dogs in Scotland over eight weeks of age, including working dogs, now need to be microchipped and registered on an approved database.

Litters of pups and dogs must be chipped and registered before pups are sold or ownership changes, and any pups or dogs entering Scotland must be chipped and registered within 30 days of arrival.

NFU Scotland animal health policy manager Penny Johnston said: 'With many of Scotland's farmers and shepherds in the throes of the lambing season, this is a

deadline that may have slipped the mind but it is one they need to address when they get the chance.

'We believe farmers and working shepherds are likely to be disproportionately impacted by this regulation, as they tend to have more dogs than most pet owners. Also, working farm dogs rarely leave their owner's farm, which we hoped would have negated the need for microchipping. Unfortunately these arguments were not taken up and no exemption exists for farm dogs.'

The new regulations came into force on Wednesday (April 6).



All dogs must have microchip identification.

## Market report

CALEDONIAN Marts Ltd sold 598 store cattle and 321 store hoggets, feeding and breeding ewes on Monday April 4. In the April show and sale, the judge was James Graham of Mains of Burnbank, Blairdrummond, with the results as follows:

Single heifer: D Orr, Mains of Beath, Crossgates, at 390kg for £840 and bought by A Pettigrew, Faschine.

Single bullock: Also from, D Orr, Mains of Beath, at 425kg for £1,000 by A G Baillie & Sons, Blackdub Farm, Stirling.

Pen of four heifers: J D Stevenson, Bowridge, Denny, at 455kg for £960, purchased by J & J Mather, Beechbank, Kelso.

Pen of four bullocks: D Orr, Mains of Beath, Crossgates at 430kg for £1,000 purchased by A G Baillie & Sons, Blackdub Farm, Stirling.

276 bullocks averaged 209p/kg, selling to 257p/kg for an Aberdeen Angus from T J Paterson, Alton Muirhouse, Newmilns and to £1,160 for a Simmental from J & J Brown, Loanrigg, Slamannan.

264 heifers averaged 201p/kg, selling to 249p/kg for a Limousin from A Mc-

Master, Westside, Greengairs and to £1,080 for a Simmental from J W Geyer, Blairhall, Culross.

58 black and white bullocks averaged 136p/kg, selling to 168p/kg from T J Paterson, Alton Muirhouse, Newmilns and to £610 from D T Marshall, West Kirkland, Newton Stewart.

Leading prices: Bullocks per head: £1,150 Loanrigg; £1,120 Mains of Burnbank, £1,100 Loanrigg and Castlehill; £1,090 Badyen, West Kelt and Hatrick; £1,080 Loanrigg.

Heifers per head: £1,070 Blairhall; £1,030 Hill and Blairhall; £1,020 Callendoune; £1,010 Middelrigg.

Bullocks p/kg: 250p Walton and Alton Muirhouse; 244p Kilbride; 243p Mains of Beath; 242p Windyedge; 238p Woodend.

Heifers p/kg: 246p and 243p Mains of Burnbank; 227p Kilbride; 223p Taylorlorton; 222p Midton; 219p and 218p Mid Ervie.

Black and white/head: £590 Westfield; £580 West Kirkland; £570 Alton Muirhouse; £500 Walton, West Kirkland and Westfield.

Black and white p/kg: 143p Westfield; 140p Walton; 135p Westfield; 134p West Kirkland; 133p Gar-elwood.

Top price of the day went to G Adam, Hill of Arn-

more for a pen of Texel cross ewes scanned twins at £116.

Hoggets sold to £70 from W & P Stevenson, Ballingary and D W Leggat, West Rogerton.

Leading prices: Texel hoggets: £64 Ballingary; Tex X hoggets: £60 Ballingary; BF hoggets: £50 Glenogle; BF X hoggets: £50 Kincarrie.

Breeding Sheep: Tex X scanned twins: £108 Hill of Armmore; Tex X scanned single: £90 Hill of Armmore; Cheviot scanned twins: £80 Culcreuch Hill; Cheviot scanned single: £75 Culcreuch Hill; BF scanned twins: £66 Kinrara Estate.

British Blue Bulls, 2 quality very well bred bulls for sale, 21 month old, both from easy calving lines, hi-health herd, BVD and Johnes accredited.  
Can keep till May if required.  
Telephone 01879 220504.

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Email ewen.campbell72@hotmail.co.uk.  
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# Ardrishaig hairdressing business looking to grow after a busy year

AN ARDRISHAIG salon is looking to take on more staff after a busy year in which demand for its hair, beauty and gym services all increased.

Nicky MacDougall runs Casa Argyll Ltd and already employs four people.

She is now looking to offer hairdressers in the area further opportunities by making four rent-a-chairs available.

Nicky, who received support from Business Gateway Argyll and Bute, comes from a family of hairdressers, with her gran owning a salon in the 1950s near where Casa Argyll is now.

Nicky's mother launched Casa Argyll more than 10 years ago

Nicky, who, like all her stylists, is Toni and Guy trained, took over the running of Casa Argyll in 2013.

Nicky said: 'My sister and I are the third gener-



Nicky MacDougall busy at Casa Argyll.

ation of hairdressers in our family.

'After my mum decided to move to Malta, my sister ran Casa Argyll then I took over.

'Since last summer we've remained busy

and we're only getting busier, so now is the right time to take on extra staff.

'Being a mum-of-two I know that flexibility is key for so many people so, instead of just hiring

people, I wanted to offer a rent-a-chair option to allow people to work the hours and days that suit them best. Hopefully, within a few months we can fill all four chairs and be able to take on even more clients.'

Nicky has also introduced new products to the salon, with all stylists now using celebrity favourite brand, Redken.

## Stylist

She has also attracted the services of freelance fashion stylist Martine Carroll, who will be working in the salon two days a week after 10 years of being the art director at Alan Edward's salon in Glasgow.

As well as standard hair services, the salon also offers personal training on its Vibrogym, sunbed and infrared saunas and a number of special offers for older customers, mums and young chil-

dren. Nicky added: 'It's a very exciting time for Casa Argyll.'

'As well as expanding our hair services, we also want to increase our beauty treatments and make further use of our

beauty room. I strongly believe that hairdressers should keep on training to keep up-to-date with new trends and Business Gateway helped me access funding which I am using towards training

courses for my staff.

'The support from Business Gateway has been really useful, not just in terms of pointing me in the right direction to apply for funding, but in giving advice on how to make the changes needed for us to grow.'

Donald Melville, business adviser Business Gateway, said: 'Casa Argyll is a business which is more than 10 years old and is now in a position to grow further.'

'Through our one-to-one advice service we were able to successfully signpost Nicky to funding opportunities which have allowed her to invest in her staff and offer even more to her customers.'

To find out more about how Business Gateway can help set up and develop a business call 01546 808 363 or visit [www.bgateway.com/argyll-and-bute](http://www.bgateway.com/argyll-and-bute)



Nicky comes from a family of hairdressers.

## Digital boost workshops for Argyll and Bute

NEW TRAINING workshops aimed at helping Argyll and Bute-based businesses adopt digital technology have been launched, as part of a national programme.

The Digital Boost events have been designed to help small-to-medium-sized businesses improve their website presence, understand and communicate with their customers better, and ultimately increase sales.

The events will run throughout April and

May, covering digital marketing, data analytics and back office systems.

Digital Boost has been developed by Business Gateway, Scottish Enterprise and Highland and Islands Enterprise on behalf of Digital Scotland.

The comprehensive programme of fully funded workshops has been designed specifically to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) development into digital technologies and ultimately to bring

business benefits. The free half-day workshops taking place across the region include:

**Digital marketing strategy** – Oban, April 20 and Inveraray, April 22.

This workshop aims to show businesses a practical strategy for successful digital marketing, including content creation, content publishing and how to drive traffic.

**Website data analytics** – Helensburgh April 19, Oban, April 20 and Inveraray, April 22.

This workshop aims to help businesses find out how many people are accessing their web site and what they are doing when they get there, then plan how to use that information to make the website work harder.

**Digitise your business processes** – Oban, April 21.

This workshop aims to help businesses see what systems are available to help operational efficiency, financial management and customer relations management.

Online guides to all of the workshop themes will be available.

As well as the local workshop programme, one-to-one adviser sessions with digital specialists are also available to eligible businesses that would benefit from extra support on digital topics. Access to one-to-one support is by referral from a business adviser based in a local Business Gateway office.

The new digital programme also sees a Digital Boost diagnostic

tool live on the Business Gateway website at [bgateway.com/digitalboost](http://bgateway.com/digitalboost), helping businesses assess their current digital know-how through a series of questions. The results will guide them to relevant online guides and workshops that might assist them further.

Ann Scott from Business Gateway Argyll and Bute said: 'Digital technologies open doors to bigger markets as well as providing opportunities to improve the efficiencies of indi-

vidual businesses. The Digital Boost events aim to give a greater understanding of this fast moving sector and the real business benefits it can bring.'

For more information on the free workshop programme, including exact times and locations, call 01546 604 555 or visit [www.bgateway.com/events](http://www.bgateway.com/events). Digital Boost support enhances the workshops available from Business Gateway covering website development, online trading and social media.

Get the best from your business with help from Business Gateway.

Free, practical advice and support to help grow your business. Call your local office on 01546 605 459 or visit [www.bgateway.com/argyllandbute](http://www.bgateway.com/argyllandbute)

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**Lochgilhead  
Community Council  
AGM**  
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[www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)  
**Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid**

**PLANNING**  
These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 – 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk).

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

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
16/00725/PP	Erection of 15 metres high lattice telecommunications tower	Land South of Aird Steading Craignish Lochgilhead Argyll and Bute PA31 8QS	Sub Post Office Ardfern
16/00745/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and garage	Land South West of Rhu House (Plot 2) Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6YF	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert
16/00818/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant	Land 350 Metres South of Inverneill Farm Inverneill Ardrihaig Argyll and Bute PA30 8ES	Mid Argyll Area Office

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

**Are you looking to  
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43% of those planning on buying a house  
in the next year have been exposed to  
advertising in the regional press, which is  
double the number in any other medium.

Source: Consumers' Choice V, The Newspaper Society

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# West Coast **PROPERTY GUIDE**

✔ LETTINGS ✔ COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ✔ SALE ✔ PROPERTY REVIEWS ✔ PROPERTY NEWS ✔ LOCAL ESTATE AGENTS

## Home Comforts: Guidance on using ventilation, heating and renewable energy systems

MANY people struggle to get to grips with the operation and maintenance of ventilation, solar, heat pump and control systems commonly used in today's homes. Published by NHBC Foundation, Home Comforts: Guidance on using ventilation, heating and renewable energy systems, gives homeowners much-needed free advice on how to use these systems.

The incorrect use of home ventilation, for example, can lead to increases in condensation, mould and air pollutants, which can affect health and the comfort of the home.

The guidance has been developed for inclusion on the NHBC Home User Guide (HUG), a secure online portal for homeowners containing all of the information about their NHBC Buildmark warranty and insurance policy as well as useful guidance about moving into and living in a brand new home. HUGs are provided free of charge to new home buyers and are also freely available for house builders and housing providers.

Home Comforts is a practical, easy-to-understand guide on the operation and maintenance of:

- Ventilation
- Solar energy systems
- Heat pumps
- Heating controls

In each case the guidance explains what the particular system does, how it works and its main benefits - enabling homeowners to take full advantage of the benefits these technologies bring.

Previous NHBC Foundation research shows that new homes use around half of the energy used by a typical (improved) home built in the Victorian era, however, many of these systems are relatively recent introductions with technology that may be unfamiliar to homeowners. As a result, patterns of use can vary between different households, sometimes resulting in poor or disappointing performance. Understanding how to operate and maintain these systems is vital in ensuring they work effectively and efficiently.

Neil Smith, head of research and innovation at NHBC, said: 'New homes offer excellent levels of comfort and energy efficiency, but some homeowners are left baffled by the latest ventilation, heating and energy saving systems. So that these systems work properly, it's essential for people to know how to use the controls, can make sure their homes are properly ventilated and understand how renewable technologies operate. From the basics of thermostat control to the maintenance of solar energy systems, this practical guide from the NHBC Foundation enables homeowners to take full advantage of these technologies.'

To download and read the guide visit:  
<http://www.nhbcfoundation.org/Publications/Guide/Home-Comforts-NF68>

To find out more about HUG visit:  
<http://www.nhbc.co.uk/Productsandservices/homeuserguide/>



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Rural setting, 6 miles from Lochgilhead.  
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FRESH AYRSHIRE  
Tom McClean's Lee McKenzie on growing up in Ayrshire  
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# west coast recruitment

## HOUSEKEEPER/ WAITRESS REQUIRED

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crinanhotel.com  
www.crinanhotel.com



## SCOTTISH AMBULANCE SERVICE ARGYLL & CLYDE

### Ambulance Technician (Relief)

NB: The term "Relief Ambulance Technician" refers to the shift pattern which you will be placed on.

**Vacancies have arisen in the following areas:**

**Tarbert, Inverary, Mull and Oban. These stations have an on-call requirement therefore successful candidates must live within 3 miles of the station.**

#### The Role

Our Technicians work alongside qualified Paramedics to deliver the best level of patient care possible, you will work in a range of environments and with a huge range of people.

The Ambulance Technician role is the first step to becoming an Ambulance Paramedic and once qualified as a Technician, you will be eligible to apply for further development as a fully qualified Paramedic and then possibly onto other roles across the Service, including specialist clinical roles and managerial roles.

#### The Training

You will receive full training to become a qualified Technician through our in house vocational training programme. The programme is delivered over a 16 month period during which time you will receive classroom based training at one of regional facilities as well as time on practice placement, where you will be mentored by other qualified staff as well as receiving ongoing support and learning from the Education Team.

#### The Person

This is a hugely varied role, each day and patient is different. As a result, you will need to have excellent interpersonal skills as well as an ability to communicate effectively with a range of different people in a range of different and often difficult circumstances. You will need to demonstrate flexibility and the ability to make decisions

Previous experience in a care role would be advantage, but equally volunteer work or working with your community would be beneficial.

Band 4 – Salary for Technician Students is £15,720 per annum plus unsocial enhancement, rising to £19,502 per annum on successful completion of the training programme. Salary will rise through annual increments to £22,458 plus unsocial.

#### The Requirements

Successful candidates can come from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. But all will be required to satisfy the following recruitment and entry requirements:

- Minimum Standard Grade Pass in Maths and English (or equivalent)
- Occupational Fitness Test
- Competency Based Interview
- Occupational Health Screening/Medical
- Satisfactory application to the PVG (Disclosure) Scheme
- You will be required to hold a full C1 category driving licence. We therefore recommend that applicants obtain their C1 Provisional licence at the earliest opportunity so that your application is not held up. Please refer to the DVLA website on how to obtain your C1 licence.

**For informal enquiries please contact Andy Brady on 07557-203946**

**To apply please contact Sheila Park by email at [scotamb.southrecruit@nhs.net](mailto:scotamb.southrecruit@nhs.net) to obtain an application pack. The job reference number is SW4902**

**The closing date for applications is 29 April 2016.**



## Lead Exercise Professional

**Full time, Fixed term contract 1 year initially  
Oban, with some travel throughout Argyll.  
Salary: circa £25K, dependent on qualifications.**

An exciting opportunity has arisen within our successful team for a Lead Exercise Professional who will provide a valued specialist service and be empathetic to our clients needs.

Our programme is designed to support a wide range of individuals with varying physical & mental health conditions to enable & support them in changing their lifestyle & to become more active. You will work closely with health professionals across a wide range of disciplines who provide support, mentoring & who understand the importance of physical activity & life style change for their client's health & well-being. You will be responsible for all aspects of the exercise programme delivery. There may be opportunities to manage wider aspects of Healthy Options programmes. Healthy Options is a dynamic community health initiative working in collaboration with health professionals. This is a unique opportunity to help this exciting & successful programme continue & develop to meet the needs of the population of Oban and Argyll.

**Successful Candidate will have:** • S/NVQ Level 3 GP referral qualification or equivalent • S/NVQ Level 4 exercise specialist qualifications (desirable) • REPS registration • Experience in designing & delivering activity programmes for clients with chronic conditions.

**For job description & further details contact:-**

Lorn & Oban Healthy Options Ltd.

[info@lornhealthyoptions.co.uk](mailto:info@lornhealthyoptions.co.uk)

Reg. in Scotland No. SC383167 Reg. Charity No. SC041998

## Nurses

Full and Part Time Positions Available

We are looking to recruit experienced Staff Nurses to join our experienced team at Lynn of Lorne Care Home.

Successful candidates will have good communication skills, be motivated to offer the highest standards of care, and be able to undertake all appropriate aspects of nursing care required. Responsibilities will include assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating care for specified residents to ensure continuity of care. There are excellent opportunities for career progression for successful candidates, in addition to ongoing training and competitive rates of pay.

Applicants will be qualified RGN / RMN and will have a genuine interest in working with the elderly. Communication skills are essential and applicants must be able to communicate effectively at all levels. Current NMC Registration is necessary and a PVG check also applies to this role.  
£14.50 - £16.00 per hour

Lynn of Lorne  
CARE HOME

To apply, contact [lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com](mailto:lynnoflorne@mckenziecare.com) or call Home Manager Louise Glasgow on 01631 720278.

Benderloch, By Oban PA37 1QW [www.mckenziecare.com](http://www.mckenziecare.com)



## General Assistants Full & Part Time

Duties include serving customers, cash handling, and general housekeeping duties. Ideal candidates will have excellent customer service skills. Previous experience preferred but not essential.

#### Contact Details:

Apply to: Neil Colburn/Jasmine McAlinden  
The Tree Shop, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BL  
[info@thetreeshop.net](mailto:info@thetreeshop.net) Tel: 01499 600263/600100

**ainsley smith+co**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

## Accounts Assistant/ Bookkeeper Required

Accounts Assistant/Bookkeeper required for our Oban office. Training given as required. Salary dependant on experience. Ability to work with SAGE software an advantage.

This is an opportunity to join an expanding, busy general practice with clients from all over Argyll and Highlands and Islands, the appropriate candidates will be able to work on their own initiative and be able to have a good relationship with clients and other staff.

Please email CV to Jean Ainsley CA  
[jean@ainsleysmith.co.uk](mailto:jean@ainsleysmith.co.uk)



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Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2005

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## CLYDE MARINE SKIPPER

We have a vacancy for the above in Oban from June to August 2016.

Candidates must be enthusiastic, self motivated, flexible, and be in possession of RYA Yachtmaster with commercial endorsement and provide high levels of customer service.

**To apply, please forward your CV and certificates by post or email to:  
Clyde Marine Services Ltd,  
Victoria Harbour, Greenock, PA15 1HW.  
[admin@clyde-marine.co.uk](mailto:admin@clyde-marine.co.uk)**

**Position:** Yard Labourer  
**Location:** Dunstaffnage Marina, Dunbeg, Oban  
**Hours:** Full time

(Including rotational weekend work)

**Salary:** TBC (Depends on experience)

**Role:** This role combines a variety of responsibilities but ultimately includes working within the Slip Team and following instructions from the Marina Management. There is an element of using your own initiative as you will often be left to work on your own.

**Tel: 01631 566 555**

## Production Manager

Organic Salmon Farm in Co. Galway, Ireland

Bradán Beo Teo., an established organic salmon farming company in the west of Ireland is seeking to fill the position of Production Manager. Reporting to the General Manager, the successful candidate will have responsibility for all the day to day operations of a marine sea cage salmon farm. They will oversee the safe and efficient deployment of staff, seek to achieve high levels of stock survival, fast growth and efficient feed conversion, all with minimal environmental impact and in full compliance with all relevant legislation.

The role requires the following key abilities:

- High calibre leadership and interpersonal skills;
- Effective management of operational staff including responsibility for Health & Safety;
- Ensuring that fish health and welfare is prioritised at all times;
- Ensuring that stock performance in terms of key efficiency ratios is achieved to an agreed standard;
- Regular monitoring of the fish health;
- Ensuring compliance at all times with the relevant regulations governing the operations of an organic salmon farm in Ireland;
- Providing timely and accurate production reports to management;

An attractive remuneration package including bonus based on the biological performance of the stock. The job will be based in County Galway.

Please submit CV and application letter by Friday 29 April 2016 to:  
**Robert Kerr, Bradán Beo Teo, Lettermullen, Co. na Gaillimhe**  
bobby@bradanbeo.ie

www.hie.co.uk

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Operating across half of Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise is one of Europe's most highly-regarded development agencies. HIE's unique integration of economic and community development is central to its success in generating sustainable economic growth in every part of the Highlands and Islands, particularly in fragile areas.

## DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Auchtertyre, £26,229 - £29,907 per annum, excellent benefits package

You will be responsible for providing advice, guidance and support to community organisations involved in asset-based community development, predominantly covering Lochaber and Skye, as well as some projects in Wester Ross and other areas as required. You will also contribute to the policy and sectoral development work of the team, which may involve new areas of activity, in order to support the delivery of HIE's Operating Plan. In doing so you will liaise with colleagues in other parts of HIE, particularly in area offices and partner organisations as appropriate.

A key part of this role will be to bring fresh thinking to HIE's work in the fields of community asset development, to help create a customer-focused business that is responsive and proactive and to work with the senior leadership team to set an organisational climate in which staff resources are aligned and empowered to pursue HIE's remit, encouraging innovation and creativity.

TO APPLY ONLINE VISIT:  
www.hie.co.uk/vacancies

JOB REFERENCE: 568

CLOSING DATE: 20 April 2016

INTERVIEW DATE: 29 April 2016

We encourage online applications but if you are unable to apply online please contact us for an application pack, e-mail recruitment@hient.co.uk or call 01463 244 414.

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### Clerical Assistant/Classroom Assistant (Temporary)

£14,964 - £15,858 pro rata Lochdonhead Primary School Ref: CME00959

Clerical Assistant post – 17.5 hours per week term time  
Classroom Assistant post – 7.25 hours per week term time

### Clerical Assistant/Classroom Assistant (Temporary)

£14,964 - £15,858 pro rata Ulva Primary School Ref: CME08123

Clerical Assistant post – 17.5 hours per week term time  
Classroom Assistant post – 7.25 hours per week term time

### Clerical Assistant (Temporary)

£14,964 - £15,858 pro rata Lochgilphead Ref: CTF01109

17.5 hours per week

☎ 01546 604334

Closing date for all posts: 15 April 2016.  
To apply visit our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs



WEST HIGHLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION Ltd

## Customer Services Assistant

EVH Band 3 [£16,210] from 1st April 2016  
Temporary Position For A Period Of 1 Year

The Association is seeking to recruit a temporary Customer Services Assistant for a period of 1 year. The main purpose of this post will be to provide excellent front line customer service to tenants, applicants, owners and other stakeholders as well as administrative support to other sections of the Association.

Applicants should possess general administration experience in a busy office environment. Must be a good communicator and be fully competent in the use of Microsoft Office.

EVH conditions of service and contributory pension scheme are offered.

We are committed to diversity and encourage applications from all sectors of the community. We are a Scottish Charity No SC017357.

Application packs are available from Iona Smith, Housing & Customer Services Officer. Please email [iona@westhighlandha.co.uk](mailto:iona@westhighlandha.co.uk) for a pack  
Closing date for Applications will be Wednesday 20th April 2016, with interviews being held week commencing 25th April 2016.

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Up to 30 covers per night in restaurant and overseeing Bistro menu. Willing to train young apprentice chef. Salary Circa £18,000 Start April to Oct extend season possibility.

Contact via email [kdeacon@btconnect.com](mailto:kdeacon@btconnect.com) or phone 01583 505254

Ken Deacon Gigha Hotel 01583505254  
[kdeacon@btconnect.com](mailto:kdeacon@btconnect.com)



Due to increased volume of work we have 5 vacancies with immediate effect for the following positions at our Oban Depot

- Dayshift Warehouse Operative (Full Time) x 1
- Dayshift Delivery and Collection 3.5t Van Drivers x 2
- Afternoon Warehouse Operatives (Part Time) x 2

If you are self-motivated, reliable, trustworthy and possess excellent communication skills and are looking for a new challenge we will be pleased to hear from you. In the first instance your CV should be emailed to:

[oban.enquiries@menziesdistribution.com](mailto:oban.enquiries@menziesdistribution.com)  
Interviews will take place week commencing 11 April 2016



## Senior Investment & Planned Maintenance Officer

Salary £30,707 - £36,126

## Lochgilphead

35 hours per week

For further information about this post or for an informal chat please contact David McColl, Investment Manager on 01546 605842.

Interviews will be held in Lochgilphead on Wednesday 4th May 2016

## Painter

Salary £20,753 - £24,414

## Mid Argyll & Kintyre

37.5 hours per week

For further information about this post or for an informal chat please contact Andy Read, Planned Preventative Maintenance Manager on 01546 605919

Interviews will be held in Lochgilphead on Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Closing Date for both posts: 12 noon on Friday 22nd April 2016

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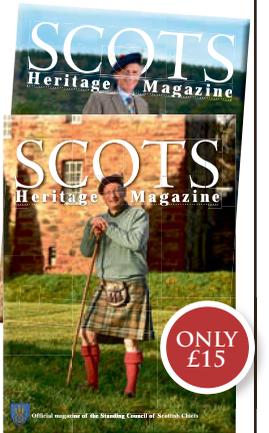


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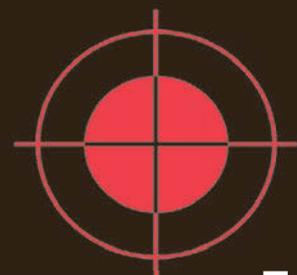
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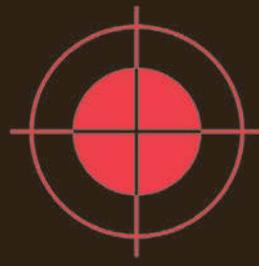
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**THANK YOU**

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Margaret and Iain would like to thank all the locals, council boys, trucker lads, tradesmen, tourists and all other passing trade, from near and far, for their business and support over the last 45 years. You've all become our friends, so stop for a blether if you see us in Glenbarr. We'll miss you all.

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**Thought for the Week**  
with Marilyn Shedden



WE COULD not understand why the ferry was late as the weather was perfect.

Then, watching from Claonaig, we saw her bobbing across the Sound from Lochranza.

Several vehicles drove off and a few foot passengers behind them.

However, we were intrigued by the fact that the whole upper deck was crowded with people who stayed on board.

Safely on deck, we headed for the ticket office where the mystery was solved by a very friendly crew member.

Evidently, the folk on board had been asked to fulfil one last wish for a well-loved friend. They had been invited to scatter the ashes of their friend on a place of happy memories.

It was a well-planned trip and the folk had also taken flowers to throw onto the sea, no doubt carrying each person's personal thoughts.

Although I did not know the one who had died, I wondered about why this crossing meant so much.

What happy times had been shared?

Was it the place where love was found?

Was it a place where the best family holidays took place?

I overheard several conversations and most began with, 'Do you remember when....?'

There was laughter and no doubt there had been tears.

The person who had passed away was certainly alive in the love and memory of friends gathered on a wee ferry last Saturday.

I wondered about the flowers carried by the waves. Would they land on some different shore?

I hoped someone would take them and hold them and treasure them.

Love drifted between life and death, and shore and shore.

It reminded me that the one who waits on the other shore of time for each one of us, will take us and hold us and treasure us for all eternity.

We need never fear that final voyage.

**INVERARAY**

**Kids practice jailbreak**

INVERARAY kids on the run took on the challenge of a long run with determination and enthusiasm recently.

Several members of the group are taking part in the Inveraray Jailbreak run on May 1 so they practiced the 2.7-mile route. Despite hail and some wobbly legs, the whole group did amazingly well with encouragement from helpers Rosie Corner, Florence Aura, Janet Riddoch and Jillian McCreedy.

Leader Fee Corner said: 'There was no way I could choose one runner over another this week as they all worked hard and pushed themselves. Well done Lewis, Coll, Archie, Eilidh, Erin, Tilly, Gill, Dillon and Aray, you are all runners of the week and I am very proud of you all.'

**STRACHUR**

**Fiddle workshop**

CHILDREN in Strachur took part in a fiddle workshop in the village's Memorial Hall recently.

About 12 children from eight to 12 years old were tutored by Finlay Allison, a senior tu-

tor at Glasgow Fiddle Workshop, Graham McKenzie, Cowal School's fiddle tutor, and up-and-coming young musician Maria Voinot.

The youngsters were put into small groups according to ability and spent the day learning by ear. The tutor would play a phrase and show them how to play it, building up the tune step by step.

After the tunes were learned, the children and Graham enjoyed a game of football outside.

**ACHNABREC**

**Spring into Easter**

GREAT fun awaits for pre-school and primary school children - and their parents - at Achnabrec forest.

Today, April 8, there will be a range of activities from 2pm.

This includes a forest trail, and an Easter bunny den.

Children will also have the chance to make wooden Easter animals they can take home and there will be other crafts on offer too.

Booking is essential and can be done by calling the Forestry Commission on 0300 067 6650.

The event is free and warm clothes and good footwear is advised.



Evie Strath surrounded by well wishers on her 100th birthday in 2013.

20\_c09eviestrath01

**Retired headmistress Evie, 103, laid to rest in Minard**

A RETIRED headmistress from Carradale, who was in her 104th year, was laid to rest in Minard cemetery looking out on Loch Fyne.

Evie Strath had just celebrated her 103rd at the end of February when her health deteriorated and she passed away peacefully.

Piper Iain Campbell and 29 mourners gathered at the graveside for a service led by Rev Steven Fulcher from Carradale and a blessing by retired Gaelic minister

**CARRADALE**

Rev Roddy MacLeod from Furnace.

Afterwards refreshments were served at the Lochgair Hotel according to Evie's instructions.

Evie had spent 21 years of her retirement in a Minard bungalow before moving to a nursing home in Oban.

This was not suitable and in 2003 she moved to the Abbeyfield home in Carradale. When Ab-

beyfield closed last year Evie moved in with its former manager Joy Bidmead.

Many people enjoyed her company at Abbeyfield, in particular Johnny and Ella Durnan, who often took Evie on weekend trips to places she loved and where she had taught in her long teaching career.

Evie enriched everyone she met with her phenomenal memory for events long past stretching back to the Battle of the Somme in 1916.



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**TEXT FOR THE WEEK**

'Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures for ever' (Psalm 107:1).

**BIRTHS**



**HARVEY - MARTIN**

Mikey and Jamie-Lee would like to announce the quick arrival of their beautiful daughter, Hollie Louise Harvey, on March 22, 2016, at Mid Argyll Hospital. Jack is delighted to finally meet his baby sister.

**DEATHS**

**FOTHERINGHAM**

Peacefully in Mains House, Newtonmore, on April 4, 2016, Charles (Chay), formerly of Bruiach, Newtonmore, much loved husband of Myra, dear father to Peter and Jan and a loving grandad. Funeral service at Inverness Crematorium, on Wednesday, April 13 at 1.00pm. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. All enquiries to John Ross Funeral Services on 01479 872222.

**HEAD** - Peacefully, at Paisley Royal Alexandra Hospital, after a long illness with Parkinson's, on April 3, 2016, Margaret Head (née Trappe), dearly beloved wife of Roger, much loved mother of Elizabeth, mother-in-law of Shaun, a loving grandmother of Suzanne, Alexander and Rheannan and dear sister of Timothy and Jennifer. Will be sadly missed by all.

**M C A R T H U R** - Peacefully at home, Greenwood, Campbeltown, on April 2, 2016, James Duncan McArthur (Jim), in his 70th year, dearly beloved son of the late James and Nellie McArthur, loving brother of the late John and a much loved uncle and friend to many.

**MCCONNACHIE** - Peacefully, at the home of his daughter, Strath Farm, Campbeltown, on April 2, 2016, Neil Thomson McConnachie, in his 94th year, Corachan and formerly of Dunglass Farm, Southend, dearly beloved husband of the late Cissie Barbour, much loved father of Angus and Margo and a loving and much loved papa and great papa.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**MCDUGALL** - The family of the late Iain McDougall would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy and support received in their recent sad loss. Special thanks to all doctors, nursing staff, ambulance personnel, district nurses and staff at A&E, Mid Argyll Hospital for all the kind care and attention received. Special thanks also to Matthew Ramsay for a comforting and personal service, to organist Marjorie Kelly for her wonderful playing, to Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services, to Tarbert Hotel for catering and to all who braved the elements to pay their last respects at church and graveside. The collection of £700 was shared between Tarbert Parish Church and the Macmillan Suite at Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead.

**MORRISON** - The family of the late Lily Morrison would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and phone calls. Thanks to all staff at Campbeltown Hospital for their compassionate care. Special thanks to Rev Robert MacLeod for an uplifting service, which Lily would have loved, and to Calum and Liz for their greatly appreciated support. Thanks to Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for their professional services and to the Ardshiel Hotel for the purvey. Finally, thank you to everyone who attended the church and graveside to pay their last respects. A generous retiring collection was gifted to Campbeltown Free Church.

**RICHARDSON** - Sandy wishes to thank everyone for their sympathy, flowers, cards, phone calls following the sad loss of Valerie. Their unfailing thoughtfulness and support during the two years of her illness are also greatly appreciated. Thanks are also due to the doctors at MACHICC and particularly to all the nurses (practice, district, community and Marie Curie) whose superb care enabled Valerie to remain at home to the end, as she so much wished. Special thanks to Rev Dr Roderick Campbell for comforting support and an exceptional service; to Alison Hay for all the appropriate music; to the Lochgair Garden Club for the special floral tributes in the church; and to the Quarry View Garden Centre Cafe for the excellent purvey. Sincere thanks also go to

Donald MacDonald for their compassionate and efficient help with all the funeral arrangements. And finally, warmest thanks to all the friends who attended at church and graveside. The retiring collection has raised £435 for Friends of the Beatson.

**RONALD** - John and family would like to thank everyone for the kind expressions of sympathy since the sad loss of Isobel. Special thanks to Kitty Millar, district nurses and Southend Surgery for care given, to Rev Fulcher for comforting service, Mrs Netty Semple (organist), Alasdair, Kenneth and Rhys Blair for professional services, to Frances for the lovely tea. Finally, to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside. A retiring collection raised £1,392 for Macmillan Nurses and Southend Parish Church.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**GLEN** - Patricia. Always here with us each day. In things we do and words we say. As if to keep a watchful eye. And make life safe, as time goes by. - Alistair, Catherine Ann, Alistair and Alan.

**GLEN** - In loving memory of my sister, Patricia. Sadly missed. - Davie and Catherine xx. Miss you. - Karen x.

**MACGREGOR** - In loving memory of a dear mum and nanny, Mary Orr, who died on April 8, 1982, also a dear dad and pappy, Charlie, who died on December 18, 1999. Always in our thoughts. - From all the family.

**MACLULLICH** - In loving memory of Duncan, dear husband, father and brother who died on April 11, 2013. Loved and remembered always.

- Annette, Alasdair and Ishobel.

**WEIR** - In loving memory of Alex, a dear husband, father and papa. Every day in some small way. Memories of you come our way. Though absent, you are always near. Loved and missed throughout the years. - Tina, Bell, Allan and families xx.

**WILLIAMSON** - In loving memory of a beloved father, grandfather and great grandfather, George (Geordie), who died April 6, 2011. Much missed. - From Sylvia, Simon, Malcolm, Ross, Aimée and Lynne.

**CHURCH NOTICES**

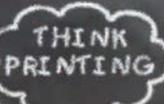
**lochgilphead baptist church**

Pastor Derek Gibson  
All Welcome  
**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
Morning Service 11.00am  
With communion  
**Jumpstart**  
Fridays from 10.00 am  
*Scottish Charity SC015187*



**LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH**  
**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE  
Rev. Hilda Smith  
All Welcome  
**Every Tuesday**  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Bumps, Babies and Toddlers  
**Every Wednesday**  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Drop-In Cafe  
More info. at [www.lpchurch.co.uk](http://www.lpchurch.co.uk)

  
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**ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH**

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

**NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH**

Charity Number SC001002  
**Sunday 10 April**  
Tayvallich Church  
Prayer meeting 10:30 am  
Morning Worship 11:30 am  
**Saturday 9 April**  
Coffee Morning 10:30 am  
Tayvallich Hall  
**Monday 11 April**  
Tayvallich Church  
Prayer meeting 10:30 am  
**Tuesday 12 April**  
Kirk Session 7:30 pm  
Tayvallich Church  
All welcome  
Enquiries 01546 606926  
[www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs](http://www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs)

**SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY**

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
Skipness Service 10.00am  
Tarbert Service 11.30am  
Mr John Morrison  
Kilberry Service 2pm  
Mr Chris Thomhill  
Annual Stated Meeting to follow Tarbert Service.  
For all church enquiries and pastoral care  
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735  
**Everyone very welcome**  
Tarbert & Kilberry SC002622  
Skipness SC004280

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH**

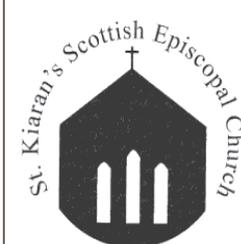
**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
Morning Worship  
Ford 10.00am  
All welcome  
SCO 02121

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE**

**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair  
Charity No. SC016097  
Minister:  
Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell  
Morning Service in Lochgair Church at 10 am  
**Glenaray and Inveraray**  
Charity No. SC016665  
Morning Service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am  
Monthly Gaelic Service in Lochgair Church at 3 pm (Learners always welcome)  
All Welcome

**LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN**

**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
11.00am  
Worship Service for all ages followed by a light lunch  
SPEAKER: George Stewart 'The Three Hundred'  
**Thursday 14th April 2016**  
7.30pm  
Prayer, Word and Sharing  
All Welcome



**Argyll Street, Campbeltown**  
St Kieran Episcopal Church:  
Campbeltown  
Scottish Charity No SC023277  
**Sunday 10th April**  
Third Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion 10.45am  
**Details of services are on the church door.**  
**Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141**  
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion



George Street, Campbeltown  
**Sunday 10th April**  
11.15am Worship Service  
Mr Stephen Allison  
7.00pm Fellowship Meeting  
**Wednesday 13th April**  
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer  
2.00pm Water of Life Café  
All Welcome  
[www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk)  
Scottish Charity Number: SC009980



**Sunday Service**  
11.00 am  
with Sunday School followed by refreshments  
Pastor Chris Holden  
**mainly music**  
10.00 - 11.30 am  
every Thursday (term time only)  
Registration required  
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road  
[www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
SC043322

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES**

"It is good to sing praises to our God"  
**Sunday 10th April**  
Achahoish at 9:45am  
Ardrishaig at 11:00am

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES**

**Christ Church**  
Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)  
**Sundays**  
11.00 am  
Eucharist & Coffee  
**St. Columba, Poltalloch**  
(SC031391)  
**1st Sunday of the month**  
9.00am Holy Communion  
**3rd Sunday of the month**  
6.00pm Evensong  
Father Simon Mackenzie  
01546 602315

**Highland Parish Church**



SCO02493  
**Sunday 8th April 2016**  
The service will be conducted by Rev C Fulcher and will be held in the Church at 11.15am

**LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH**

Scottish Charity Number SC011686  
**Sunday 10th April**  
Service 11.15am  
Creche  
Rev W Crossan  
**Tuesday 12th April**  
Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am  
**Thursday 14th April**  
Choir 7.30pm  
**Friday 15th April**  
Lunch Club  
12.00 noon New Hall



Campbeltown Corps  
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Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009399  
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01586 552046

**Sunday Services**

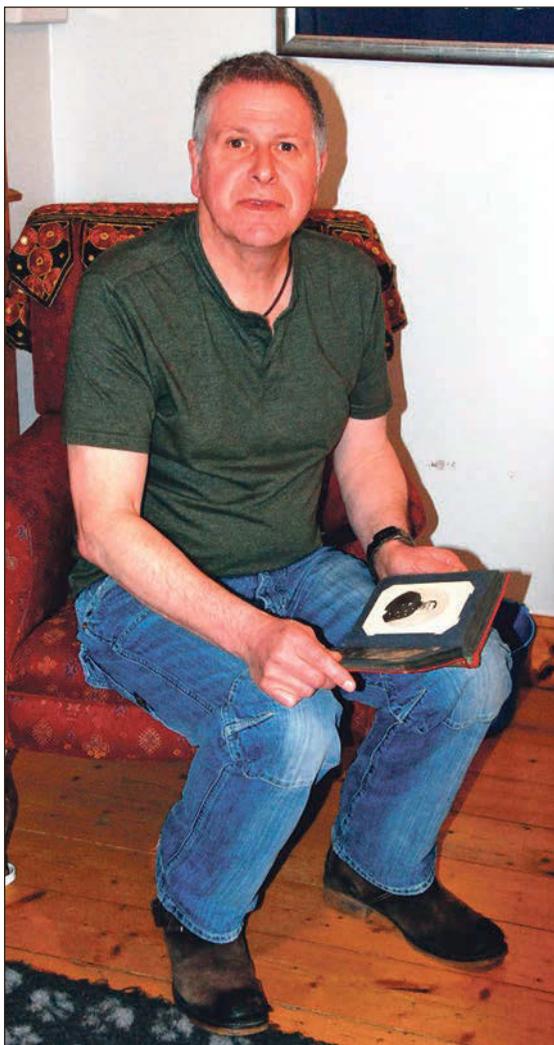
10.30am Morning Worship  
Army Kidz  
6.30pm Evening Worship  
**Tuesday**  
12.15pm Lunch Club  
1.30pm Home League  
**Wednesday**  
7.00 pm Make and Munch Craft Group  
**Thursday**  
7.30pm Bible Study  
All welcome

**SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**



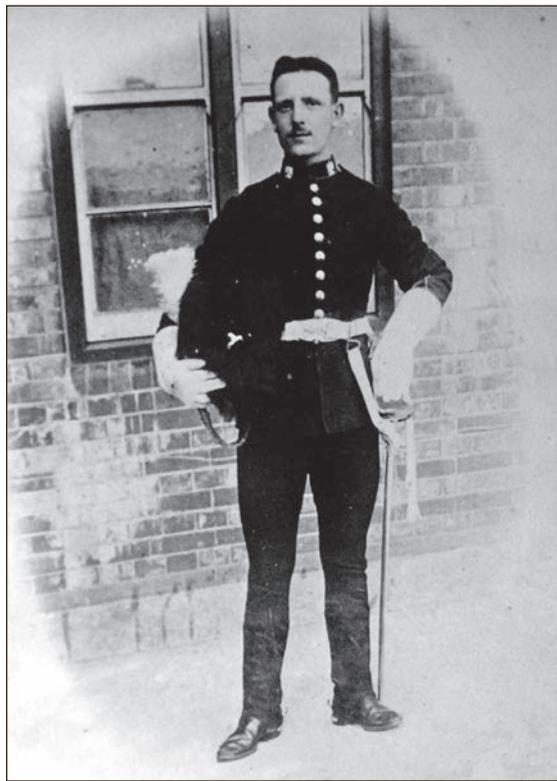
75 Longrow, Campbeltown  
**Sunday 10th April 2016**  
11.00am Family Communion Service  
Mr Kelvin Moller, Clachan

**Tuesdays**  
10am- 12 noon  
Coffee morning  
All welcome  
**Wednesdays**  
12.30pm at the Free Church  
Joining in fellowship with Campbeltown Free Church for Prayer and Bible Study  
For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 0586 551237.  
[www.springbankchurch.co.uk](http://www.springbankchurch.co.uk)  
SCO14646



John Barnett looks at an old photo album.

08\_a15ww102



Duncan McBrayne. 08\_a15pic01

# Family stories shared with war archivist

by EALA MACALISTER  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A LOCHGILPHEAD man with tales of his grandfather and great-uncle's time in the First World War was made welcome by archivists from the Scotland's War project.

John Barnett had a huge collection of memorabilia from his grandfather, Duncan McBrayne, and great uncle Robert – Bob – Torrie to show the First World War archivists at Lochgilphead Library on April 2.

Archivist Yvonne McEwan, who helped found Scotland's War, was delighted with the collection of photos, books and other memorabilia that John brought along.

She said: 'I've been travelling round the country for some time and this is one of the biggest single collection I have seen yet.'

## Enlisted

Both men enlisted before the war. Bob Torrie enlisted in 1908 and spent six years in India and Egypt before the war. During the war he served with the Gordon Highlanders, but was sadly killed just a few months later, in October 30, 1914, at the battle of Ypres, aged 30.

His mother, waiting in Ardrishaig, received a letter in December informing her of his death.

John says: 'There were rumours he had

been killed in a forest but his grave is next to a forest so that might have been where that came from.'

His name is also on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres.

John has a collection of letters the men sent home. He said: 'The letters we have are just so full of normal, everyday stories.'

## Final letter

The final letter Bob Torrie wrote was to his sister, Kate.

He wrote: 'I'm still in the land of the living and would like to be for a while.'

He was killed just eight days later.

Ms McEwan explained that a huge part of the military was wiped out quickly once fighting started.

She said: 'They went in with horses and carts thinking it would be like the Boer War and found themselves in a highly-mechanised battle. The army was very ill equipped.'

John's grandfather, Duncan MacBrayne, served in the Royal Scots Greys which was a cavalry regiment.

Duncan was captured after a battle at Mons in Belgium and taken to a prisoner-of-war camp, Senelagge. Fortunately he survived, returning home at the end of the war and later married.

## Captured

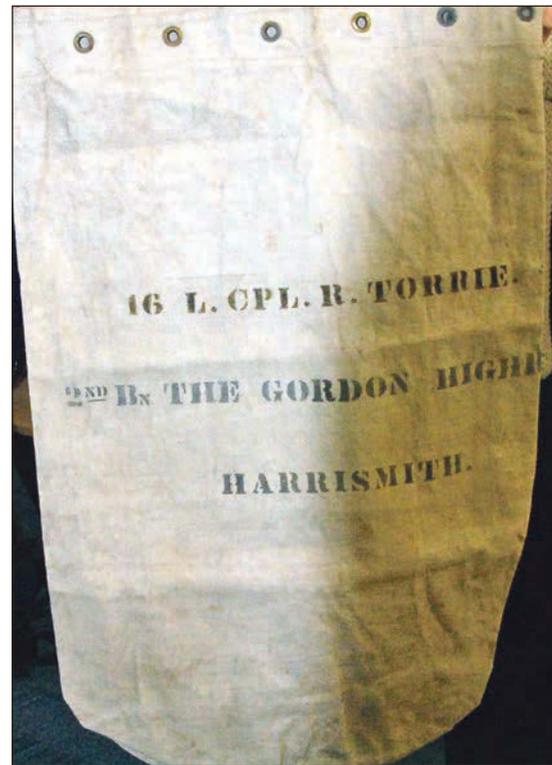
John said: 'His horse was shot through the belly and he was injured in the leg. It was then that he was captured.'

There is a picture in the album John brought in to show Yvonne McEwan that appears to show guards at the prisoner-of-war camp.

Ms McEwan said this was perhaps not as unusual as it may seem, adding: 'Some of the camps were actually quite liberal but others were absolutely horrific.'



Corporal Bob Torrie.



Corporal Robert Torrie's kitbag. 08\_a15bag01

## Boy soldiers

ONE of the photos John had shows a boy of no more than 13 or 14 in kilt uniform ready to fight. This was a sad but not unusual sight as archivist Yvonne McEwan explained.

'Young boys often signed up wanting to join the war. Many got sent back when their real age was discovered. There weren't always birth certificates to check ages, but medics could sometimes tell by the bones in the wrist not being fully developed.'

This was particularly prevalent among Highland regiments, where clan loyalty often secured a number of men and boys enlisted.

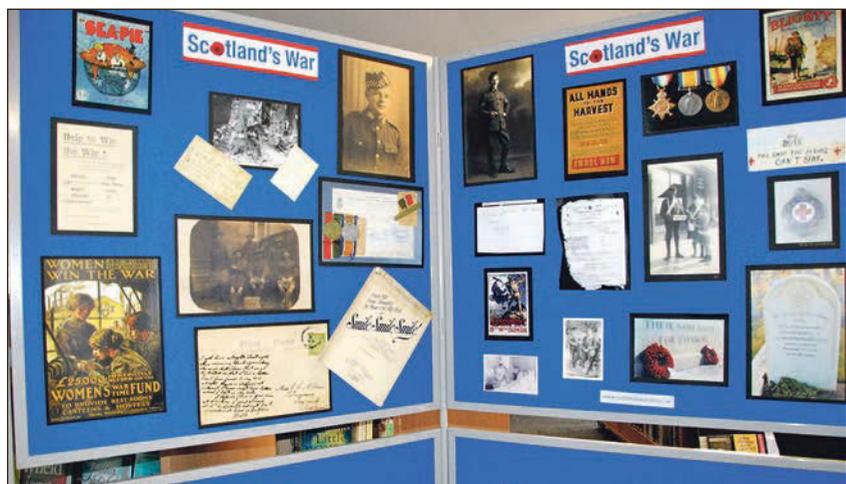
Yvonne said: 'The army didn't send recruiting sergeants to the Highlands, they didn't need to. If you see pictures of Highland regiments marching, there are quite a lot of young boys, often marching beside much bigger, taller men.'

The youngest British soldier to die in the First World War was thought to be just 13 and there are stories of boys that age fighting – and surviving – the battle of the Somme.

One such soldier was Britain's youngest – Sydney Lewis – who enlisted in Surrey just five months after his 12th birthday. His mother sent his birth certificate to the war office and demanded he be sent home.

He received the Victory Medal and British War Medal.

When Sydney came of age he rejoined the army and served in the Second World War. He died in 1969, aged 63.



A display at Lochgilphead Library.

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Among the many artefacts was an old kitbag that Corporal Torrie would have used that has been kept in remarkable condition. There were also medals that John's grandfather received for military service.

John commented: 'The medals were always on display at my grandmother's house and I remember them being there.'



This season's sea angling trophy winners in the Argyll Arms, Ardrishaig.

## Sea angling club AGM and trophy presentation

THERE was no shortage of silverware at Loch Fyne Sea Angling Club's award ceremony held in the Argyll Arms, Ardrishaig on Saturday.

The trophies were presented by Archie MacGill, Fyne Tackle, Lochgilphead, following the AGM.

Results: Boat champion – Willie Shaw; runner-up – Nikki Thompson; shore champion – Willie Shaw; Christmas shield – Robert MacBrayne;

heaviest fish – John McAllister; nominated species – Mick Thompson; pairs: Gordon Law and Willie Shaw; triples – Nikki Thompson, Scott Rankin and John McAllister; SFSA specimen award: Steven MacBrayne.

### Sponsors

The club would like to thank sponsors Cowan and MacBrayne, Fyne Electrical, Keltic Tackle and Fyne Tackle for their continued support.

## Tayvallich run takes in nature reserve

A CHARITY run is to take place in Tayvallich, including the Tainish nature reserve.

There will be two options available, a 10-kilometre run along the woodlands spinal road or a more challenging 6.8-mile trail run along the reserves sinuous and undulating trails.

Both routes offer spectacular scenery and eagle-eyed runners may catch a glimpse of ot-

ters, red squirrels or ospreys as they go. The race, which takes place on May 14, will raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and has been organised by Tayvallich man Colin MacFarlane. He said: 'I've signed up to take part in Ironman Wales triathlon in September and have been fortunate to be given a charity spot in the race. I've committed to raise £2,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support

and one of the ways I'm doing this is by organising various events, such as this charity run.'

Ironman is a triathlon involving swimming 2.5 miles, cycling 112 miles and finishes off with running a marathon.

For those not brave enough to take on the run they can donate at Colin's just giving page [www.justgiving.com/Colin-MacFarlane](http://www.justgiving.com/Colin-MacFarlane) with all money going to the charity.



Colin taking part in the less daunting Mid Argyll Triathlon.



Claire Thompson, left, and team-mate Tracey Priestly from Arran celebrate their medals.

## Athlete's delight at cross country bronze double

ARDRISHAIG athlete Claire Thompson picked up two European bronze medals at the Masters Athletics Championships in Ancona, Italy.

Claire, 40, now lives in Glasgow and represented Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the five-kilometre cross country.

She took bronze in a time of 20.44 minutes, only 17 seconds behind German silver medal-

ist Bach Daniella. She went on to pick up a second European bronze as part of Team GB, along with Arran runner Tracey Priestly.

Claire is a former Lochgilphead High School pupil who began her running career as a junior with Mid Argyll Athletic Club. She also set season's best times in the indoor 3,000m and 1,500m at the same event.

# SPOT THE BALL

## THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1800

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

L Carr  
Argyll Street  
Campbeltown

M Bateman  
Langholm  
Campbeltown

### All you have to do

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

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

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

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

### Easy to enter

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

### Competition Rules

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

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

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



Name.....

Address.....

Tel No.....

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

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

'Come and join us' appeal as Ardrishaig club prepares for opening

SUMMER officially begins next weekend at Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Club.

All set for another season, the bowling green opens next Saturday, April 16, and everyone is welcome to go and enjoy the occasion.

The club has been in existence since 1909, and has two tennis courts as well as the bowling green. The courts are available on a straightforward first come, first served basis.

The clubhouse also hosts a cash bingo night every Wednesday - eyes down at 8pm.

But this asset to Ardrishaig has seen membership numbers fall in recent years.

A club spokesperson said: 'We want to encourage anyone to come along and see what the club has to offer.'

'Our bowling green will be opening next Saturday at 2.30pm. We meet every Tuesday evening at 6.45pm and Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm.'

'All you require is flat soled footwear, and we can supply bowls to play with.'

### Lottery numbers

KILMORY Camanachd Club lottery numbers are 3, 7 and 14. There were no winners this week and next week's jackpot is £900.

Tarbert Football Club's winning lottery numbers were 5, 11 and 12. No winners mean the jackpot for next week is £400.

The numbers drawn in Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery were 5, 10 and 18. The jackpot for next week is £200 as there were no winners.

# Plenty of aerial action at Ingliston tarmac rally

ROUND two of the Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship took place at Ingliston Showground on Saturday with mixed results for the Argyll crews who made the trip. The eight competitive stages at Ingliston are held in the shadow of the control tower at Edinburgh Airport - which was handy as the course has two

big jumps where crews would have been justified in having to request permission for take-off.

Dunfermline Car Club, which also hosts the Mach 1 Stages at Machrihanish in July, once again provided a stern test of man and machine and ran the day's action like clockwork.

Mid Argyll's Donald

Bowness, who would normally be driving his little red Nova, took to the co-driver's seat in a very quick MkII Escort driven by Chris McCallum, a title contender from recent championships. Technical difficulties stopped the pair from registering a result - but the day certainly reinforced Donald's love for the old Fords



Winners John Marshall and Scott Crawford in their spanking new Teg Sport Subaru Impreza.



Chris McCallum and Donald Bowness take to the air in their MkII Escort.

Donald's normal co-driver, Ian Parker, was also out in a MkII Escort, with Alex Adams at the wheel. A cracking day's driving saw the Escort record some very competitive times and snatch 16th overall and second in class four.

The last of the Argyll crews competing were

mother and son duo Lois and George Fell from Glenbarr in their Ford Puma. This was a decent run out for the pair, with George getting neater and quicker with every stage mile completed.

### Podium

The event was won by John Marshall and Scott Crawford in their brand new Teg Sport Suba-

ru Impreza with Gary and Gordon Adam taking second in their MkII Escort, and Alistair and Colin Inglis completing the podium in their Lotus Exige.

All eyes now turn to Crail in Fife, where the next round of the championship - the Summer Stages - will be held in June.

## Competitions end indoor season

LOOKING ahead to long, hot summer days of outdoor play, Lochgilphead Bowling Club wound down the indoor period with end-of-season competitions.

Mairi Young won the John Cherry Trophy, with Christine Morris runner-up.

The Cruachan Shield pairs competition was won by Jim Young and Hamish McNeil, ahead of Agnes McLarty and Bob Martin.

Ian Guy was the winner of the Argyll Arms Shield, with Alan Guy runner-up.



Mairi Young is presented with the John Cherry Trophy.

### SAFL results and fixtures

LAST Thursday's result: Scottish Amateur Cup semi final - Oban Saints 1, Leven United 2 (after extra time). Saturday: Premier Division - Campbeltown Pupils 2, Alba Thistle 2; Oban Saints v Goldenhill postponed; Premier Division One - Drumchapel 8, Dunoon 2; Motherwell Thistle 5, Lochgilphead Red Star 2; Premier Division Two - Rutherglen 5, Tarbert 1.

This Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Finnart v Oban Saints; Inverclyde v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division One - Lochgilphead Red Star v Easthall Star; Dunoon v Drumchapel; Premier Division Two - Tarbert v Strathaven Dynamo.

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