

SCOTFEST 16

your guide to festivals across Argyll and the Highlands

Manager's concern over plan to build huge pylons near nursery

REPORT By COLIN CAMERON
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A NURSERY manager says she 'totally objects' to massive new pylons and high voltage lines being constructed close to a pre-school centre near Lochgilphead.

And Jennifer Campbell, manager at Badden Farm Nursery, is not alone in her objections as Scottish and Southern Energy's transmission arm finalises plans for a new power line between Inveraray and Crossaig in north Kintyre.

The company has set a deadline of April 30 for comments on its proposals.

A one kilometre wide 'preferred route corridor' for new pylons - which will be 46 metres high, or almost 80 per cent taller than existing towers - has been published. The power line, carrying a voltage of 275kV as opposed to the present 132kV, passes to the north of Lochgilphead, crossing the Crinan

Canal near Achtnabreac, before carrying on past the back of Ardrishaig and on to Kintyre.

Badden Farm Nursery lies within the preferred route corridor, and other nearby property owners have also voiced objections.

Lochgilphead GP Adrian Ward, a resident in the area for 25 years, said: 'These pylons are huge,' he said. 'The impact on the landscape will be massive, and I believe tourism will be affected. They really are fairly industrial structures. There is no reason why they couldn't put the cables underground in the canal area.'

Jennifer Campbell shares the same concerns about visual impact but she is also concerned about the affect high voltage power lines might have.

'I totally object to these power lines being
Continued on page two

Happy birthday Your Majesty



CHILDREN from Inveraray Primary School met the Duke of Argyll at Inveraray Castle last Thursday to celebrate the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

The youngsters planted a commemorative Scots Pine and enjoyed a party.
More on page 3.

Candidates unanimous - Rest needs real investment

A MEETING of political rivals produced a rare moment of consensus in Lochgilphead last week.

Every Holyrood election candidate invited to the hustings said that the Rest and be Thankful must have substantially more money spent on it. Would-be MSPs

of all political persuasions agreed that work to find a long term engineering solution to the landslide problem must be treated as a top priority, with many promoting the option of a second carriageway on the opposite side of Glen Croe to the current main A83 trunk road. Don't forget to pick up

your free car sticker pushing for investment in the Rest as part of *The Advertiser's* ongoing campaign. Stickers are available from *The Advertiser* office in Lochgilphead. More on the hustings inside and read all the candidates' views on the Rest on page 5.



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Masterplan for Kilmory Park

ARGYLL and Bute Council has approved a masterplan to develop Kilmory Park for industrial, business, tourism and community use.

The land is part-owned by the council and part by MacLeod Construction Ltd. It will be split into five different areas.

Zone one and two will be mostly for industry

and business use while zone three will be centred around a courtyard and mostly for tourism use. This will be the gateway into the park.

The fourth zone will be for different uses and zone five will be for community use. It is not clear yet what exactly will be based there, but there could be allotments and sports or

recreational facilities. Angus Gilmour, head of planning and regulatory services at Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'This is great news for the local area. We're pleased MacLeod Construction, helped with funding from the council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, brought this masterplan forward. This is real-

ly good for the area and will allow for the site to be developed in a logical way which benefits everyone'

Murdo MacLeod, managing director of MacLeod Construction Ltd said: 'We are delighted Lochgilhead will now have an industrial estate that we can expand in partnership with the council and

bring more people into the area.

'We're keen to create an industrial and business park to ensure there are jobs for people to move into and indeed stay in the area. This is a big move forward for Mid Argyll.'

The project will be done in seven phases with the first being an access road to the site.



MacLeod Construction owns some of the land at Kilmory Park. 06_a18kilmorypark02

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Drink-driver nearly seven times over limit

A TARBERT man has been fined £1,000 and banned from driving for six years after a breath test showed he was nearly seven times over the drink-drive limit.

'I have to think about the protection of the public,' said Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC as she sentenced William Scott Stevenson of 8 Hillfoot Terrace, Tarbert, on Tuesday at Oban Sheriff Court.

The 56-year-old pleaded not guilty to driving on roads in the vil-

lage on January 29 with a drink level of 153 microgrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath; the legal limit is 22.

But at the end of his trial, which was part-heard in Campbeltown and Oban courts, Sheriff Anderson said: 'I am satisfied beyond reasonable doubt of your guilt.'

Stevenson, an accountant, did admit failing to give information to the police as to the identity of the driver of his car on the same day and also to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner by shouting and swearing.

His defence agent said that Stevenson had been out that day but had not begun to drink until after his return home and that the prosecution

had not proved this beyond reasonable doubt: 'There is no evidence to say he was definitely drinking; any one person who smelled drink on him must have been mistaken. His medication was the reason for his appearance.'

Sheriff Anderson told Stevenson: 'It doesn't mean to say you won't be able to get your licence back; you can apply to the court to ask for the disqualification to be lifted if there is a change in your circumstances.'

One such change would be his relationship with alcohol, she added.

He was fined £250 for each of the other two offences, bringing his total amount of fines to £1,500.

Newsdesk 01546 602345

Pylon plan fears

Continued from page one

anywhere near the nursery,' she said. 'The pylons at the moment are further away and are screened by trees. They are also a lot smaller than the new ones, and carry much less voltage.'

Jennifer added: 'I understand there is nothing that proves a link between health and proximity to power lines, but I have to say I'm very wary of having that voltage near children.'

A spokesman for Scottish and Southern Energy said: 'Safety is our number one concern and all of SSE Transmission's assets are operated within the limits set

by the UK government which is advised by The Health Protection Agency.'

'We will aim to route any infrastructure as sympathetically as possible and employ measures to help conceal towers where we can.'

'In terms of undergrounding, we consider all available technology and options during the development stages of our projects. We will make decisions which will achieve a balance between technical, economic and environmental factors to achieve the best possible overall solution.'

Mid Argyll councillor Dougie Philand believes there should be flexibility: 'In an exposed area like this, it would surely be sensible to put the cables underground,' he said. He added: 'I am happy to make representations to SSE on behalf of the community.'

The SSE spokesman continued: 'The consultation has been open for more than a month and we welcome any feedback submitted during the consultation period, which ends on April 30. We shall be reviewing all comments received and encourage anyone who wishes to comment on the proposals to send in a feedback form available from www.ssepd.co.uk/Inveraray-Crossaig prior to this date.'

Police files

Abusive Facebook messages

A WOMAN in Lochgilphead received abusive Facebook messages between April 11 and 17. A 57-year-old man was charged with sending the messages and a report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Theatening behaviour and drug possession

POLICE were called to a house in Lochgilphead about 11.20am on April 20.

They found a 26-year-old man behaving in a threatening and abusive way towards ambulance and police staff.

The man was charged with abusive behaviour and possession of cocaine, diazepam and cannabis.

A report was sent to the procurator fiscal.

Disturbance

A DISTURBANCE occurred at a house in Easfield, Tarbert at 4.15am on April 16.

Investigations resulted in a 25-year-old man being arrested for abusive behaviour.

A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Theft of money

MONEY was stolen from an unattended school bag at Lochgilphead Joint Campus.

The incident happened between 1pm and 3.30pm on April 21.

The police are investigating and would like to hear from anyone with any information.

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

'Tree' cheers for Her Majesty

Youngsters share in Queen's birthday fun

IN BRIGHT sunshine, the children of the Royal Burgh planted a tree in front of Inveraray Castle to commemorate the 90th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

Along with family and friends, Inveraray Primary and pre-school children had great fun as they each took a share in planting the tree.

It was thirsty work, and the children were treated to juice and a cake in front of the castle by their host.

Later that day, a community barbecue was held in the castle grounds and sizeable beacon lit at the top of Dun na Cuaiche hill, overlooking the town.

'It's been a lovely day for the children, and a good opportunity to be

part of the community and have another link with the castle,' said Inveraray head teacher Lynn Sinclair.

The Duke of Argyll said as the tree was planted: 'I think there have been 900 beacons lit across the country, and we have this one at the top of Dun na Cuaiche.'

'It's all been organised by the community. The George Hotel, Londis shop, the church, the school and ourselves at the castle have all helped.'

His Grace then set off to look out his apron ahead of a date with a burger grill and spatula - all for a good cause.

Funds raised during the event have been donated to Erskine Hospital.



The children line up to help plant the tree. 06_a18queen90_inv04

Pipe band wins top US grade one prize

INVERARAY and District Pipe Band has scooped top prize in a grade one competition in the USA.

The band were invited to Norfolk, Virginia for its international tattoo and performed eight times while in the city. At the first Virginia International Tattoo American Pipe Band Championships, they were delighted to win first place in the grade one competition. More on this story at www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

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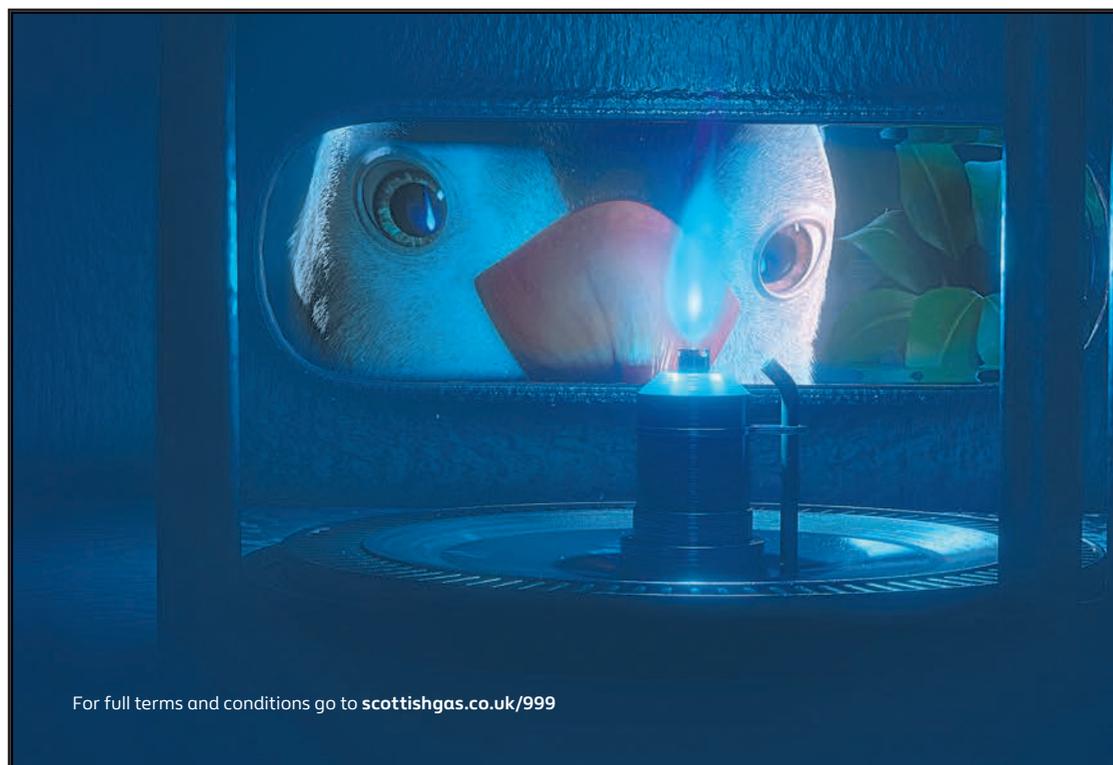
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Mary's Meals shop re-opens

THE MARY'S Meals charity shop in Lochgilphead has re-opened after being closed for refurbishment.

The shop was opened by Dee Carrick, who has just stepped down from voluntarily running the shop for two decades.

Charity founder Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow also helped cut the ribbon

and thanked Dee for her service.

Dee said: 'I'm still a huge supporter of the charity and will be in lots as a customer.'

Dee was presented with flowers from new shop manager Marina Campbell and a copy of *The Shed That Fed a Million Children*, a book about Mary's Meals, from Magnus.



Dee and Magnus cut the ribbon to open the shop. 08_a16marysmeals01



The new store is opened by Jean McGilp. 08_a18coop01

New look Lochgilphead Co-op opens

THERE were high spirits at Lochgilphead Co-op when it was officially re-opened after a major re-vamp.

Long-term customer Jean McGilp had the honour of cutting the ribbon and store manager Emma Scott and her team joined in the celebration.

Emma said: 'We are thrilled to have made such a significant investment in Lochgilphead and delighted we have a fantastic new

food store to serve the community and visitors.

'It is an exciting time for the whole team.

Committed

'The Co-operative is a community retailer, committed to playing an active role in local life, embracing the area's community spirit.

'With the combination of our new store and The Co-operative's commitment to lowering prices

on hundreds of everyday essentials, I am confident we will provide the community with everything needed to pick-up delicious food conveniently and create inspirational and tasty meals at home.'

The new-look store has also provided job opportunities in the area with eight new team members starting recently and a further six seasonal staff being recruited.

Discover a little bit more

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Candidates agree - more must be done at the Rest

WHEN the landslide problems on the Rest and Be Thankful road came up, every candidate at last week's Lochgilphead hustings - Tory, SNP, Labour, LibDem, Green and Independent - agreed more needs to be done to ensure Argyll stays connected.

'The solution Transport Scotland chose was the cheapest option, us-

ing netting and the old military road,' said LibDem candidate Alan Reid. 'Unfortunately the landslides we had in December show the situation has not been solved.'

Mr Reid proposed the creation a new road on the opposite side of Glen Croe - the 'Green' option on the Jacobs report - with both the ex-

isting and new roads being available for use in either direction.

Speaking as a member of the A83 task force, Michael Russell, SNP candidate, said the task force had agreed the next step has to be to upgrade the forestry road on the other side of Glen Croe - just as Mr Reid had stated. Mr Russell explained: 'It

will require a substantial amount of work, but it would give two carriageways. I think that's what we'll see.'

The Greens are against spending money on building new roads.

Green candidate John Finnie explained: 'We must maintain the infrastructure we have rather than spending money on politicians' vanity projects.'

Scottish Labour candidate Mick Rice was of the view that the people of Argyll and Bute had been 'left on the long finger for far too long' over the A83 at the Rest.

'I was in Dundee this week,' said Mr Rice 'and I almost got the impression there are two sorts of citizen in Scotland.'

'The roads are in good order and they are even getting a new Forth

bridge in the east. It's about time we got some investment in Argyll and Bute.'

Turning to Mr Russell, Mr Rice asked: 'When is investment in the Rest going to be in the capital programme? I'm sure you'll be there turning the first sod when it is announced.'

'I look forward to turning the first sod soon,' Mr Russell replied.

Donald Cameron, candidate for the Scottish Conservatives said: 'We need a permanent solution - not a remedial one. I'm not an engineer but in Europe solutions can be found to these sort of problems.'

'And if we can afford a new Forth bridge; if we can dual the A9 between Perth and Inverness - then we can afford to sort out the Rest and Be Thankful.'



Join our campaign - Invest in the Rest

THE ARGYLLSHIRE Advertiser and sister title The Campbeltown Courier are pressing the Scottish Government to commit serious investment to find the correct long-term solution

to address the landslide issue at the Rest and Be Thankful, in the shortest possible timescale.

As part of our campaign, we want you to tell us what you think of the current situation at

the Rest and Be Thankful, whether you use the road for business or private reasons. What are your experiences?

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Agreement on Rest

There were few fireworks, really, as the men (no female candidates in sight) seeking your vote faced the public in Lochgilphead.

The community council did an excellent job of organising the event, and it was good to see a healthy number of folk turning up at the campus on a lovely Thursday evening.

What was worthy of note was the complete agreement that something significant needs to be done to solve the landslide problem at the Rest and Be Thankful.

We do need investment in the Rest to match the cash being spent in the east of Scotland. Join the Argyllshire Advertiser's Invest in the Rest campaign – and let's keep up the pressure.

Get your car stickers now from the Advertiser offices, Lochgilphead.

Power to people

SSE is upgrading high voltage transmission lines in Argyll, largely to accommodate renewable energy generation. It has to be done.

But the company must listen to the voices of local people when they express concern about the presence of massive pylons in the wrong place.

SSE has been going through the consultation process for weeks and months. It seems, though, that only now is this large project seeping into the public consciousness. One would hope that SSE would have the good sense to allow a little flexibility in its 'deadline' for comments – and extend it for a few more weeks at least.

who's who at your advertiser

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Rest and Be Thankful

Sir,

A prefabricated tunnel should be built, the road can be kept open, if it comes in sections, whilst work is ongoing and let the hillside fill it over.

It would be a chance for a beautiful part of Scotland to have a fancy, modern, European-style tunnel.

On a smaller scale – it starts with a concrete pipe, halved. This creates a tunnel in sections and instead of collars at the end of each joint, the way pipes are, it is toothed to tie into the next one, with every joint anchored into the hillside on the back side of the tunnel and helicopters fly the sections in.

In the end, they will probably spend the same amount of money on the Rest, to try and fix it, than it would cost to build a tunnel, in the first place.

Remember the most important thing, global warming, the weather is going to get worse before it gets better.

To keep spending millions against a bleak weather outlook is a waste of time.

Name and address supplied

Letters of out lives

Sir,

This year marks 500 years since the postal service was formalised. Those 500 years have seen enormous social and cultural change, and two world wars.

Throughout all of that, letters flew across the country as the post was the way for people to exchange news of great, overwhelming political events, or of tiny, intimate, but

life-changing family events. The postal service gave ordinary and extraordinary people the chance to share their thoughts, and discovering what they were is what gives me the greatest pleasure as a historian (the best words you can ever read in a letter are 'Burn This', which prove that the writer didn't want you to read it).

Personal letters can open a little paper window onto the great events of the past. That's why I'm working with Royal Mail to ask people to hunt out long-forgotten letters that might help to re-tell the social and cultural history of the United Kingdom through the words of the people who lived it.

We'd like the people of the UK to look in their attics, rummage around in their garages, and search their sheds for old letters and postcards. Some might be from centuries ago; others might have just been delivered last week. We'd like to know what these letters have to say – from the first time someone travelled abroad, to the impact of conflict.

If you find something brilliant in your own family letters, you can upload it either through www.royalmailgroup.com/lettersofourlives or by sending a photocopy to Freepost RTSA-BEGA-AAZB, Letters of our lives, Riverside House – Riverside Estate, Sir Thomas Longley Road, Medway City Estate, Rochester, ME2 4FN to be documented as part of this fascinating project.

I can't wait to read all the letters and postcards, and to share in the pride of the families who've found a story to

tell us. I'm champing at the bit to start piecing together a hidden social history of our country.

**Lucy Worsey,
Historic Royal Palaces**

Living with arthritis

Sir,

If you looked at me you probably wouldn't guess that I live with excruciating pain every day. I have an invisible condition, arthritis, and I've had this for more than 30 years. This disease is often dismissed as minor aches and pains. My condition, however, effects every aspect of my life and stops me from being spontaneous.

Over the years, I've had support from the charity Arthritis Research UK which has been a lifeline for me – you might not have heard of the charity before, but they understand all 10 million of us living with daily pain.

I am one of many who have benefited directly from their research. I took part in a hand trial based at the Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre. The trial recruited 257 people like myself, with hand osteoarthritis, to test the effectiveness of joint protection and exercises. It made an incredible difference to my everyday life, inspiring me to manage my condition and remain active.

I've lived with my condition for a long time but arthritis doesn't stand still and although I'm managing my pain now, I'm worried about what the future may hold. The charity recognises that whilst they are experts in research, they're never going to know what it's like to live with this condition on a daily basis, which is why

they want our help. Despite all the breakthroughs the charity has had we still need better treatments, quicker diagnosis and a cure. Arthritis Research UK cannot do this alone, they need us, the people living with the condition, to join them to make a difference.

During April and May, Arthritis Research UK's 'Be the Difference' campaign gives us all rare access to arthritis experts – researchers and other people living with arthritis. This is a unique opportunity to hear them talking about how to stop joint pain now and in the future.

To take part in the campaign go to www.arthritisresearchuk.org/bethedifference

Christine Walker

Everyone deserves a treat

Sir,

National Doughnut Week is fast approaching and, in 2016, this popular fundraising event will be celebrating its silver anniversary from May 7-14, to help raise money for The Children's Trust, the UK's leading charity for children with brain injury. Each year, participating bakers and cafés donate money from the sales of doughnuts during the fundraising week.

To make this the most successful fundraising year, I would like to make a special appeal for more independent bakers and cafés across the UK to register and help us make lots more dough.

Everyone deserves a treat now and then so, whoever and wherever you are, please show your support and help make a difference.

**Phill Tufnell,
Children's Trust**

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From the economic to the supersonic - a car lover's delight

PETROLHEADS of Argyll were in their glory last Sunday.

They gathered in numbers at the top of the Rest and Be Thankful to enjoy as wide a variety of vintage, veteran, classic and sports cars as anyone could wish for – with some modern sports and performance cars thrown in for good measure.

More than one hill climb was organised, using the old military road, as part of Drive It Day – an annual event to encourage owners to dust

down their beloved classic cars and hit the road.

Making their way up the hill in bright sunshine with a varying sense of urgency and at a range of speeds were cars taking part in the Classic Car Tours event for Drive It Day.

Started

Participants started their day at Deanston Distillery, Doune before heading via Loch Earn and Dalmally for the Rest and Be Thankful.

From there, many of the venerable vehicles headed for Inveraray

Castle where entrants enjoyed a spot of lunch.

As the petrol fumes faded from the earlier run, it was the turn of the Strathendrick Rotary Charity Classic Car Tour to take to the hill for its tenth annual run as part of Drive It Day.

Almost 100 cars from as far afield as Sweden were taking part, each entrant raising money for charity.

Organiser Joe Norman said: 'This is the tenth time we've run this event, and over the past nine years it has

raised £50,000 for various charities, including Mary's Meals, the Children's Hospice Association Scotland and Water Aid.

'It was originally intended for old, classic cars, but this year we have a lot of expensive supercars - everything from the economic to the supersonic.'

After an enjoyable afternoon in Argyll the cars made their way to Culcreuch Castle Hotel, Fintry for a grand auction of motoring memorabilia.



A new Lotus Exige S, like this example, would set you back a cool £130,000-plus. 06_a18Drivelt02



This lovely 1932 Austin 7 made it up the military road with relative ease. 06_a18Drivelt05



Built to survive - the classic Mini Cooper rally car. 06_a18Drivelt03



Troon's Craig McGibbon in his 1965 Volvo 122S. 06_a18Drivelt04



Glinting in the sunshine, this early 1970s 4.5-litre Mercedes 280SE glides gracefully around the hairpin. 06_a18Drivelt01

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The Scottish Parliament Election 2016

WITH less than a week to go until the country goes to the polls, the spotlight turns on local candidates for the Scottish Parliament election on Thursday May 5.

Lochgilphead Community Council invited five of the main candidates vying to represent the people of Argyll and Bute to take part in a pre-election hustings last Thursday at the joint campus.

But then, early on the day of the hustings, came a late arrival all the way from Orkney, in the form of independent list candidate James Stockan. With the agreement of the community council and Rev Derek Gibson in the chair, Mr Stockan was allowed to take his seat next to the other invitees - Donald Cameron (Conservative), John Finnie (Green), Alan Reid (LibDem), Mick Rice (Labour) and Michael Russell (SNP).

You can read all about the hustings event on page 12.

The Argyllshire Advertiser also asked the original candidates invited to the hustings to tell us a little of themselves and what they see as the main devolved issues facing Argyll and Bute.

The answers from each of the candidates who responded are published in this week's edition.

Meet the candidates

We asked the candidates to give a brief outline of their background and experience.

How does the voting system work?

THE Scottish Parliament election next Thursday will operate using a combination of 'first past the post' and proportional representation, called the Additional Member System, which involves two votes.

In Scotland, we are each represented by eight Members of the Scottish Parliament (MSPs). One represents the constituency of Argyll and Bute and the other seven represent the Highlands and Is-

lands region.

The first vote is for the constituency MSP, and they are elected by first past the post - in exactly the same way as MPs are elected to Westminster.

The second vote is for a party rather than a candidate. The regional MSPs are selected from lists compiled by the parties. These MSPs are also referred to as list MSPs.

How does proportional representation work in the regional vote?

The formula used is:

The total number of regional votes received by a party or independent candidate is divided by the number of seats (constituency and regional) already gained in that region, plus one.

The party with the highest result after the formula is applied gains an additional seat. The calculation is repeated until all the additional seats have been awarded.

So, for a party with no seats the

number of votes received is divided by one, and so stays the same. If the party already has one seat in that region then its number of votes is divided by two, if it has two seats in that region it is divided by three, and so on.

This means that the more seats a party has already won, the harder it is to gain extra seats, so the overall allocation of seats is more proportional to the number of votes received.

Lib Dem leader Willie Rennie gave the all-clear to back independence

SCOTTISH SUN - 23/09/15

THE ONLY LEADER CAPABLE OF LEADING AN OPPOSITION THAT CAN HOLD THE SNP TO ACCOUNT IS RUTH DAVIDSON

SCOTTISH DAILY MAIL - 05/03/16

SNP TO LAUNCH A NEW DRIVE TO BREAK UP BRITAIN

SCOTTISH SUNDAY EXPRESS - 13/03/2016

DONALD CAMERON
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Don't forget you have **TWO votes** in this election.

Scottish Conservative & Unionist
Ruth Davidson for a Strong Opposition

Donald Cameron
Scottish Conservative & Unionist



Donald Cameron

By way of introduction, I am from Achnacarry near Spean Bridge. My family has a farming and holiday business which I help manage. I am also a trustee of a local rural education charity. In my professional life, I have practised as an advocate across Scotland for the last ten years, with a particular interest in crofting and agricultural law, and I frequently appear in the Scottish Land Court and Court of Session for farmers and crofters. I am 39 years old and married with three young children.

With this background, I understand the challenges facing rural businesses in the west Highlands and I am acutely aware of the problems experienced by Argyll's more remote communities, especially the difficulties that people have with our failing road infrastructure and poor mobile and internet coverage. I am also particularly conscious of the issues currently being experienced by our livestock farmers and crofters after the recent farm payment crisis, combined with volatile prices and poor weather.

If I am elected, I will make it a priority to campaign vigorously for this crucial industry.



John Finnie

I am originally from Lochaber and 59 years of age. Following a 30 year career in the police, I was first elected as an MSP in 2011 for the Highland and Islands.

In the Scottish Parliament I was appointed to the Justice and Equal Opportunities committees, and was also elected convener of the Cross Party group on Human Rights and co-convener of the Cross Party group on Drugs and Alcohol.

In October 2014, I joined the Scottish Green Party advising that, although I was remaining an Independent MSP, in the interests of openness and transparency I expect in public service, I made my membership known.

During my time in parliament I have:

- Successfully campaigned against deploying armed police to routine incidents work for which I was awarded Community Politician of the Year 2014.
- Secured a Scottish Government promise to support young carers through education.
- Spoken up for the Gaelic community, winning assurances on bilingual signage and ensuring in statute new emergency service names in Gaelic.
- Improved transparency for public pensions by exposing £3.2 million of MSP pension investments in weapons, tobacco and fossil fuels.

I was elected top of the Scottish Greens list for the region by members in 2015.



Alan Reid

My previous job was the MP for Argyll and Bute.

I did this job for fourteen years. I always saw the most important part of the job as representing my constituents, and saying 'No' to the party whips if what they wanted was not in the interests of Argyll and Bute.

I made sure I kept in regular contact with my constituents, returning home from London every weekend and living here when parliament was in recess. I held regular surgeries in all the towns, as well as at least one in all the smaller communities, every year.

The political experience and knowledge of Argyll and Bute that I gained as an MP means I would hit the ground running as your MSP. I learned that the way to get things done is to constantly harry the relevant minister until they give the community what it needs.

I was born in Ayr 61 years ago, and have lived in Argyll and Bute for the past 17 years, currently in Dunoon. I obtained a Maths degree at Strathclyde University, then trained as a computer programmer. I worked in that profession, progressing to project manager, until I became the MP.



Michael Russell

I have lived in Cowal for 25 years with my wife Cathleen, a local head teacher.

I am 62 and have one son, who went to local primary and secondary schools and who is now one of Scotland's leading tech entrepreneurs.

I am a well known writer and commentator on Scottish politics and culture, the author of seven books and a Scottish Government minister from 2007 - 2014, holding three different portfolios including Environment, Culture and Education. Born in England, I was brought up in Ayrshire and after graduating from Edinburgh University worked in the media before becoming the first full time chief executive of the SNP in 1994. Five years later I was elected as a regional member to the first Scottish Parliament in three hundred years. When Jim Mather retired in 2011, I became the constituency MSP for Argyll and Bute, winning with a majority of 8,543 over the Tories. I hold regular surgeries in every part of the large and varied constituency and have been active on many different local and national issues, working on behalf of a wide range of individuals and communities the length and breadth of Argyll and Bute.



"We will NOT support a second referendum on independence in the next parliamentary term. Full stop."

Willie Rennie, Leader Scottish Liberal Democrats

"Our five years will be focused on making Scotland the best again, transforming opportunity for children, and our economy, by additional investment in education, skills and mental health." Scottish Lib Dem Manifesto.

Alan Reid was Argyll & Bute's MP for 14 years, increasing his vote last year, but finishing 2nd to the SNP, while other parties' votes collapsed. For a strong voice for Argyll & Bute at Holyrood, vote

Alan REID		
Scottish Liberal Democrats		

What do you see as the main challenge facing Argyll and Bute today?

Alan Reid

The main challenges to be overcome arise due to a small, and falling, population scattered over a vast area. This means extra costs are involved in developing and maintaining communications links - roads, railways, ferries, airports, telephones, broadband, electricity networks etc.

The price of goods, which have to be brought from the central belt, are higher due to transport costs. This affects the cost of doing business here. Delivering services over such a widespread area also means more costs for the council.

Government ministers and civil servants based in Edinburgh often don't realise the various challenges that exist here and that services often have to be delivered in a different way than in a big city. The MSP has the job of pointing out to the Scottish Government that things are different here, and that all legislation has to be rigorously tested to make sure it is 'rural proof' and 'island proof'.

The MSP has to be available to the whole constituency.

Running a farm is a struggle, made even harder by the Scottish Government failing to pay the farmers the EU money they owe them.

John Finnie

Whilst the rest of the Highlands has seen a welcome growth in population, Argyll and Bute has bucked that trend with a loss of mainly younger people.

To many Argyll and Bute residents, 'government,' at all levels, is seen as remote and unwilling or unable to act in their interests. Jobs and housing are key to maintaining the population and both have individual challenges.

The area has good primary and secondary schools and colleges part of the University of the Highlands and Islands, however, a tangible benefit of education must be employment and the jobs aren't there.

Whilst housing is a challenge in many parts of rural Scotland, a vibrant tourist trade of holiday lets - with many properties only available for winter letting - and a high level of second home ownership cannot be matched by construction by social housing providers, however innovative they have been. Housing requires land and though the Scottish Government is to be congratulated for its land reform and private rented sector legislation, neither was bold enough for Scottish Greens who are disappointed our more radical proposals were not adopted.

Lack of reliable transport links and high-speed broadband both adversely affect the area.

Michael Russell

The main challenge in Argyll and Bute is depopulation. As the population falls it becomes harder for the council to sustain services and local businesses find themselves with fewer customers. This becomes a vicious circle of decline and it has to be broken.

We must get more people back into Argyll and Bute and living here full time. In particular we must encourage families to stay here or to move here and to do that we have to make sure there are jobs, houses and good local services to support a growing population.

Donald Cameron

Depopulation is the main challenge facing Argyll. Recent statistics show that Argyll and Bute's population is predicted to fall by 13.5 per cent by 2037 (in contrast to Scotland's population rising by 7 per cent over the next 25 years). This is the second largest projected decline of any local authority in Scotland. So it's clear we have a fight on our hands to retain young people, and also attract new residents, and this is particularly true on the islands. Local enterprise needs help so we can provide people with the jobs and security to allow them to thrive here. Linked to that is the need to provide affordable housing.

Both the Lib Dems and Labour are lurching to the left, promising to impose tax rises on every working person across all income tax bands. This is a real threat as it would hit the pay packets of hardworking families in Argyll, and make Scotland the highest taxed part of the UK. The Scottish Conservatives under Ruth Davidson want Scotland's economy to remain competitive so that the local economy here in Argyll can benefit from greater investment. For that reason, we should keep tax rates in Scotland in line with the rest of the UK.

In relation to your answer to the question above - if elected, how would you seek to address the matter?

Alan Reid

The next Scottish Government must deliver superfast broadband and 4G mobile phone coverage everywhere. This is essential for local businesses to survive.

There is already a shortage of GPs in rural practices. If nothing is done urgently, we will soon have a crisis on our hands. Many GPs are nearing retirement and not enough GPs are being trained to replace them. A big effort must be made to invest far more in training GPs and recruiting them to rural practices.

Every effort must be made to bring the UK's spaceport to Machrihanish. The main rival is Prestwick Airport, owned by the Scottish Government. The next MSP must argue the case for Machrihanish in the Scottish Parliament and persuade the parliament that the Scottish Government should back Machrihanish and not Prestwick.

The Scottish Government does not give the council nearly enough money to deliver services across this vast area with many islands. We are poorly funded compared to the island councils. The next MSP must argue the case in parliament for fair funding for Argyll and Bute.

Farmers must be compensated for the interest and bank charges they have incurred due to the non-payment of EU money, and an inquiry held.

John Finnie

To grow population Argyll and Bute requires fair funding for its public services, jobs and houses.

Greens support taxes that tackle inequalities in wealth and income; pay for public services; ask the wealthiest to pay more and are locally controlled.

We value those who care and propose a 'Living Wage Plus' for all care staff, meaning that older people can remain in their homes and providing well paid local jobs. We will also guarantee a job, training or education to each school-leaver.

In many areas land for housing remains an issue. Our radical housing agenda will:

- Give councils back the power to buy land for housing at existing use value, ending speculation and ensuring better housing is delivered for less money.
- End tax reliefs which keep 27,000 homes and land across Scotland out of use.
- Make vacant and derelict land liable for non-domestic rates - raising £250million
- Ensure renting is fair.
- Ensure using a property as a second home will require planning consent.

Whilst housing construction and upgrading will create jobs, vital infrastructure, such as broadband and properly maintained roads, bridges, and piers must be prioritised ahead of major road construction elsewhere in Scotland.

Michael Russell

We need an action plan to reverse population decline that is based on three things.

Firstly, better connectivity - better transport systems and better digital services. The SNP in government is investing in broadband, is encouraging better mobile phone provision and is improving transport links. Better connectivity is essential for business, and especially for new businesses or businesses that might move here.

Secondly we need reformed council services so that people get better decisions made closer to their homes. That means decentralisation, less bureaucracy and a determination by Argyll and Bute Council to work as locally and efficiently as possible. Planning has to be easier, and more houses have to be built.

Thirdly we need all the partners to be pulling in the same direction so that means local and national government agreeing a way forward and supporting it over a period of years. Work has started on that with the aim of agreeing a rural regeneration initiative that will bring new investment.

The economic development task force that reported to the council recently drew up a blueprint for action. It should be implemented without further delay. Stopping the endless council cuts would send out a better message too.

Donald Cameron

Improving connectivity is absolutely imperative if our local economy is going to benefit in the face of depopulation. Our residents and businesses must be able to communicate and operate in the modern world. In addition, many essential services and industries such as nursing, tourism, and fish farming depend on better mobile phone coverage. At the moment, 4G mobile coverage is basically non-existent. This needs to change immediately so we overcome existing connection problems as well as ensure that exciting opportunities for future enterprise can be realised. I will campaign for 4G mobile coverage across the whole of Argyll. We also need to continue to roll out new fibre internet to all corners of Argyll and to every community, no matter how remote.

In terms of affordable housing, I was delighted when Ruth Davidson launched the Scottish Conservative manifesto that we have pledged 100,000 new homes in the next parliament about half of which would be 'affordable'. We have also called for £1 billion of funding to go towards meeting a target for every home to have an energy efficiency rating of 'C' or better by the end of the decade, so homes are both warm and energy-efficient.

A short political statement from the candidates.

Donald Cameron

If I am elected as your MSP, I will fight for residents and businesses alike, so that we encourage investment in Argyll and provide local jobs so we keep our young people here. I will continually focus on everyday issues – improving our health service and schools – so that young and old enjoy a better quality of life, and as a result we attract more people to live in Argyll.

Nationally, only Ruth Davidson and the Scottish Conservatives are providing the strong opposition to hold the SNP to account and ensure they focus on the issues that matter here in Argyll. We mustn't let the SNP take us back to the bitter divisions of the referendum debate, even though the SNP have promised a new initiative for independence starting this summer, and the Liberal Democrats and Labour have said their members and MSPs can campaign for independence in any second referendum. We must say "NO" to a second referendum and speak up for the 2 million pro-UK voters who rejected independence.

In this election, the only way to hold the SNP to account in Argyll, and say no to a second referendum, is to support the Scottish Conservatives under Ruth Davidson.

John Finnie

It was an honour to represent the Highlands and Islands in the Scottish Parliament between 2011 and 2016.

I would like to continue that work for the citizens of Argyll and Bute along with a large number of Green colleagues.

Greens MSPs will provide measured opposition to what is looking like another majority SNP government, praising where appropriate and constructively criticising when necessary.

Argyll and Bute has had challenges around the delivery of care at home which our proposals to pay a Living Wage Plus to care staff and a 50 per cent increase in Carer's Allowance to over £93 will help address.

Many citizens feel Argyll and Bute Council has failed them. Greens believe we must make local government truly local and properly fund it. Our proposals on income and property taxes will do just that, ensuring those on average income pay less whilst the wealthiest pay more.

The SNP government is to be praised for progress on fracking, land reform and private housing – on each, however, they were not bold enough to accept our more far reaching proposals and more needs done.

A better Scotland needs a bolder Holyrood – vote Green.

Alan Reid

Talking to people on the doorstep, it's clear that what worries people is another independence referendum. I voted 'No' the last time and would do so again.

Our leader, Willie Rennie, has made our views clear: 'We will not support a second referendum on independence in the next parliamentary term. Full stop.'

We need to move on from the referendum. The next Scottish Government should concentrate on growing our economy and improving our public services.

We will give extra funding to our schools, massively expand free nursery education, and reverse the cuts the SNP made in college and council education budgets.

A few months ago the SNP's proposed solution to the council's problems was to close Kilmory and move jobs away from Mid Argyll. I opposed this and want to see an end to the Scottish Government cutting the council's grant, and so forcing them to cut jobs and services.

Our rural health service needs more resources, in particular to recruit more GPs and to put mental health services on the same footing as physical health.

As the candidate in clear second place to the SNP last year, I am best placed to stop the referendum turning into a 'neverendum'.

Michael Russell

The SNP in government has achieved a lot for Scotland and for Argyll and Bute over the last nine years, but there is lots still to be achieved.

We have delivered investment in schools and hospitals, more jobs and houses, the council tax frozen and the Scottish living wage delivered.

The strong SNP team has got stronger. Nicola Sturgeon is an inspirational First Minister and her vision, shared by her party, is of a more equal, more just, fairer Scotland.

But achieving more is what this election is about. We need to keep improving education and close the attainment gap. We must ensure that our precious NHS continues to be well funded and well staffed. Our islands need to be properly supported and whilst introducing RET has been very important and has stabilised prices, we need to build more ferries. Land reform needs to move forward and our telecommunications links need more investment. The SNP is promising 100 per cent fast broadband connection and that has to be delivered to every part of Argyll and Bute, supporting better mobile services too.

I am keen to carry on with the job of ensuring those things – and many others – happen.

'People, not Party'



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Independent candidate

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Published by James Stockan, 102 Victoria Street, Stornoway, KW16 3BU

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Candidates grilled at Lochgilphead hustings

THERE was a mixture of fireworks and consensus at a recent hustings where people of Mid Argyll got to quiz the candidates vying for their vote at the Scottish Parliamentary election on Thursday May 5.

Nearly 100 people came to the event on April 21 in Lochgilphead Joint Campus despite it being a glorious evening outside. Many were eager to ask questions and had issues they wanted addressed before deciding which box to put their cross in.

Six candidates were present and the event, organised by Lochgilphead Community Council, was chaired by Baptist Church minister, Rev Derek Gibson.

Incumbent Mike Russell was there for the SNP, Labour candidate Mick Rice, Conservative candidate, Donald Cameron and Liberal Democrat candidate Alan Reid also took part. Highlands and Islands list candidate, John Finne attended for the Green Party and a late addition was independent list candidate James Stockan.

Each candidate got to make a pitch to the voters. With no fewer than

three of the candidates, Messers Russell, Finne and Reid, having represented the area in different parliaments, there was much talk of their records. Mr Cameron said only his party could provide good opposition and Mr Rice said he wanted the UK to succeed. Mr Stockan said he believed he could offer something different as he was standing as an independent and was outside the party system.

There were questions from the audience on a wide range of devolved issues from childcare to transport and questioners could respond after all candidates had answered.

The chairman didn't have too much to contend with as the candidates were respectful to each other although there were a couple of fiery moments between Mr Russell and Mr Reid.

Childcare was first on the agenda and candidates were asked whether they thought it should be free for two to four year olds, all thought it should be. Mr Finnie said it must be paid for through taxation and it must be flex-



The calm before the storm - the invited candidates with chairman Derek Gibson ahead of last Thursday's hustings. Pictured left to right are: John Finnie, Mick Rice, James Stockan, chairman Derek Gibson, Michael Russell, Donald Cameron and Alan Reid. 06_a18hustings01

ible. Mr Rice broadly agreed with that saying: 'The money you spend on under fives you save pound-for-pound when they're older as they generally become better people.'

Policy involving children came up again later with candidates being asked if they were in favour of the Scottish Government's named person scheme. Most of the panel were against with objections ranging from issues of confidentiality to money being better spent on more targeted help. The two panelists in favour, Mr Russell and Mr Finnie, launched spirited and passionate defences. Mr Russell said he was happy to have voted for it and believes it has been misrepre-

sented. 'You really need to see in action,' he added. Mr Finnie said: 'This isn't about intrusion, it's about support.'

The number of windfarms being built had also caught the audiences attention with one member wondering what might happen when the wind stops blowing? After assurances that this was unlikely in Argyll, the panel had differing views. Mr Cameron said he was becoming increasingly sceptical of wind power as he sees the proliferation of wind turbines on the hills. Mr Reid disagreed citing the need to move to 100 per cent renewables and reduce the amount we are using to help the environment. Mr Stockan believes corporations are taking

too much from communities: 'Big corporations run off with the riches and leave the beads with the natives,' he said.

Of late there has been a farming crisis with all agreeing something had to be done to protect farming, particularly dairy farming, in Argyll. Mr Reid said farming was a victim of globalisation and Mr Cameron believed Argyll produce needed well marketing.

The Rest and be Thankful was, inevitably, brought up. There was consensus that more needed done but exactly what was needed and why it wasn't being done eluded many of the candidates.

More on the responses about the Rest and be Thankful on page 5 this week.



The debate warms up in Lochgilphead as the candidates express their views. 06_a18hustings_table03

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CHILD CARE

CHOOSING childcare can be frustrating for parents in Argyll and Bute, but this 'how to' guide is here to help them make a decision that is right for them and their child.

There are a range of private and public nurseries, childminders and pre-5 units, which offer a host of learning and fun activities aimed to equip children with a variety of skills that will see them into school and beyond.

There are many options for parents depending on their own and their children's needs.

These range from outdoor learning and activities opportunities to indoor learning to school pre-5 units and all are available throughout the region.

Parents need a childcare service that will fit with their own lifestyles and other commitments, that they can trust, rely on and is easily gain access to.

It is important for parents to know that their children are getting the best care, stimulation and learning through play.

With many families where both parents work from 9am-5pm after school care has become essential for many people.

Services available in Mid Argyll and Kintyre range from public to private or even one-to-one and each child is nurtured and cared for to the highest standards.

Nursery and pre-five services offer youngsters the opportunity to ensure they achieve their best personal development via the Curriculum for Excellence, while child minders are overseen by the Care Inspectorate to ensure youngsters are well looked after and start learning through play from an early age.

Home Start Majik

We are a local independent charity that offers emotional and practical support and friendship to families who live in Mid Argyll and Kintyre that have at least one child under the age of 8. Home Start Majik believes that children need a happy and secure childhood in order to flourish and fulfil their potential, and recognises that parents play a fundamental role in providing this good start in life.

For many parents, however, day to day family life can often be overwhelming and sometimes it can feel like a struggle just to survive. Home Start Majik works with parents to help build their confidence and offers practical guidance and emotional support. This could be anything from chatting over a cup of tea to showing parents how to make soup, which could provide a healthy meal. The charity recruits and trains local volunteers who are parents themselves or have parenting experience, to provide home visits. Volunteers are carefully matched to families and visit them weekly at home for two to three hours.

They offer one to one support for mum or dad – sometimes just having a shoulder to cry on, or a listening ear, can make all the difference to a parent going through a difficult time. Volunteers play games or read to the children, help families to keep appointments, help with practical tasks or perhaps suggest local activities that the whole family might enjoy.

Home Start Majik is a vibrant volunteer led organisation that makes a real difference to children and families in the community. Its inclusive, supportive and non-judgemental approach makes it a much appreciated community resource, particularly because of the rural locations it serves.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Do you have a few hours a week to spare? Have parenting experience and would like to make a difference then call.

Volunteers can help look after children, be a listening ear or an extra pair of hands. Sometimes simply being a friend makes a huge difference. Out of pocket expenses are paid and volunteers are subject to an enhanced PVGS.

Preparation Course will be starting in May.

To find out more about Home-Start: call **Dee** on **07887511022**

e-mail info@homestartmajik.eclipse.co.uk or visit our website at www.home-start.org.
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"I felt I could face everything because she was coming to see me and I knew she would come - she was reliable."

Tarbert Academy Early Level Class

Tarbert Academy Early Level Class has been up and running since August 2014 and is currently going from strength to strength; ensuring integration between preschoolers and Primary One, presenting their very first 'Early Level Nativity' and taking part in a current 'Parental Engagement' project. Set in a purpose-built classroom within the Primary department of a successful 3-18 school, the Early Level Class is a place where children are active participants in learning and play is valued as 'a child's work'.

The Early Level learning environment encompasses both indoor and outdoor areas, which are carefully planned and designed with the child's needs and interests at the centre. The setting is designed to both support and challenge every child from three years old to Primary One, with experienced and committed practitioners working together to ensure all children are meeting their developmental milestones and engaged in learning. Staff value the importance of knowing each child as an individual, ensuring the environment allows children to express their wants, needs and interests.

Our team has strong partnerships with parents, families and the local community, with links providing a wider range of opportunities to support both child development and learning. Tarbert Academy aims for transition throughout the 3-18 school to be as smooth as possible, with experiences in the Early Level Class allowing preschoolers to work in close partnership with Primary Ones who can model and scaffold learning for their younger peers.



Tarbert Academy Early Level Class

Parents/carers interested in bringing their children to join the early level class are welcome to visit at any time.

Please Telephone 01880 820269.
Head Teacher – Neil McKnight

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Left to right: Mick Rice, James Stockan, Alan Reid, Michael Russell, Donald Cameron and John Finnie at the hustings. 06_a18hustings

Marketing, transport and sorting out supermarkets - candidates talk farming

CANDIDATES for the Scottish Parliament election on May 5 last week offered their opinion on the crisis facing farming in Argyll and Bute.

Invited by Lochgilphead Community Council to face the public at a hustings event at the joint campus, the audience heard from the Labour, Conservative, SNP, LibDem, Green and an independent list candidate.

First on the panel to offer his thoughts was SNP candidate Michael Russell who said: 'I've spent the best part of 18 months working closely with the dairy sector and with First Milk, which has a monopoly on milk

in Argyll and Bute. It is very difficult to resolve.'

He moved on to the wider food industry, emphasising the Food Bill proposed in the SNP manifesto.

Markets

'The really pernicious problem affecting the farming industry is the small number of people controlling the markets - largely the supermarkets,' said Green candidate John Finnie. 'They certainly need sorted out.'

Candidate for the Scottish Labour Party Mick Rice said: 'Having an IT scheme that goes wrong so that you don't get your EU subsidies must not have helped.'

'I do think we need a

government that aims to deliver for the agriculture sector and not mess it up.'

'Food and drink production is a major thing for Argyll and Bute,' remarked Scottish Conservative candidate, Donald Cameron.

'Think of the delicious lamb and beef our farmers produce.'

Marketing

'Let's really work at promoting and marketing that and give farmers something to be cheerful about.'

LibDem candidate Alan Reid began: 'The Scottish Government has got to work with First Milk to ensure the investment comes into Campbeltown Cream-

ery. Dairy farmers are a series of small businesses while supermarkets are big businesses, and that's an unequal struggle.'

He added he would be lobbying for changes to the Grocery Code of Conduct which, he said, fails to support farmers as primary producers.

Orcadian independent candidate for the regional vote James Stockan commented: 'We have to find solutions for remote and rural areas so farmers can carry on.'

'The big issue for me is the cost of transport and the time it takes.'

He concluded: 'The thing to remember is that money that goes to farmers is spent locally.'

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9am Show of Limousin bulls

10am Show of Aberdeen-Angus bulls followed by Beef Shorthorn bulls

10.45am Sale of Highland (11 & 9 females)

11.15am Sale of Salers (7) and British Blue bulls (1)

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Music and culture on the West Coast have grown from some of the most ancient and revered in the world. Pipers, drummers, singers, writers, dancers, crafters all mix together to show the area – its people and potential to its best.

Your guide to the festival season in Argyll, the Highlands and Islands

During the season musicians and artists are often high in demand from the very lucrative European music festival scene. Bands such as Skerryvore and Skipinnish can travel thousands of miles around the globe – but always make

time for their own festival in their home town or island.

This coming home started with those who returned to take part in annual village and town gatherings such as the Argyllshire and Inveraray events that still take place today.

Super-group Idlewild are often playing Glastonbury one week and then the intimate Iona Village Hall Music Festival the next.

Internationally-acclaimed singer Joy Dunlop could be in three continents in three weeks but always makes

time to return home to the Royal National Mod in October.

Undiscovered bands whose work is almost unheard of share the stage with well-known musicians with everyone getting the chance to perform.

It is the nurture and care of all bands that help the West Coast continue to be at the centre of the creative industries in Scotland.

Our festivals are the very best place to catch musicians, poets, crafts, literature and food connoisseurs.

Oban

Oban seems to host major festivals with ease on a regular basis – fitting thousands of tourists into its many choices of accommodation with the friendly, no bother at all, attitude.

Building on the success of the Oban Decade event in 2015, this year the organisers of the multi-award-winning Tìree Festival bring Oban Live to life.

With mega star KT Tunstall choosing to use the event to launch her new album, she will also bring some international sophistication by flying into Connel airport from Los Angeles to make the gig her one-off Scottish event.

The last weekend in April will see the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival showcase talent from almost every area of Scottish culture. Pipers and dancers mingle with the outstanding Accordion and Fiddle Master Competition taking centre stage.

Alongside this are the many

events that Oban takes in its stride, such as the Argyllshire Gathering, the fundraising walks, the summer festivals.

While the town is known as the Gateway to the Isles, it is also the place to come to party.

Campbeltown

The Kintyre Songwriters Festival in May is a delightful showcase of up-and-coming songwriting talent.

The Mull of Kintyre Music Festival has become the region's top cultural event, which encourages people to visit Kintyre from all parts of the globe.

The festival satisfies the organisers' ambition to showcase the very best in traditional and contemporary music worldwide whilst also displaying the region's cultural individuality through the talents of the local musicians of all ages.

Always exciting, the Islay Festival of Music and Malt features

a diverse programme of music, dance, whisky and almost every other activity imaginable. The festival grew out of a local drama and Gaelic festival to become one of the longest and biggest festivals on the West Coast.

The Mid Argyll Music and Arts, or MAMA Fest, held in September, is built on the success of previous years thanks to the dedication of a small, hardworking committee.

Everyone in the town comes together to listen to the music makers of the area coupled with developing new musical talent for the future.

Tarbert

Tarbert as a village has really organised and promoted its festival scene with exceptional offerings including the Scottish Series, the Seafood Festival, the Traditional Boat Festival, the Tarbert Music Festival, and the Fair and Book Festival.

The Feisean movement allows for the development of language and culture in the islands and on the mainland. Some of the most amazing talent is being developed and some extraordinary events, such as the 10-minute ceilidh on the Barra pier where both the Barra and the Tìree Feis come together but only once a year.

Mull

The Mendelssohn on Mull festival has grown from some very small roots into an outstanding and completely understated festival of music for everyone on the island.

Based on the island due to the composer's *Hebridean Overture* and its connection with the quite overwhelming case at Staffa.

Food

Food is a huge attraction for both visitors and locals with the Loch Fyne Food Festival and Best

of the West Festivals becoming something of market leaders in their field. Loch Fyne has earned an international reputation for producing some of the world's finest foods alongside great fun and the most outstanding backdrop of them all.

Western Isles

An outstanding event on the Isle of Uist, Ceòlas is rooted within the Gaelic heartland and is a distillation of Hebridean heritage.

Over the past 20 years, Ceòlas has been a key driver in the island's social and cultural resurgence.

The organisation focuses on performance and education that celebrates and promotes local Gaelic culture and heritage, as well as the strong cultural links of the Gàidhealtachd diaspora.

Enjoy the plethora of totally inspiring events and festivals throughout this year and feel free to let us know all about the experience!

Festival Survival Guide for Parents with Children

We're in the thick of the festival season now. Wellies are getting muddied up as you read this and glitter is being purchased by the kilo. If you are a lover of live music but have recently had a baby, even the most seasoned festival goer can be forgiven for thinking that perhaps it might be too difficult with an infant in tow and so might have come to terms with having to miss out.

Well, fear not! With a bit of planning and a few tips, you and the kids will have a blast.

Preparation is key – Prior to the festival, if you get the chance, pitch the tent and spend the night. You'll get a taste of what's to come and if all goes well, you might find yourself registering for next year's Glastonbury festival.

Plan ahead – Make a list of everything you'll need, you don't want to find out you've forgotten the rain cover half way to your destination.

Safety first – A first aid kit complete with hand sanitizer is essential. As is a torch and flask for preparing bottles and changing nappies in the middle of the night.

Do some research – Some festivals are more geared toward families than others. Have a look around, check out the site maps and figure out if you'll have a long way to carry all your gear and whether or not it'd be worth staying in accommodation near-by.

Foodies – If you're bottle feeding take sterilisation tablets to hygienically clean feeding

equipment. Breast feeding? First aid tents are great places to discreetly express. Also, festival food can be expensive and in some instances might be too exotic for little pallets, so ensure you have plenty of jars and finger foods to keep tummies happy throughout the day.

Safety first – Most festivals issue security tags for you to write your number on, stick a couple on your children in case they wander off, or write it on their wristbands of course.

Festival must-haves – Ear defenders – If you want to get a bit closer to the stage a pair of giant headphones is a baby's best festival accessory. They're not only practical, but adorable too. Secondly – Fairy lights. Wrapping a string of solar operated twinkly lights around the pram makes you visible during the night and you're therefore less likely to get trampled on by drunken revellers. It also turns your baby's transport into a space-age disco buggy, certain to turn heads!

Lastly...

Have fun – It might not be the kind of festival experience you're used to but it opens you up to a whole new world of entertainment. You get to spend time in areas that were previously closed to you -the kid zones! These are are as packed full of fun and dedicated to ensure you and your babies have the best festival possible. And seeing the enjoyment on their faces makes all the extra effort worth it.



Best ^{of} the West

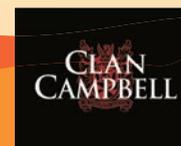
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Tarbert – a whole world of festivals!



THE CHARMING fishing village of Tarbert, photographed above by the world renowned Dennis Hardley, plays host to several festivals this season that celebrate its rich heritage in music, sport, food and literature. The excitement kicks off in May 27-30 with the Silvers Marine Scottish Series.

The Clyde Cruising Club organises this

long-running event, in which keen sailors enjoy passage racing and Olympic triangles in Loch Fyne.

This year's programme includes the opening 'Clyde Challenger Race' from Largs for white sail, family class and cruisers.

The laid-back atmosphere and good craic of this event have sailors and non-sailors alike

coming back year after year. All visitors, whether into sailing or not, will love the spectacle and everyone is welcome.

The Seafood Festival, which is held in July 2-3, gives visitors the opportunity to sample Tarbert's culinary delights. The harbour bustles with food stalls, cookery demonstrations and tastings.

A highlight of the

weekend is the crowning of the Seafood Festival Queen and her princesses, who arrive in a flourish by sea and parade through the village led by the Mid Argyll Pipe Band.

Live music and kids' activities at this wonderful family-friendly festival.

The Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival draws beautiful vessels of all

kinds from across Scotland and Ireland the weekend, providing a spectacle in the harbour for on-lookers. Visitors enjoy boat tours, stalls, live music, demonstrations and family activities.

One of the longest-running music festivals in Argyll, the Tarbert Music Festival has been celebrating song and food for 27 years.

Held the weekend of September 16-18, it features kids' activities and a full programme of concerts by local talent, turning out everything from rock to reggae to traditional music. Impromptu sessions are encouraged and attract musicians from far and wide. Visitors will enjoy the fantastic local seafood and the relaxed vibe.

For those looking for

something a little more energetic, the 10k run takes place on the 13th of August. See Facebook for more details (The Tarbert 10k).

Camping is available in the shadow of Robert the Bruce's castle and scenic walks along the adjacent Kintyre Trail make Tarbert an ideal destination weekend for the whole family, so pack a tent and come along!

TARBERT FESTIVALS 2016

Tarbert is an enchanting and beautiful fishing village sitting on the west shores of Loch Fyne.

There are several festivals held during the year which encompass Tarbert's fishing heritage and its affinity with the sea.

Come to Tarbert and experience life on Scotland's west coast - you will be made most welcome.



Scottish Series
27-30 May



Tarbert Seafood Festival
2-3 July



Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival
15-17 July



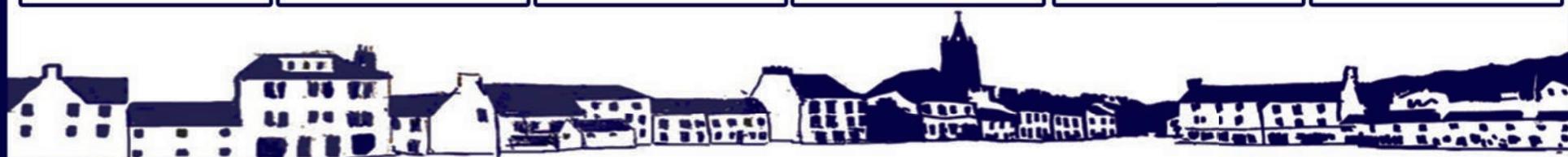
Tarbert Fair
27-30 July



Tarbert Music Festival
16-18 September



Tarbert Book Festival
28-30 October



www.tarbertfestivals.co.uk

Loch Fyne Food Fair celebrates its 26th year

Loch Fyne Food Fair is Scotland's longest-running outdoor food festival – and this year May marks its 26th year.

The two-day event, which is free to attend and situated on the picturesque shores of Loch Fyne, will take place over the weekend of May 14 and 15, 2016.



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Established in 1990 to celebrate the best food and drink Argyll has to offer, this year's festival is set to attract 3,000 visitors.

Retaining a strong emphasis on locally sourced food and drink, the event will showcase several producers from the 'Food from Argyll' collec-

tive, including Winston Churchill Venison, Gigha Smoked Halibut, Bumble puddings, Fyne Ales and Loch Fyne Oysters, whose seafood stands will be stocked with fresh local fish and shellfish.

Producers from further afield include Spencerfield Spirit Company, Great Glen

Charcuterie, Mhor Bread and Makar Gin, who will be running gin pairing workshops throughout the weekend.

Loch Fyne Food Fair Founder, Virginia Sumsion, commented: 'We are tremendously excited to be on the cusp of our 26th Food Fair. It's rewarding to see Scotland's appetite for locally-sourced, traceable produce grow year-on-year; 2016 being no exception.'

'From succulent Loch Fyne oysters to refreshing craft beer, there really is no better place to try such a diverse and delicious taste of Argyll in the company of those who make and produce it.'

New for 2016 and in celebration of the thematic Year of Architecture, Innovation and

Design, the fair will also cast a spotlight on artists, designers and craftspeople from throughout Argyll and beyond.

An eclectic live music line-up alongside activities like cake decorating and bouncy castles will complete the family-friendly offering.

On the Saturday evening (May 14) the Loch Fyne Oyster Bar will host its first 'Gin Fling', which will see a three-course menu paired or made with Makar Gin.

If you are going to Oban Live, Loch Fyne Food Fair would be the perfect stop off on your way home – why not tie both brilliant events into your weekend!

For further information, visit www.lochfyne.com

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MOK Fest – from rave legends to trad newbies



RAVE legends The Time Frequency are set to headline this year's Mull of Kintyre Music Festival or MOK Fest, August 17-21. Set in Campbeltown, the festival has become the region's top cultural event, encouraging people to visit Kintyre from all parts of the globe. The ambition of the festival organisers is to showcase the very best in traditional and contemporary music worldwide whilst also displaying the region's cultural individuality through the talents of the local musicians of all ages. Here's a snapshot of each day.

Wednesday August 17: Gaelic Concert which turns Ceol into an old fashioned ceilidh house with great tunes, stories, songs and fantastic chorus singing.

Thursday August 18: Kintyre's finest young musicians perform at the Young Folk Night.

Friday August 19: The Friday Festival Ceilidh Night features Ceol an Aire, the Hollow Mountain String Band and the Dalriada Connections Band.

Saturday August 20: Wendy MacIsaac from Cape Breton plays at the

Saturday night Traditional Concert and will be joined by Scottish piper Finlay MacDonald with Gillian Frame and Jenn Butterworth as support.

Sunday August 21 The Sunday afternoon starts with one of the festival's hidden gems, The Mitchell's Glengyle Distillery Dalriada Connections Concert; Musicians from Northern Ireland and as far afield as Brittany in France will be joined by local and Argyll wide artists to create an afternoon of Pan Celtic music. The festival ends on Sunday with the legendary Survivors Night with rock, pop, brass and pipe bands. The annual Grand Parade with a carnival atmosphere just gets bigger and better every year. Groups, organisations and individuals are encouraged to join in the fun featuring the Festival Cup and Phoenix Shield awards as well as the usual cash prizes for the best dressed floats.

Find out what inspired Sir Paul to say: 'Carry me back to the days I knew then, nights when we sang like a heavenly choir, of the life and the time of the Mull of Kintyre.'



Mull of Kintyre Music Festival
17th - 21st of August 2016

THE TIME FREQUENCY

Wendy MacIsaac (Cape Breton)
Ceol an Aire - The Hollow Mountain String Band
Finlay MacDonald - Gillian Frame & Jenn Butterworth
Dalriada Connections Band - Ciaran Mulholland
many more bands to be announced

Events include
Traditional Concert, Festival Ceilidh,
Gaelic Concert, Dalriada Connections Concert
Survivors Night, Young Folk Night, Grand Parade
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Your cut-out-and-keep festival diary

Colonsay Spring Festival

Isle of Colonsay
April 25 to May 15, 2016

Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival

Oban
April 29 to May 1, 2016

Bute Jazz Festival

Isle of Bute
April 29 to May 2, 2016

Oban Live

Oban
May 13-14, 2016

Loch Fyne Food Fair

Loch Fyne Oysters, Cairndow
May 14-15, 2016

Islay Festival of Music & Malt

Isle of Islay
May 20-28, 2016

Oban Festival of the Sea

Oban
May 27-29, 2016

Isle of Skye Accordion & Fiddle Festival

Isle of Skye
May 26-28, 2016

Bluebell Music Festival

George Hotel, Inveraray
May 27-29, 2016

Kintyre Songwriters Festival

Campbeltown
May 27-29, 2016

Kyles Festival

Argyll Secret Coast
June 2-5, 2016

Fyne Fest

Glen Fyne, Inveraray
June 10-12, 2016

Mendelssohn on Mull

Isle of Mull
July 4-9, 2016

Iona Music Festival

Isle of Iona
July 1-2, 2016

Tarbert Seafood Festival

Tarbert
July 2-3, 2016

Cantilena Festival

Isle of Islay
July 3-8, 2016

Tiree Feis

Isle of Tiree
July 3-8, 2016

Ceolas

South Uist
July 3-8, 2016

Hebridean Celtic Festival

Stornoway, Isle of Lewis
July 13-16, 2016

Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival

Tarbert
July 15-17, 2016

Tiree Music Festival

Isle of Tiree
July 15-17, 2016

Tarbert Fair

Tarbert
July 28-31, 2016

Bute Fest

Isle of Bute
July 29-31, 2016

MOKfest

Campbeltown
August 17-21, 2016

BLAS Festival

Various Locations
September 2-10, 2016

MAMAFest

Lochgilphhead
September 2-4, 2016

Islay Jazz Festival

Isle of Islay
September 9-11, 2016

Tee in the Port

Port Bannatyne, Isle of Bute
September 24, 2016

Royal National MOD

Western Isles
October 14-22, 2016

Best of the West Festival

Inveraray Castle
September 10-11, 2016

Ceol Cholasa

Isle of Colonsay
September 15-18, 2016

Tarbert Music Festival

Tarbert
September 16-18, 2016

Jura Music Festival

Isle of Jura
September 23-26, 2016

Cowal Fest

Cowal
October 7-16, 2016

Islay Book Festival

Isle of Islay
September 2016

Fies na Mara

Mallaig
October 2016 (to be confirmed)

Islay Sessions

Isle of Islay
November 18-20, 2016

Tarbert Book Festival

Tarbert
November 2016

Oban Winter Festival

Oban
November 2016

KINTYRE SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL 2016

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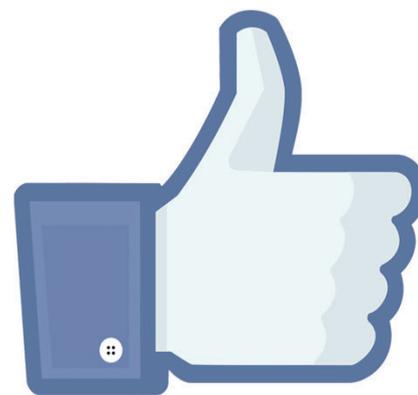
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Kintyre festivals are all about the music

SIR Paul McCartney made the Mull of Kintyre famous with his love song to this stunning part of the world.

Music is in this area's DNA and the best is on offer at two stellar summer festivals, Mull of Kintyre Music Festival and Kintyre Songwriters Festival.

Dubbed the 'friendliest festival in Argyll', the Kintyre Songwriters Festival, held May 27- 29 in Campbeltown, showcases musical talent in a relaxed atmosphere. Founded in 2008, the Festival attracts the best emerging and established talent from Scotland and further afield. This year's

line-up includes Violent Echo and Twisted Melons on Friday, The Gilchristians and Martha Ffion on Saturday, and Louis Abbott and Finn Lemarinel on Sunday.

In addition to intimate performances, a seminar programme allows festivalgoers and budding musicians to meet the guest artists and learn more about writing, performing and the music industry. A grassroots event that focuses on artistic development, this festival is considered one of the most artist-friendly in Scotland.

Rave legends The Time Frequency are set to

headline this year's Mull of Kintyre Music Festival, or MOK Fest, August 17-21. Set in Campbeltown, the festival has become the region's top cultural event, encouraging people to visit Kintyre from all parts of the globe. Satisfying an ambition of the Festival to showcase the very best in traditional and contemporary music worldwide whilst also displaying the region's cultural individuality through the talents of the local musicians of all ages.

There are concerts all weekend, and following last year's successful inaugural concert, the Gael-

ic Concert turns Ceol into an old fashioned ceilidh house with great tunes, stories, songs and fantastic chorus singing. The annual Grand Parade with a carnival atmosphere just gets bigger and better every year. Groups, organisations and individuals are encouraged to join in the fun featuring the Festival Cup and Phoenix Shield awards as well as the usual cash prizes for the best dressed floats.

Find out what inspired Sir Paul to say, 'Carry me back to the days I knew then, nights when we sang like a heavenly choir, of the life and the time of the Mull of Kintyre.'



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Mendelssohn on Mull: wonderful music in a beautiful setting

Mendelssohn on Mull is a Scottish chamber music festival which takes place every year in the first week of July.

Now in its 28th year, it is one of the most exceptional music experiences in the world. Certainly one of the friendliest!



Mendelssohn ON MULL FESTIVAL



Artistic Director: Levon Chilingirian
Monday July 4th – Saturday July 9th

Now in its 28th year, a festival of classical music to celebrate the visit of the composer Felix Mendelssohn to these islands.

World-class professionals work with emerging stars in the most beautiful and atmospheric venues to create performances of unforgettable electricity.

A dozen concerts of chamber music all around Mull and Iona including Duart Castle and Iona Abbey. And a final concert in St John's Cathedral, Oban, at 7.30 pm on Saturday July 9th.

All concerts admission free.

For details see mendelssohnonmull.com
or ring 07889 277078



It's a simple idea – to bring a new generation of musicians into contact with seasoned professional mentors in relaxed and stunning surroundings, far from the treadmill and stresses of the professional music circuit.

They attend workshops and then perform a series of free concerts in venues across Mull, Iona and in Oban.

Why is the festival, now run by Scottish charity Sound Waves SCIO, so special and important? It was founded by the renowned violinist Leonard Friedman in 1988, and takes its name from Mendelssohn's visit to the West-ern Isles in the

1820s, inspiring him to write his Hebrides Overture.

Leonard Friedman had been of Scotland's most talented and technically accomplished young musicians and in 1988 he took a small group to the Isle of Mull to benefit from working intensively with more experienced professionals, and to enjoy the natural environment.

This proved to be a highly significant development and the festival is now well established with an international reputation.

SoundWaves SCIO the educational outreach activity of aims to provide young professional musicians with opportu-

nities to develop their practical music skill at an advanced level, in an environment which encourages personal and cultural development.

Since 2000 the charity has also developed its presence on Mull with the Mendelssohn on Mull Music Makers, Sound Waves SCIO.

The festival enjoys considerable critical acclaim, and has been featured in national press including *The Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Herald*, *The Scotsman*, *Scotland on Sunday*, *BBC Music Magazine* and *Classical Music Magazine* as well as on BBC Radio Scotland, BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM.

Bags of cash for Mid Argyll Swimming Pool

MID ARGYLL Community Pool (MACpool) in Lochgilphead has benefited from the 5p plastic bag charge.

Riverside Filling Station, next door to MACpool, began charging 5p for plastic bags when the new law came into force in October

2014 and has raised £977.

Like many shops and supermarkets, it decided to donate the proceeds from the sales of plas-

tic bags to a local charity and Jane MacLeod from Riverside presented MACpool manager Graham Love with the donation.



The curious new lamb looks out over her surroundings.

New addition at Tarbert Castle

TARBERT Castle welcomed its first lamb of the year, a female, and marked the occasion by raising the Saltire.

Tarbert Castle Trust has been concerned about dogs chasing sheep and secretary Robert McPhail said: 'There have been several reports this year of farmers' concerns about dogs attacking sheep

and despite notices on the castle gates I have had to speak to two owners this week about using leads.

'Both told me their dog was okay off its lead and would not harm sheep. 'As a dog owner myself, I had to tell them that dogs will be dogs and chase sheep no matter what owners think.'

Delicious cakes from Natalie's Cupcakery

A NEW cake-making business has opened in Lochgilphead and it has lots of different cakes to tickle the tastebuds.

Natalie MacDonald set up Natalie's Cupcakery recently and her first day's trading was at Ardfern Gala Day where her cakes went down a treat.

Natalie explained: 'I've always loved baking and art so I took the decision to start up the business after having my baby.'

Natalie makes the cakes at home, meaning she can keep an eye on the wee one while she bakes.

centres around making cakes for people for special occasions including special birthdays, christenings and anniversaries. She also makes cupcakes which she hopes to take round some shows this summer.



One of Natalie's cakes.



Jane hands Graham the cheque. 08_a18pool01

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Mid Argyll RNLI held a successful boat jumble. 08_a18RNLI01

Mid Argyll fund raises for RNLI

A BOAT jumble was held recently in the North Hall in Ardris-haig to raise funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

The event is held by the RNLI's Mid Argyll branch and takes place every two years. It was a busy morning with lots of

boat-related goodies being sold. Colin Davis, branch secretary and organiser of the event, said: 'It's been a successful morning and it's gone very well.'

President Maggie Donaldson added: 'The people in Mid Argyll have been just great. They're so generous and we've always been

well supported.' This was backed up by the fact the event on April 23 raised more than £1,500 for the charity. The nearest lifeboat is at Tighnabruaich and the Mid Argyll branch says that with water sports becoming increasingly popular lifeboats are more important than ever.

Return of paper lantern parade?

PLANS are afoot to bring back the much-missed lantern parade to Lochgilphead later this year.

Artmap Argyll are leading the cause and have launched a crowd-funder so the event can go ahead.

A spokesperson said: 'We are crowdfunding for the organisational and logistical cost of running such a popular event. The local community love the event but realistically it needs

small cash donations to make it possible. The lantern parade has never asked the public to directly donate before in this way, but the future of this event needs to look at new ways of generating funds.'

Pledgers will get places for themselves and friends at a community lantern workshop which will allow them to make their own lantern to proudly carry in the parade.

Artmap has been giv-

en funding to hold youth art workshops and the parade on November 5 will give people involved a chance to show off what they have made.

Workshops will begin in the Mid Argyll Youth Development Services building, Lochgilphead at 4pm on May 9. There will also be open workshops in October.

The crowdfunder can be accessed at www.crowdfunder.co.uk/lantern-festival-2016



The lantern parade has previously been a huge hit. 06_a45lan07

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COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

DIABETIC SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday 3rd May
Mid Argyll Hospital
6.30pm

Speaker: Linda McGlynn
from Diabetes Scotland
Coffee & tea ~ All welcome

Colours. [FUN]DRAISING FASHION SHOWS

Kintyre Food Bank
LADIES FASHION SHOW & POP UP SHOP
Saturday 14th May 2016
Doors 6.30pm, show starts 7pm
The Victoria Hall

Tickets £5 **Thank you for your support**

AT LEAST 50% OFF EX HIGH STREET FASHION! CASH & CHEQUES ACCEPTED
+ charity raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won on the night.

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OPEN DAY
Monday 2nd May
11am to 3pm
Timber, Plants, raised bed Allotments

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

COFFEE MORNING
being run by the Bumps, Babies and Toddlers' Group on behalf of Church Funds

Saturday April 30th
10am - 12 noon
Home baking, sales table, tombola
Donations gratefully accepted.

GOOD OL' FASHIONED JUMBLE SALE & COFFEE MORNING
11am - 2pm
Sunday 8th May 2016
Glassary Primary School
Books ~ Clothes
Bric-a-brac ~ Toys
Tea, Coffee & Cake

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

Rotary Club of Mid Argyll CHARITY BALL
in aid of Marie Curie
7th May 2016
7.00pm for 7.30pm
Stonefield Castle Hotel
Tickets £45

Champagne Reception on arrival, 5 course meal.
Dancing to Archie McAllister Trio
Dress Formal - Grand Raffle.
Tickets available from Fyne Wines & Stewart, Balfour & Sutherland, Lochgilphead and by contacting Ian Davidson on 01546 603784.
A bus will run from Lochgilphead

Glenbarr Abbey Regeneration Project "BEHIND OPEN DOORS" & FAMILY FUN DAY
Sunday 1st May 2016
11.00am - 3.00pm
Abbey Tours from 11am
Grand Prize Draw 2pm
Live music - Children's Activities - BBQ
Scottish Registered Charity SC014084

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

Dalriada Singers welcome spring

DALRIADA Singers serenaded the arrival of spring with songs of the sea and summer at a concert in Ardrishaig North Hall.

The songs performed crossed countries and centuries.

The first song, *Summer Is Icumen*, dates from the 13th century and is thought to be the oldest example of written music in more than one part.

The concert co-incident with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's boat jumble and the £300 raised on the night by the singers was donated to the life-saving charity.

Sailors

Because of this, there were many songs of sailors and a performance of the *Skye Boat Song*.

Musical director John Marsden said: 'I ar-

ranged this one as the singers said there was not enough Scottish music in the show.'

John also read from a lifeboat magazine about a heroic rescue off the coast of Ayrshire.

A piano duet by John and accompanist Bruce Weir of a selection of songs from the *Pirates of Penzance* was very much enjoyed and had the audience singing along.



The singers performed a range of songs inspired by the sea. 08_a18singers01

Charity fund raiser promises to be great fun

TICKETS are selling fast for a special charity event next weekend.

Businesses and individuals have risen to the challenge of donating raffle prizes for the Marie Curie Charity Ball at Stonefield Castle Hotel on Saturday May 7.

Bowled over

Organisers of the event, the Rotary Club of Mid Argyll, have been bowled over by the response in support of the local Marie Curie fund rais-

ing group. A club spokesperson said: 'It is obvious there is wide recognition of the wonderful work carried out by Marie Curie and the club is indebted to everyone concerned.'

Prizes so far include a framed Jolomo print; an overnight stay at Portavadie Marina, including a leisure experience; afternoon tea at Cameron House, Loch Lomond; two tickets for a wildlife trip to the Gulf of Corryvreckan by Venture West; a CalMac travel voucher; a £50

gift voucher from Fyne Tackle Lochgilhead and dinner, bed and breakfast at Carnoustie Golf Hotel, including a round of golf.

Donated

Bottles of whisky have also been donated by Springbank distillery in Campbeltown and from individual members of the club.

These great raffle prizes will put the finishing touch to what promises to be a fabulous night of fun and music, including

a five-course dinner, with a champagne reception.

It is an evening not to be missed and tickets can be bought at Fyne Wines and Stewart, Balfour and Sutherland, Lochgilhead.

Secretary

Tickets are also available from club secretary Ian Davidson, who can be contacted on 01546 603784, or from any club member.

See advert on page 24 for more information.

Residents have a right royal time at Chalmers Court

THEY were dancing in the streets of Chalmers Court, Inveraray, last Saturday at a community celebration to mark the Queen's 90th birthday.

A street party at the sheltered housing complex was just the ticket as a fantastic afternoon of delicious food and family entertainment

was topped off with a raffle and an auction of delicious cakes.

Made and donated by Stella Vernard, a tempting strawberry cake was won by Jacqueline Young.

Organised by the residents, the event raised £420 for two charities - RNIB Scotland and the Scottish SPCA dog



Jacqueline Young is presented with her strawberry cake by Chalmers Court helper Paula Rae.

home at Milton. One of the organisers, Fran Stewart, said: 'We are very grateful for the help of all the individuals and businesses who supported us and donated various items to make the party a success.'

She added: 'The people of Inveraray are so generous.'

'Thanks to everyone who came along, had fun and donated for these good causes.'



Delicious food and face painting - all you need for a great party.

Campbeltown Picture House Victoria Hall, Sat 7 & Sun 8 May



Zootropolis (PG) Sat 7, 2pm / Sun 8, 1pm / 108 mins

Family fun in Disney's latest adventure set in a city like no other.

Eddie the Eagle (PG) Sat 7, 4.45pm / 106 mins

True story of Britain's first Olympic ski jumper, who took on the establishment and won the hearts of sports fans around the world.

Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice (12A)

Sat 7, 7.30pm / 106 mins Ben Affleck and Henry Cavill
Epic showdown as Gotham's vigilante takes on Metropolis's saviour as mankind faces a new threat.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 (12A)

Sun 8, 3.45pm / 94 mins
Long awaited sequel sees more hilarious Portokalos wedding chaos.

The Man Who Knew Infinity (12A)

Sun 8, 6.15pm / 109 mins Jeremy Irons and Dev Patel
Improbable and wonderful true story of a unique genius propelled from poverty and obscurity with the help of a Cambridge professor.

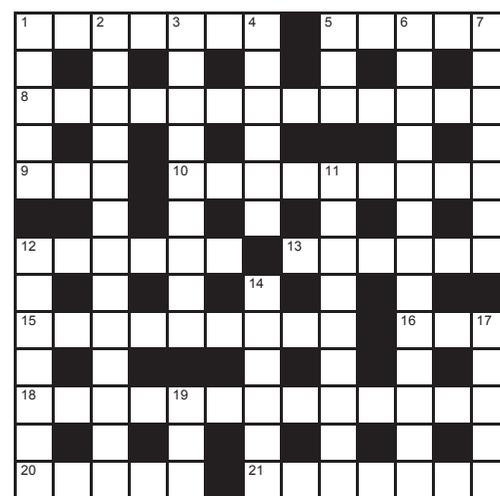
Advance booking: www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk

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

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Across

- 1 Delighted (7)
- 5 Heated place of relaxation (5)
- 8 Incorrectness (13)
- 9 Carry heavy load (3)
- 10 Used to settle a do (4,5)
- 12 Set aflame (6)
- 13 Burrowing rodent we hear runs erra
- 15 One who studies the science of matt
- 16 Pull (3)
- 18 Whereby you pay less to the govern (3-10)
- 20 Woodland deity (5)
- 21 Full (7)

Down

- 1 Small bottle (5)
- 2 Where to leave in a hurry (9,4)
- 3 Long lines of pasta (9)
- 4 Minutiae (6)
- 5 Rest... (3)
- 6 ...with legs below here (5-3-5)
- 7 Examiner (7)
- 11 Fielding position (5-4)
- 12 Momentum (7)
- 14 American hard stuff (6)
- 17 Place indicated (5)
- 19 Ring bearer? (3)

Last week's solution



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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 Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

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

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

Refval	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
16/00803/PP	Erection of 50 metres high meteorological mast for temporary period of up to 4 years	Land South Of Cruach A Bhodaidh Tayinloan Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Tayinloan
16/00885/PP	Formation and operation of a wood fired combined heat and power plant, including erection of office and weighbridge facility (amended siting and design relative to planning permission 08/00089/DET)	Land North East Of E McGinty Ltd Achnabreck Cairnbaan Argyll And Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
16/00999/LIB	Internal and external alterations (including formation of door opening in existing window opening and installation of boiler vent) -primarily retrospective	1 Ferry Land Inveraray Argyll And Bute PA32 8UX	Sub Post Office Inveraray

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 Councils website.

COUNCILLOR'S SURGERIES

- Councillor Sandy Taylor (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)**
Councillor Taylor will be holding a drop in surgery in the Nicol Hall, Inveraray on Monday 2nd May 2016 from 4.30pm – 6.00pm. Councillor Taylor can also be contacted by e mail – Sandy.Taylor@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by Tel: 01546 604184. He will also be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor Donald Kelly (E.W.1 South Kintyre)**
Councillor Donald Kelly can be contacted by email – Donald.Kelly2@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by Tel: 01586 810193 / 07977 327751. Councillor Kelly will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor Rory Colville (E.W.1 South Kintyre)**
Councillor Rory Colville can be contacted by email – Rory.Colville@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by Tel: 01586 820209. Councillor Colville will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor John Armour (E.W.1 South Kintyre)**
Councillor Armour can be contacted by email – John.Armour@argyll-bute.gov.uk and by Tel: 01586 552404. Councillor Armour will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor Robin Currie (E.W.2 Kintyre and the Islands)**
Councillor Robin Currie can be contacted by email – Robin.Currie@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by Tel: 01496 301369 (work) / 07795 222849 (mobile) / 01496 850517 (home). Councillor Currie will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor Dougie Philand (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)**
Councillor Dougie Philand can be contacted by email – Dougie.Philand@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by Tel: 01546 604114. Councillor Philand will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.
- Councillor Donnie MacMillan (E.W.3 Mid Argyll)**
Councillor Donald MacMillan can be contacted by email – Donald.MacMillan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or by Tel: 01546 603222 / 07555 994109. Councillor MacMillan will be happy to arrange meetings to suit constituents.

KEVIN MCCRAE LTD
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(In Liquidation)
I, James Bernard Stephen of BDO LLP, 4 Atlantic Quay, 70 York Street, Glasgow, G2 8JX, hereby give notice that I was appointed Interim Liquidator of Kevin McCrae Ltd on 8 April 2016, by Interlocutor of the Sheriff at Campbeltown Sheriff Court. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 138 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that the first meeting of creditors of the above company will be held within 4 Atlantic Quay, 70 York Street, Glasgow, G2 8JX, on 11 May 2016, at 11.00 am, for the purpose of choosing a Liquidator and determining whether to establish a Liquidation Committee. A resolution at the meeting will be passed if a majority in value of those voting have voted in favour of it. A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if a claim has been lodged with me at the meeting or before the meeting at my office and it has been accepted for voting purposes in whole or in part. For the purpose of formulating claims, creditors should note that the date of commencement of the Liquidation is 16 December 2015. Proxies may also be lodged with me at the meeting or before the meeting at my office. Further details contact: Catherine Taylor, Email: catherine.taylor@bdo.co.uk or Tel: 01412 483 761.
Dated: 21 April 2016
James Bernard Stephen, Interim Liquidator

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For more information and for details on how to apply please visit the CalMac website before the closing date.

<https://www.calmac.co.uk/careers/careers-at-calmac>

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The successful candidate will be passionate about recovery, have at least 2 years management experience and hold an SVQ 4 Health & Social Care (Adults) at SCQF level 9 or equivalent qualification in line with SSSC requirements.

The role will include responsibility for the leadership, management and clinical governance of the project to ensure delivery of a high quality recovery orientated service. He/she will also be expected to work collaboratively with project funders, relevant stakeholders and other local partners to build strong relationships and ensure effective working practices.

For a full job specification and to apply for this post please visit the Addaction web site,

www.addaction.org / Work for Us / Job Vacancies. Advert Reference 696

Closing date for applications 15 May 2016

Please note that all applications must be made via our web site.

For further information please contact Hazel Smith - hazel.smith@addaction.org.uk/0141 221 8390

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recruitment



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Reporting to the Technical Services Manager, you will provide an effective and efficient property management service as part of a team within Fyne Homes and work closely with the contractors delivering services under our Framework Agreements. Key tasks include day to day management of reactive, cyclical and capital investment programmes.

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e-mail: postmaster@fynehomes.co.uk
 or visit our website – www.fynehomes.org.uk
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— i Nora AB —

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North Argyll Eventide Home Association Limited

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For an informal conversation contact the CEO, Glenn Heritage, 01631 564839, For details and application form email shirley@argylltsi.org.uk
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The Church of Scotland
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For more information and details of how to apply, please email The Project Manager: ron.inglis@craigmount.org.



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Love from Mum



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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



WE WERE at a weekend gathering of a group which call themselves 'Comhradh' (pronounced 'Cora'). Comhradh is the Gaelic word for 'conversation'.

The group meet twice a year at Glencruitten House just outside Oban, and its purpose is to enjoy conversation. This time the conversation was about the spiritual landscape of Argyll.

To enable us with our discussions we were privileged to have with us Rev Ian Bradley, who has written a book on this topic.

I knew a few folk at 'Comhradh' but there were many I had never met.

However, within minutes, the conversations flowed and I felt I was among friends.

We talked together, sang together, prayed together, told our stories and listened to each other.

We had much in common in our faith, but also much difference in our diversity.

There were many conversations, some in the whole group, some in small groups and some with individuals.

However, one of the most special times was conversation with a small group gathered round a big old kitchen table at breakfast.

We really talked – not just about the weather or where we were going on holiday, but about the important things of our faith.

Argyll, the beautiful, wild and inspirational home of Celtic Christianity and the spiritual heartland of Scotland.

George Matheson, the great hymn writer said of Argyll: 'Heaven somehow begins here, and immortality.'

There is a line in a poem by Kenneth Steven which says: 'If one day we make a machine which unpicks the sounds asleep in wood and stone, we will dig for words in the ochre fields they left – fragments thin as flints – and listen to them at last.'

What secrets would they reveal?

What wonderful conversations would we have then?

HELENSBURGH

First World War play to be performed

A NEW play to mark the centenary of the First World War will be performed in Helensburgh.

The play, titled *Home Fires, Broken Sons*, was commissioned by Argyll and Bute Council and produced by Three Wee Crows Theatre Company from Taynult.

Performances will take place on May 15 at 2pm and 5pm at the Victoria Halls. It will be a highlight of the commemoration of the battle of Jutland and is free.

GLASSARY

Jumble sale and coffee morning at Glassary

A GOOD old fashioned jumble sale and coffee morning will take place at Glassary Primary School.

The event is due to take place on May 8 beginning at 11am. There will be a selection of books, clothes, bric a brac and toys to rummage through. There will also be tea, coffee and home baking available.

Proceeds from the event will go to school funds.

CRAIGNISH

Ukulele concert

UKULELE player Mike Hind, who is from Bermuda, will play a concert at Craignish Village Hall.

Mike taught himself to play the instrument and has released a mini album called *This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things*.

Support will come from Andy 'Feckless' Webster, who will lead a sing-and-strum before the main concert. This will be £3 and a song-book will be provided. This starts at 7.15pm on May 3.

The main gig costs £8 and there are family tickets available. Mike will take to the stage at 8.15pm.

LOCHGILPHEAD

THERE will be an open day at Blarbuie woodland to celebrate the opening of the new raised beds for the community.

They are to be opened by Professor Angus McKay, who was the physician superintendent at the Argyll and Bute Hospital for many years, at noon on May 2.

There will also be a garden-based jumble sale.

Any donation for this sale will be gratefully received.

SKIPNESS



Riders are, from left, Rosslyn Smith on Fergus, Zoe Prentice, 8, on Firefly, Catriona Ryan on Steffi, Willow Ryan, 6, on Minstrel and Shelagh Oakes on Perry. 25_c18mariecurieride01

Daffodil riders raise cancer cash

NEARLY 20 pony riders trekking from Skipness House helped raise more than £200 for Marie Curie.

Rides were held last Saturday and Sunday with nine riders on the first day tackling a 10.3-mile circuit and a further four riding six miles.

Money was made from entry fees as well as a raffle, home baking and donations. Riders aged

between six and 70-plus took part in what organisers hope will become an annual event.

Liz MacNab from Tarbert, who completed the longer distance, said: 'It was an absolutely brilliant day and the views were superb.'

'Afterwards I hung up my bridle with two wilted daffodils and I knew it had been one of those perfect days.'

Funds were split between Marie Curie and Argyll (South) Pony Club.

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

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

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength' (Isaiah 40:31).

DEATHS

ALLEN - Peacefully, at Oaklands Residential Home, Southwold, on April 10, 2016, Ursula Doris Jane Read, in her 94th year, formerly of Wreck Cottage, Machrihanish, dearly beloved wife of the late Colonel Cecil Frank Allen. Service will take place in St Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church, on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery, friends please accept this intimation and invitation.

ASTIN - Peacefully, at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on April 26, 2016, Keith Whitehead Astin, aged 69 years, of 3 Barmor View, Kilmartin, beloved husband of the late Ellen Smith, much loved father of Simon and James, and much respected father-in-law of Gail and Gemma, adored Grandad Scotland of Lewis and Ryan, and Dadad to Eve and Sian. A dear brother, uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Kilmartin Parish Church, on Friday, May 6, at 1.00pm, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Stroke Association.

HARVEY - Suddenly but peacefully, at home, Echalpurmie, Southend, on April 26, 2016, Alexander Harvey (Alex), in his 80th year, dearly beloved husband of Netta Mauchline, much loved father of Rolline, father-in-law of Bobby and a loving papa of Kym, Sally and Bryan. Service will take place in Southend Church, today Friday, April 29, 2016 at 1.00pm,

funeral thereafter to Keil Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of Southend Church.

WHITEHEAD - Suddenly in Campbeltown, on April 14, 2016, Martin Robson Whitehead, in his 62nd year, Le Mauca, Lévigac-De-Guyenne, France, dearly beloved husband of Catherine Fullerton, much loved son of Hazel and the late Alan Whitehead and a loving and much loved brother, brother-in-law, uncle and son-in-law. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown, today Friday, April 29, 2016 at 1.00pm. A cremation service will take place in Cardross Crematorium, on Saturday, April 30 at 10.30am, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MCCONNACHIE - The family of the late Neil McConnachie would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy shown to them in their recent sad loss. Thank you to district nurses and home care team for all the help and care given, to Matthew Ramsay for such an uplifting service, to Nettie Semple for the lovely music, to Frances for the beautiful tea, and to Alasdair, Kenneth and Rhys Blair for such efficient, professional services. Finally, thank you to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside.

MCGEACHY - Tommy and family would like to thank everyone for the kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and phone calls since the sad loss of Margaret. Special thanks to doctors and nursing staff at Campbeltown Hospital for their compassionate care, to Rev Philip Wallace for comforting service,

to Alasdair Blair, funeral director, for professional services, to the Ardshiel Hotel for the lovely tea. Finally, to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside.

WOOD - Benny and family of the late Jean Wood, née McDonald, Inveraray, who suddenly passed away on April 13, 2016, would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers and kind expressions of sympathy. Special thanks to the Rev Roderick Campbell for a comforting service, to Bonhill and Alexandria Masonic Lodge, to Robert Mills for catering and to John H Glen Funeral Directors for their professional services.

IN MEMORIAMS

MCSPORRAN - In loving memory of Sadie, a much loved mum and granny, who passed away April 30, 2015.

Loved and missed every day.
- Hazel, Colin, Scott and Cara.

WILLIAMSON - In memory of a much loved mum, grandmother and great grandmother, Christina Alice (Allie), who died April 27, 2010.

Missed every day.
- Sylvia, Simon, Malcolm, Ross, Aimée and Lynne.

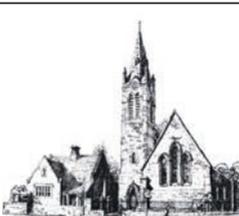

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Achahoish at 9:45am
Ardrishaig at 11:00am

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 1st May 2016
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by a light lunch
SPEAKER: George Stewart 'Our Master's Voice'
Thursday 5th May 2016
7.30pm
Prayer, Word and Sharing
All Welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 1st May 2016
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Minister:
Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell
Morning Service in Lochgair Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Morning Service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
All Welcome


LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 1st May 2016
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Dr. John L Morrison OBE
All Welcome
Saturday 30th April
Coffee Morning 10am - 12 noon
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


lochgilthead baptist church
Pastor Derek Gibson
All Welcome
Sunday 1st May 2016
Morning Service 11.00am
Speaker Angus MacNeill
Tuesday at 10.15am
mainly music
Friday from 10am
Jumpstart
Scottish Charity SC015187

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES
Christ Church
Bishopston Road,
Lochgilthead (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

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 (SC0002876)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 1 May
Bellanoch Church
Morning Worship 11:30 am
Saturday 30 April
CAFE CONNECT 10:30 am
Achnamara Hall
Monday 2 May
Tayvallich Church
Prayer meeting 10:30 am
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/mknapdalecofs

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 1st May 2016
Skipness Service 10.00am
Mr Tom McKay
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Mrs Angela Stather
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 1st May 2016
Sunday Worship
Ford 10.00am
Rev. C. R. Acklam
All welcome
SC0 02121

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 1 May 2016
11.00am
Family Communion Service
Gordon Cosgrove
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
TONIGHT
Kintyre Christian Fellowship
Friday, 29th April at 7.30pm in Springbank Church
For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 0586 551237.
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SC014646


George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 1st May
11.15am Family Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
Wednesday 4th May
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
2.00pm Water of Life Café
Saturday 7th May
9.00am Prayer Breakfast
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC009980


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

KINTYRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Meeting to be held on
Friday 29th April at 7.30pm
in Springbank Evangelical Church, Campbeltown. Guest speaker:
Mr William Harrison from Newton Stewart
Tea/coffee served after the meeting
Everyone most welcome.

Highland Parish Church

SCO02493
Sunday 1 May
'This Do in Remembrance of Me'
Celebration of Communion
The service will be conducted by Rev William Crossan in the church at 11.15am .
All are welcome.
Elders please meet in the James Angus Room at 10.45am

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 1st May
Session Meeting 10.55am
Sacrament of Holy Communion 11.15am
Creche, Holiday Club for P1-7
Sacrament of Holy Communion 2.30pm
Rev P Wallace
Tuesday 3rd May
Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am
Anchor Boys 6pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Church Hall
Friday 6th May
Lunch Club
12.00noon New Hall


Campbeltown Corps
Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214799 and in Scotland SC009399
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Worship

Tuesday
12.15pm Lunch Club
1.30pm Home League
Wednesday
7.00 pm Make and Munch Craft Group
Thursday
7.30pm Bible Study
All welcome


Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church:
Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 1st May
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Morning Prayer 10.45am
Details of services are on the church door.
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
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Aray share points as Kyles beat Skye

SHINTY

Marine Harvest Premiership

Kyles Athletic 2
Skye Camanachd 0
Two late goals gave Kyles Athletic a 2-0 win over Skye Camanachd at Kames Playing Fields last Saturday.

Kyles had most of the possession, but Skye put in a spirited performance and proved difficult to break down. Roddy MacDonald, returning from injury to the Kyles team, eventually broke the deadlock with just nine minutes remaining, collecting the ball 15 yards from goal, running across the pitch to hit a trademark strike through a ruck of players and into the bottom right-hand corner of the net – much to the relief of the home support.

Gordon Whyte made it 2-0 on 84 minutes. Whyte skilfully juggled



Kilmallie's Liam Cameron fails to stop Ali MacDonald of Inveraray connecting with the ball. a18shintyInv01

the ball after a quick one-two and passed the ball into the far corner of the net from just five yards out.

Second placed Kyles now trail leaders Newtonmore on goal difference only.

Marine Harvest National Division

Inveraray 1
Kilmallie 1
Kilmallie and Inveraray

shared the points at the Winterton.

David MacPherson was missing for the home side whilst the visitors travelled without Duncan Rodger, Grant MacKenzie and Ryan Stewart.

It became an uphill task for Kilmallie when defender Craig MacIsaac was sent off after just 15 minutes. MacIsaac was booked



Dunkie Kerr of Kyles Athletic grimaces under a challenge from Skye's John Gillies. a18shintyky01

for a challenge by referee Robert Baxter, before receiving a second yellow for backchat while the booking was being administered.

Undaunted, Kilmallie took the lead on the stroke of half-time when Bryan Mackay hit a shot from distance that flew into the roof of the net to make it 1-0.

Inveraray, though, were dominating,

and Kilmallie keeper Shane Gillies made a number of good saves to preserve his side's lead.

The hosts found a leveller 15 minutes from time, when Allan MacDonald punished a mistake in the visiting defence to make it 1-1.

Both sides had late chances to snatch both points, but Gillies for Kilmallie and Scott MacLachlan in the

Inveraray goal pulled off some great saves.

The point takes Ruaraidh Graham's Inveraray side level on points with league leaders Glasgow Mid Argyll, but the Yoker side have a game in hand.

Marine Harvest South Division 1

Inveraray 1
Kyles Athletic 1
The Kyles Athletic and Inveraray second teams shared the points following a 1-1 draw in their noon throw up at the Winterton.

Brandon Wilson put Kyles ahead on 38 minutes but David Robertson, working his way back after injury, levelled on 55 minutes.

This is a third draw in three matches for Kyles who move into fourth spot. It's also a first point of the season for Aray, who remain bottom of the table.

Marine Harvest South Division 2

Tayforth 4
Kilmory 2
Tayforth stay top of the pile after they defeated third placed Kilmory at Levenhall Links.

Conor Sweeney scored on 25 minutes to put Tayforth ahead and Orsten Gardner made it 2-0 on 41 minutes.

Kilmory's Duncan MacBrayne pulled a goal back a minute after the restart to make it 2-1.

Tayforth pulled away though Brendan Duggan on 53 minutes and a second from Orsten Gardner a couple of minutes later gave the home side a 4-1 advantage.

Kilmory's Hal Jones made it 4-2 just 10 minutes from time but Tayforth saw out the closing stages of a keenly contested match, played in good spirit, to go two points clear at the top of the table.

Twinshock riders put on a show at Achnashelloch

THE COURSE was in great condition for round two of the Scottish Scrambles Championship.

A big turnout of riders travelled to Lochgilphead's Moto Park venue at Achnashelloch to take part in the action last Sunday (April 24).

First up were the combined four stroke and pre-1977 classes.

Top man on the day was Grant MacClure with a win and two second spots to take the overall victory ahead of Allan Adair, who rode well to claim second. Top eco rider John Fullerton came in third.

The four-stroke class is growing by the day and a large contingent of the thumpers put on a superb show of twinshock racing, with ex 250 twinshock national champion Kev Maguire taking three well deserved but hard-fought wins. Maguire beat class leader Kris Craw-

ford to the top spot, with current champion Rick Caldwell in third.

The over-50 class saw the return of last year's champ Dave Pullar. He made the evo honda scream round the technical sections of the track and carved himself three good wins to set him up for a real chance to retain his crown in this class.

Runner-up was Archie Baird who was hounded all day by Johnny Rutherford and Keith Birse; these three top riders swapping places in all three legs to put on a great show for spectators.

They couldn't dent Pullar's lead, though, and at the end of the day it finished in that order.

The open twinshock class saw another large turnout of top riders as Tony Caig got back on song after a layoff.

He looked all over the winner of race one, but a seizure near the end

saw him hand the win to old campaigner Paul Chiappa who was never far away. Young gun James Mclean claimed second and the rejuvenated Alistair Aitken claimed third.

Race two saw Caig again take the lead, only to succumb to the pressure of Chiappa and lose it at the top of the track and drop to third where he remained till the end – just behind Mclean, again in second.

Caig took an early commanding lead in race three, only to pick up a rear puncture halfway. Chiappa must have sensed blood as he upped the pace and took the lead for another win ahead of the unlucky Caig, with Mclean again just behind in third. A deserved mention must go to Dougie Dryden, who rode well on the day to claim third overall.

The 250 twinshock class goes from strength

to strength in this club, and four former club champions were at it hammer and tongs all day.

In the end it was the wily Alex Joiner who won overall, with his team mate Mike Van Der Merwe in second and Richie Mcfadden just pipping Graeme Miller for third.

Another fantastic turnout of riders competed in the evolution classes. British Champ Gav Robertson made a rare appearance and put on an excellent show. Three wins saw Robertson take overall top place but the minor placings were fought hard and long between Brian Alexander, Tom Grant, Gordon Morrison and Morton Hannah.

The 125 evo lads put on a great show as well. The new super kid on the block is Kieran Smart, taking this class by storm with three wins for the overall.



High flying action from round two of the twinshock series.

The usual massive line-up of howling nippers turned out for the two stroke class.

Top man on the day was Andrew White, taking three wins for the overall. He was flying on his new Y-Zinger, ahead of Brian Colligan in second overall with Dean Hill in third.

Monoshock open was the final class of the day, with riding skill and sheer bravery over some of the rugged Argyll terrain.

It was a pleasure to watch, and witness the return to top-flight motocross in Scotland of young John Adamson after a year out. Three

wins gave him the overall from the fast gating Mark Wilson, who now leads this championship. Neil Chatham finished third.

The action now moves to Powmill on May 29.

Results

Pre 77: 1 G McClure; 2 A Adair; 3 J Fullerton; 4 C Robertson; 5 J Mitchell; 6 G Britton.

Four stroke: 1 K Maguire; 2 K Crawford; 3 R Caldwell; 4 J Mcinally; 5 J.Mckell; 6=D.Mckell and J.Mclean.

Over-50s: 1 D Pullar; 2 A Baird; 3 J Rutherford; 4 K Birse; 5 D Mcnab; 6 G Whyte.

Twinshock 250: 1 A Joiner; 2 M Vanderw-

erne; 3 R Mcfadden; 4 G Miller; 5 C Sangster; 6 J Colligan.

Twinshock open: 1 P Chiappa; 2 J Mclean; 3 D Dryden; 4 A Aitken; 5 W Pentland; 6 T Caig.

Two stroke: 1 A White; B Colligan; 3 D Hill; 4 S Robertson; 5 S Foote; 6 K Livingstone.

Monoshock: 1 J Adamson; 2 M Wilson; 3 N Chatham; 4 DJ Bruce; 5 G Maxwell; 6 I Macqueen.

Evo open: 1 G Robertson; 2 B Alexander; 3 T Grant; 4 G Morrison; 5 R Potts; 6 M Hannah.

Evo 125: 1 K.Smart; 2 G Peterson; 3 W Penrice; 4 J Young; 5 D Carter; 6 M Watson.



Sixteen football coaches took part in the course at Tarbert.

Mid Argyll football coaches put through their paces at SFA coaching course

KEEN football coaches from across Argyll and Bute took part in a coaching education course held in Tarbert.

A total of 16 people participated in the Scot-

tish Football Association level 1.1 coach education course which was arranged by Argyll and Bute Council.

It was open to anyone over 16 who works

with primary school children and helped coaches to develop their coaching technique, focus on skills development and explored the best age-specific activities for

developing young players. It was attended by people from Campbeltown, Lochgilphead and Tarbert and was delivered by football development officer Martin Rae.

Golf season underway at Lochgilphead

THE MEN of Lochgilphead Golf Club played a medal match recently while the ladies played for the Booker Trophy.

Alec MacAulay won the bragging rights in the medal match on April 23 coming first with a nett 65. Tom Campbell wasn't far behind taking second place with a nett 68 and third was Drew Swan with a nett 71.

The winner of the Booker Trophy, played for on April 24, was Margaret MacKinnon with 30 points, Second Ele Hunter with 27 points and third Donna MacKellar with 13 points.

Hard on their heels, literally, came the men playing a fun Texas Scramble. The winning team was The Fox and His Cubs AKA Roddy McDonald, Ross Sinclair and Kenny Cameron.

Coaching for Junior members starts this week and this is the last week of ladies' coaching. The ladies have arranged to meet at 6pm on a Thursday night starting next week Contact Ele on 01546 602381 for details.

Scottish AFL results and fixtures

LAST Saturday's results: Premier Division - Campbeltown Pupils 2, East Kilbride 4; Premier Division One - Busby v Lochgilphead Red Star, unfulfilled fixture; Dunoon 4, Kilbowie Union 1; Premier Division Two - Hillington 6, Tarbert 1; Division One - Carleton YM 2, Dunoon Athletic 2; Jimmy Marshall Cup, 3rd round - FC Clydebank 0, Oban Saints 0. Saints won 5-4 on penalties.

This Saturday's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Goldenhill; Inverclyde v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division One - Dunoon v Neilston; Tarbert v FC Clydebank.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1950

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

L McMillan
Kintyre Gardens
Campbeltown

J MacPherson
Ralston Road
Campbeltown

All you have to do

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

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

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

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

Easy to enter

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

Competition Rules

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

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



Name

Address

Tel No

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

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

Runners puff their way along the canal

PLENTY of keen runners took part in the Crinan Puffer, running the length of the Crinan Canal. It was a crisp, sunny

morning for the run on April 24, which began at Crinan and went to Ardrishaig along the canal towpath. As the course is flat it is a fast race and is suitable for a mix of abilities.

The large contingent from Campbeltown Running Club had a good day and their runner, Daniel Sheldrick, came first in a time of 48:45.

He was followed a couple of minutes later by the first local finisher, David Carey, from Mid Argyll Tri and Cycle Club, who finished fourth in 50:57.

Simone Charnock from Mid Argyll Jog Scotland was the first woman across the line in 53:45, beating Rowan Armstrong of Stewarty Athletic club by 35 seconds.

After the races prizes were given by organ-



All the trophy winners. 08_a18puffer02

ising committee member Stuart Campbell to first, second and third in each category.

The Stuart Owen Memorial Prize, in tribute

to the former Mid Argyll Community pool (MACpool) manager, was also awarded to a local runner who Jog Scotland leaders feel

has shown great dedication to training. This went to Morag Goodfellow who completed the Mid Argyll Triathlon for the first time

and also took on the Tarbert 10K.

The event is sponsored by Scottish Sea Farms and raises funds for the MACpool.



Morag Goodfellow is presented with the Stuart Owen memorial trophy by Stuart Campbell. 08_a18puffer01

A Fyne day of golf at Tarbert

THE final round of the Fyne Tankard took place at a dry but blustery Glenralloch with 15 members of Tarbert Golf Club taking part.

Four players from the first round had a realistic chance of taking home the first silverware of the season on April 23.

When the counting was done it emerged that Archie Black had come from three shots behind to win the trophy with a five-shot winning margin. Archie played a 73-9 for 64 nett adding to his first round of

66 for a winning total of 130.

Keith Blair was second with a total of 135, Keith had the best net score of the day with 62. First round leader Malcolm McAlpine finished third on 136.

Best gross score of the day went to Bruce MacNab on 70, with Chris Smyth second on 74 and Duncan Johnstone Third on 81.

Captain Keith McTaggart presented the Fyne Tankard, sponsored by Prentice Seafoods, to a delighted Archie Black

who first won the cup in 1993.

Keith also thanked the members who had managed to help at the work party on the course which saw members help with some much need drainage work, he also complimented greenkeeper Graham Prentice on the presentation of the course.

The club have organised a family fun afternoon and barbecue for April 30 and ask that members bring along someone new to golf for a taster session.



Archie Black is presented with the Fyne Tankard.



Ryan Gibson was excited to meet Celtic and Scotland legend Murdo MacLeod.

Oban football festival is a huge success

NEARLY 400 excited young footballers took part in a football tournament at Mossfield stadium in Oban. The tournament was arranged by Oban and District Primary Football and had 45 teams from Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, Fort William, Perth and elsewhere playing.

The teams ranged from Primary one to Primary seven.

Some youngsters were delighted to have former Celtic player Mur-

do MacLeod presenting medals.

Alan MacDonald, chairman of Oban and District Primary Football said: 'The football on show from these young footballers was of a very high standard and was enjoyed by a large crowd on the day. The organising committee was grateful to former Celtic and Scotland midfielder Murdo MacLeod who presented the players with their medals.'



Rudi Campbell, six, goes for goal for Lochgilphead. Photos: Kevin McGlynn

Club lottery numbers

KILMORY Camanachd Club's winning lottery numbers are 13, 14 and 17. No winners this week, so the jackpot goes up to £200 next week.

The lottery numbers drawn for Inveraray Shinty Club were 6, 12 and 16. There were no winning tickets, so next week's jackpot is £500.

Tarbert Football Club's winning lottery numbers are 5, 7 and 10. There were no winners, so next week's jackpot is £200.

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Published by Wyvex Media Limited,
Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown PA28 6AE (01586) 554646
and
Wyvex Media Limited
Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB (01546) 602345.
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