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Inveraray Highland Games page 7



Rebecca opens first solo exhibition page 9

Mid Argyll driver pass rate high

LOCHGILPHEAD and Inveraray have been named as areas where learner drivers are most likely to pass their driving test.

But local driving instructors are adding a hint of caution to the findings, saying tests in rural Argyll are 'definitely not a doodle'.

For more on this story see page two of this week's paper.

Tayvallich police presence continues

POLICE officers are continuing to investigate several thefts from the Tayvallich area.

Maintaining a police presence in the village, officers are urging anyone who may have seen anything suspicious in the village in the last few weeks to contact them on 01546 702200.

Motorcyclist clipped by car

A TEENAGER, who allegedly clipped a motorcyclist whilst driving, has been reported to the procurator fiscal.

The seventeen-year-old was driving his car near Bridgend when he is said to have hit the motorcyclist with the wing mirror of his car.



POLAND'S Lucas Wenta was crowned Caber Tossing World Champion at the Inveraray Highland Games – snatching the title from his compatriot and brother Sebastien. Fighting against the world's strongest men Lucas was the most accurate in tossing the caber in the twelve o'clock position. For more on the Inveraray Highland Games see page 7. 06_a29games41

Mid Argyll tradition under threat

Fresh blood needed to bring Ardrishaig Gala back to life

REPORT BY
EDEL KENEALY

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

AS MID ARGYLL folk prepare to celebrate Ardrishaig Gala Day tomorrow (Saturday), organisers behind the event say its future is under threat.

It has been revealed that the 50-year-old tradition may come to an end this year as the group of people who run it say 'this is the last year'.

Blaming a lack of volunteers for the decision, co-ordinator of the event, Findlay Campbell said: 'Over the years we have put up notices saying help would be appreciated but it is a struggle to get anyone to help either in the run up to the event or on the day.'

Born and bred in Ardrishaig, Findlay said he would hate to see the fete, which he enjoyed as a child, come to an end.

'I have a picture of me in the parade in 1967,' he said.

'The whole community used to look forward to it and it was a big day.'

'The reason I took it on is because I didn't want to see it go,' he added.

Calling on another group of people to come to the helm of the gala day, Findlay said: 'It is not difficult to do and some fresh blood with new ideas could bring it back to life.'

'Half a dozen friends could easily do it,' he continued. 'That's the way we did it, we have never had a formal arrangement; it was a group of people who wanted to keep it going. I am sure that could be the case again.'

Stressing that the gala day would be missed Findlay said

the one-day celebration raised thousands of pounds for local charities.

'There must be between £8,000 and £10,000 generated on the day, the majority of which goes to charitable causes,' Findlay said. 'The local church and the RNLI, as well as other charities all have stalls on the day.'

Convenor of Ardrishaig Community Council, Edward Laughton, said: 'It would be a great shame to see a major event in Ardrishaig disappear; it is one of the few events that we have each year. The community would be most distressed to hear this news.'

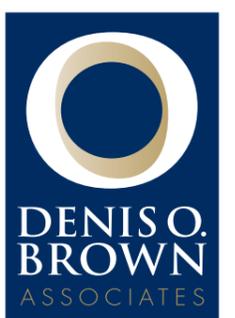
'What we could do is perhaps have a joint meeting between the community council and the organisers of the gala to find a way forward, but it all boils down to volunteers.'



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Eight months to repair leaky roof

Frustration over length of time to get a builder

DRIP .. drip .. drip. That is the noise Rick Potter and his family have become very accustomed to in recent months.

The father-of-two from Arduaine was at the end of his tether last week after enduring eight months of a leaking roof.

But last Tuesday 'knights in shining armour' in the form of an Oban-based building firm came to his rescue.

Although the situation seems to be on the mend, Mr Potter is exasperated at the length of time it took to attract the services of local builders.

He said: 'My wife and I first noticed a water stain on the wall above the fireplace in my office back in November last year.

'It just got worse and worse until it got to the point we had puddles of water on the carpet.'

Mr Potter contacted 15 building firms between Lochgilphead and Oban. Of those 15 businesses, only five responded, four came out - one said no, two never sent the quotes they promised, and the final firm did send a quote and are subsequently the ones carrying out the work.

'When we moved to Argyll we knew we'd have to adapt to the fact that the time is slower here than in other parts of Scotland but there's slow

REPORT BY
JENNY SUTHERLAND
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and then there's stopped,' said Mr Potter.

'The situation got so bad, that at one point I was actually walking around Tesco car park jotting down numbers of tradesmen from parked vans,' he added.

Oldest

Mr Potter's house is one of the oldest in Arduaine; estimated to be built in the 1800s.

But he believes the current damage to the house is 'related to work carried out previously'

at that end of the building.

The water ingress is so bad that the brickwork has softened, the chimney needs replaced, as does the slates and gable-end of the wall.

'If the work had been carried out sooner we would be facing a bill of hundreds of pounds, not thousands of pounds,' said Mr Potter.

'I think there are a lack of tradesmen in the area. It's frustrating that I've had to wait so long to get these repairs carried out,' he added. 'I think local businesses should do more to promote their services in the area - there's certainly plenty of work for them.'

Mid Argyll passes the test for learner drivers

LOCHGILPHEAD and Inveraray have been named as areas where learner drivers are most likely to pass their driving test.

Whilst Argyll may officially have the worst roads in Scotland, they are apparently easy to drive on, as people learning to drive here are almost five times more likely to pass than their counterparts in urban areas.

Likely to Pass

Together with Islay, Skye, Mallaig and Campbeltown, Mid Argyll's Lochgilphead and Inveraray have been named among the top ten

places in the UK where a learner driver is most likely to pass.

Figures released by driving authority, the DVLA, have revealed that failure rates in rural Argyll are as low as 20 per cent, radically different to Scottish cities and suburbs where failure rates of 65 per cent are the norm.

The area's reputation for motoring success has already seen an influx of hopeful drivers in the area as learners hope fewer roundabouts, junctions, traffic lights and road lanes will help them loose the L plates a little sooner.



Rick Potter from Arduaine is now facing a bill of thousands of pounds after being made to wait eight months for essential repairs to his house. 06_a28potter01

Police Files: Alcohol theft

THREE men have been released on bail after being arrested for allegedly stealing alcohol from Lochgilphead's Victoria Hotel.

The men, aged 17, 18 and 39, are believed to have taken alcohol from the hotel on Argyll Street in the early hours of Wednesday morning, July 13.

The men, all from Lochgilphead, appeared before Dunoon Sheriff Court last Thursday.

Theft of a chair

A 39-YEAR-old man has been reported to the procurator fiscal for the alleged theft of a chair.

The report was sent after police officers recovered a leather recliner, which had been stolen when a house was broken between July 12 and 13.

Teenager allegedly assaulted

A LATVIAN man was detained by police last Thursday after allegedly assaulting a teenager.

The 20-year-old appeared before Dunoon Sheriff Court on Friday, after being charged with the assault, which is said to have taken place on Lochnell Street in Lochgilphead at 9pm on July 14.

Careless driving

A 70-YEAR-old man has been reported to the procurator fiscal for alleged careless driving.

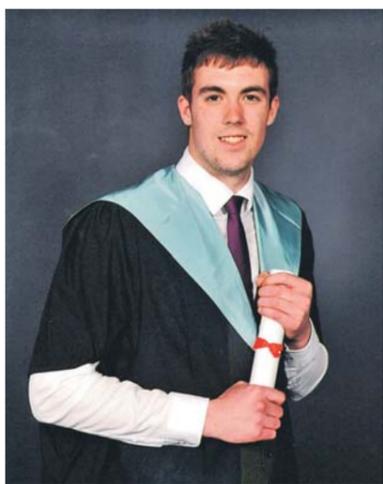
It comes after a collision on the A83, near Cairndow's Oyster bar last Saturday afternoon in which one man received minor injuries.

GRADUATION



Jamie Burden attended Furnace Primary and Lochgilphead High School, graduated Master of Architectural Engineering and Building Design at Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh

GRADUATION



David Stewart graduated from Stirling University with Bachelor of Accountancy with Honours. Elder son of proud parents David and Joanne Stewart, Lochgilphead. David is now working with Til Hill, Stirling, as a Trainee Accountant

Ardrishaig Horticultural Society will award cup to best garden in the village

RESIDENTS in Ardrishaig will be keeping their gardens looking especially good next month as Ardrishaig Flower Show recognises household gardens for the very first time.

Launched to mark the diamond anniversary of the Ardrishaig Horticultural Society, the Ardrishaig Community Council Cup will be awarded to the best garden in the village.

New Competitions

Celebrating 60 years of the flower show a total of four new competitions have been created to mark the special occasion.

The ACHA (Argyll Community Housing Association) Diamond Celebration Cup for the best exhibition in the open classes one to 62 and the 2011

Diamond Trophy for the most points in the open, amateur, floral art, children's, baking and preserves, handicraft and photographs categories have also been added to the bill.

Another competition will take place in loving memory of former committee member Fred Shuttlewood. The Fred Shuttlewood Memorial Pedestal will be presented to the person with the best single carrot and will be added to the programme of events this year only.

Nationally renowned judge, JG Cathro of the National Vegetable Society has also been secured for the 2011 show, which kicks off on August 19.

People of all ages are encouraged to enter the appropriate competitions as soon as possible.

Motorists face a dilemma as Tarbert petrol station closes

'Fuel has gone up by 40 per cent in the last year so it was getting more costly to buy in'

MOTORISTS in Tarbert will have to travel to either Clachan or Lochgilhead for fuel after the village's only petrol station closed its doors.

Station owners John and Jeanette Hunt have put the family business on the market; in the meantime it will remain closed.

Mr Hunt said the family are 'confident' it will re-open soon as there has been interest in the business.

'It was not a decision we took lightly,' explained Mr Hunt. 'Fuel has gone up by

40 per cent in the last year so it was getting more costly to buy in.'

The business has been in the family for 46 years and it meant a sad day for the Hunts when they closed the doors of the station for the final time on Friday July 8.

Round Trip

The closure of the petrol station now means residents will face a 27-mile round trip from Tarbert to Lochgilhead for fuel, or a 22-mile round trip to Clachan.

Duncan MacIntyre, a Tarbert

businessman, said the closure of the station will affect the village.

He said: 'It will have an impact on the older people who don't tend to take their cars out of the village. It will be an inconvenience to them.'

Mr MacIntyre added: 'I think there should be more government subsidies for fuel in rural areas and I know this was something that Alan Reid MP was looking at.'

'It could mean the difference between a local business staying open or having to close.'

Tax dodgers cost nearly £1million a year

COUNCIL tax dodgers have cost Argyll and Bute Council nearly £1million a year over the past 16 years, but the authority says collection rates are now better than ever.

Total unpaid council tax, across the 16 years of council tax from 1993/4 to 2010/11, amounts to £14.7m - prior to write-offs - compared to total bill of £555.3m.

Include

The figures include the additional amounts due from reduced second homes and long term empty property discount, but exclude water, sewerage and statutory additions.

And in contrast to earlier figures released by Audit Scotland which showed a year-on-year decrease for the past three years, down to 95.7 per cent, the council reports its own in year collection rates have improved to 96.15 per cent.

The council claims the figures released by Audit Scotland are not directly comparable.

The authority is now anticipating future collection levels in excess of 97.5 per cent, adding that it continues to collect arrears from previous years.

In the last financial year, the council levied net council tax due across all areas of

£40.99million and collected £40.55million, an overall collection rate of 98.93 per cent.

Delighted

Argyll and Bute Council leader Dick Walsh said: 'We are delighted people are paying their council tax more quickly than in the past, especially bearing in mind the current economic situation and the difficulties this may be causing some people.'

'We'd ask people in the area to give priority to paying their council tax as the money allows the council to provide valued and essential services to the community.'



Pictured from left: Lewis Pate - project officer for Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels, and Nigel Price, property manager at Crarae Gardens, during Sunday's event.

06_a29squirrel01

Looking for red squirrels

ARGYLL residents are being urged to keep their eyes peeled for both red and grey squirrels, the Scottish Wildlife Trust is urging.

Although grey squirrels are not a common sight in Argyll, people are being asked to contact the Trust with details of each squirrel they spot.

Lewis Pate, project officer for Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels, was on hand to give people more information about the animals, when he set up shop at Crarae Gardens last Sunday.

Mr Pate gave advice to both adults and children, with youngsters enjoying a fact-finding trail around the gardens.

'Argyll has a really healthy

population of red squirrels,' explained Mr Pate. 'But we have to ensure it remains that way.'

'The threat of grey squirrels as well as the squirrel pox virus is an immediate threat to the reds so any help we can get from the public is greatly appreciated.'

Referring to Crarae and their 'high' squirrel population, Mr Pate said: 'The gardens have a very good mix of tree species for red squirrels.'

'Reds are cone specialists and Crarae provides a range of food stuffs for them.'

Squirrel sightings should be reported to the Scottish Wildlife Trust. For more information log onto - www.scottishsquirrels.org.uk

Spitting at police officers

A MAN, who allegedly resisted arrest, spat at police officers and uttered sectarian abuse has appeared before Dunoon Sheriff Court.

The man, aged 50, was being issued an anti-social behaviour ticket in the early hours of Sunday morning when he is said to have become involved in the disturbance with officers.

The Big Debate

FOLLOWING on from the success of Brian Taylor's Big Debate in Ardrishaig earlier this year, the BBC Radio Scotland programme has made its way to Oban.

The live broadcast will take place from the Corran Halls today, Friday, at 12.15pm.

Fuel tank tampered

POLICE are appealing for information after a woman reported the fuel tank of her car had been tampered with.

The incident is believed to have occurred when the car was parked at Hill View in Ardrishaig between June 13 and 14.

Anyone with information can contact Lochgilhead Police Station on 01546 702200.

Childhood recipes

A NEW initiative to get the people of Argyll and Bute reminiscing, sharing and making their favourite childhood recipes, whilst raising money for charity, was launched earlier this week.

'Recipe for ChildLine' will see a £4 donation made to ChildLine, a service of the NSPCC, for every recipe uploaded.

For more information visit - www.spar.co.uk/FoodAndDrink/Recipes/SubmitYourRecipe



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'Miracle' rescuers come forward after Advertiser article

A FORMER member of a RNLI lifeboat, whose appearance at the scene of an accident was described as a 'miracle', has this week been identified following an article in *The Advertiser*.

Alisa Clark, together with two other couples rescued a pensioner from the Crinan Canal last month, has come forward after William McMurtrie contacted the paper in

a bid to find his rescuers.

Previously part of Campbelltown lifeboat crew and a Glencoe Ski Patroller, Ailsa happened to be in Lochgilhead visiting her mum, on the day the freak accident occurred.

William, aged 79, from Kilmarnock, was travelling along the canal on a mobility scooter when a bag pressed on the reverse lever, overturned it and

forced him down the bank.

Putting her first aid training to good use, Ailsa said: 'I was driving along the road, near the canal, and saw one of the other couples running, looking panicked. Then I noticed the man was face down on the canal bank.'

Credited with 'taking control of the situation', Ailsa said she scrambled down the bank to get a better hold of William

as she and the others helped guide him back to the canal path.

The two couples that rushed to the scene have also made contact with *The Advertiser*.

Ian and Catherine Cranston and Peter and Catherine Frazer, from Falkirk were on holiday when they came upon the accident. Ian said: 'We are glad that we were there and are particularly pleased that there

was a professional nearby and that the woman managed to get us organised.'

Putting Mr and Mrs McMurtrie in contact with their helpers last week, Mrs McMurtrie said 'they were just brilliant'.

Ailsa added: 'When something like that happens you don't think about it too much, you get on with what needs to be done.'

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Tommy Millar
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For an appointment please phone 01586 810324 or email tommy.millar@travelcounsellors.com

Consultations for deaf people on new sensory service

A NEW service for people with sensory support needs is being piloted in Lochgilphead next week.

A consultation event will take place in The Argyll Inn next Tuesday, July 26, and will ask Deaf British Sign Language (BSL) users about the services available in Lochgilphead and surrounding areas, as well as what services are needed.

The initiative is funded by the Scottish Government in a bid to find new ways to deliver joint services for people with sensory support needs, including those who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing blind or partially sighted.

Deaf Action, a charity with a 175-year history and many years experience of working with people with sensory support needs, is providing this new service across Argyll and

Bute. Deaf Action will also be meeting with service providers and health professionals to ensure they are adequately equipped to work with Deaf BSL users.

Initiative

Debbie Campbell, who is working to make people in Lochgilphead and throughout Argyll aware of the service, said: 'This initiative shows that the Scottish Government is very aware of the numbers of people that are affected by some degree of sight or hearing loss and it is something they are trying to tackle.'

'We want to let people know that there is a support service for them where they can come to get advice, information and practical help.'

The consultation takes place from 1-3pm for professionals and from 4-6pm for Deaf BSL users.

Hairdressers donate to MS Centre



ARGYLL College has donated £523 to Lochgilphead's MS Centre. Two of the college's hairdressing students, Debbie Lowe and Natasha Clark, presented Karen McCurry and Dianne Frame of the centre, with a cheque last Wednesday morning. The money was raised by the college at their annual hair show, held on May 12 in Lochgilphead Joint Campus. This is the third year the college has donated the proceeds of their show to the centre. Karen McCurry, centre manager, said: 'I'd like to thank the girls for all their hard work and the ongoing support they have shown the centre.' 06_a29hair01



Sandy Taylor is handed the presidents chain after taking over from former Rotary president, Sandy Cameron.

From one Sandy to another

'I am greatly honoured to lead the club in the year ahead'

A LOCHGILPHEAD man has been appointed as the new president of the Mid Argyll Rotary Club.

Sandy Taylor, a former local government manager, was installed as president of the worldwide charity and humanitarian organisation on June 30 at the Argyll Arms Hotel, Ardrishaig.

Mr Taylor, who takes over from Sandy Cameron, is looking forward to a year in which the club hopes to show that the Rotary movement is still as relevant today to local communities, business people and community leaders as it was when the first club opened in the United Kingdom, in 1911.

Targeting

In the year ahead the club will work to grow their membership, targeting young business and professionals, and will look to make membership more flexible and accessible for all those wishing to join, with a particular emphasis on attracting younger members, particularly women.

Mr Taylor is keen to promote aware-

ness of the work of Rotary Club both in the local community, and worldwide.

He said: 'A lot of people are unfamiliar with the wealth of humanitarian work Rotary does at local, national and international levels. We plan to show just how active members are and the fun and enjoyment to be had as a Member of the Club.'

'I am greatly honoured to lead the Club in the year ahead. I am confident that we can show the need for Rotary is even greater today than when it was first founded, and the help of Rotarians worldwide really does make a difference.'

Mr Taylor added: 'The Club greatly values the support of the public for its' fundraising events. The Club can do much more than provide financial support to individuals and organisations however, and would welcome requests for help in practical ways, with stewarding of events, or other aspects of helping others.'

Exam helpline for students

HIGH SCHOOL pupils in Mid Argyll will be among the 160,000 young people in Scotland who will receive their exam results via email, text or post on August 4.

For those who do not get the results they had been hoping for, help is at hand in the form of an exam helpline.

Free calls can be made to the Skills Development Scotland Exam Results Helpline from 8am on August 4.

The helpline will offer information, advice and support to young people receiving their SQA qualifications, in-

cluding Highers and Standard grades, and their parents or carers.

Advisers will give the latest information on UCAS course vacancies at colleges and universities across the UK, Confirmation and Clearing, advice about employment, training opportunities and exam re-sits.

The Exam Results Helpline will run from 8am until 8pm on 4 and 5 August, from 9am until 5pm until 26 August and from 9am until noon on 27 August.

For more information visit - www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk

Boiler scrappage scheme

MID ARGYLL customers who use energy provider, npower, will be interested to know that the company has joined Scotland's boiler scrappage scheme.

Npower will now become the first provider to match the £400 government grant with a further £400 grant towards the cost of a new A-rated energy efficient boiler.

The scrappage scheme means consumers could be eligible to receive as much as £800 when replacing a boiler that is performing at less than 70 per cent efficiency. The npower grant will operate on a first come first served basis.

For more information about the npower boiler scrappage grant call 0800 980 5889.

Lochgilphead man denies throwing plate

A LOCHGILPHEAD man has denied charges of throwing a plate of food against a wall and behaving in a threatening manner at an address in Oban.

Andrew McPhee of 13 Dunholgan appeared from custody at Oban Sheriff Court last Wednesday. The 36-year-old was released on bail and is due to return to court in August.

Capercaillie education drive

BIRD enthusiasts in Mid Argyll may be interested to know that additional National Park Rangers and an increased police presence are now in place on the islands of Loch Lomond.

The increased security has been put in place in a bid to step up conservation of threatened capercaillie.

The birds are vulnerable to disturbance from people and dogs.

One area affected at busy times is the Loch Lomond Islands, which will now see new signs strategically placed to educate people about capercaillie.

Health Heroes wanted

RESIDENTS from across Mid Argyll are being urged to nominate their top health workers and teams for an accolade at the Scottish Health Awards 2011.

The awards acknowledge and reward NHS workers and volunteers who go that extra mile to deliver exceptional care, cure illnesses or improve local health services.

To nominate your health hero visit www.scottish-healthawards.com. The closing date for nominations is Monday September 12, 2011.

Eco-friendly entrepreneurs

ENTREPRENEURS from Argyll are being urged to submit their carbon-cutting idea in a bid to win £440,000.

Entrants must submit a creative, eco-friendly idea and business plan for a product or service that helps reduce CO2 emissions.

Applications must be submitted by July 29.

For more information about Green Challenge 2011, or to download an application pack, visit www.greenchallenge.info

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Dog owners warned

DOG OWNERS in Cowal are being reminded that they face a hefty fine if they fail to pick up their animals' dirt.

Councillor Bruce Marshall, chair of the Bute and Cowal area committee, said: 'I appreciate that most owners are responsible people. But the small minority who are not are making some public spaces a hazard for people with young children rather than the recreation areas they are supposed to be.'

Anyone receiving a £40 fixed penalty notice for dog fouling has 28 days in which to pay. If they fail to do so, the fine will increase to £60.

Harry Potter comes to Argyll

HARRY Potter fans in Argyll and Bute will be able to watch the latest blockbuster in 3D when Screen Machine, Scotland's only mobile cinema, rolls into the area from Friday.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part Two, the final instalment of the movie saga, makes its first appearance in Oban on Monday (July 25). Though most screenings of Potter will be in 3D, one will be available in 2D.

For more information visit - www.screenmachine.co.uk

Support vulnerable children

PEOPLE in Argyll and Bute are being asked to support vulnerable children by starting a local fundraising group in aid of NSPCC Scotland. The charity is looking for people who can help form a fundraising group with friends, family and other contacts they may have in their community, to help raise money for the NSPCC's vital work in Scotland. For more information contact Susie on 0844 892 0212 or email Scotlandevents@nspcc.org.uk



Rev Bezuidenhout kneels alongside a model of Glenaray and Inveraray Parish Church, featuring the steeple which sat on the roof of the church before it was taken down decades ago. 06_a271ouis01

Church awarded £200,000 for roof repairs

THE CONGREGATION of Inveraray Church could enjoy services in a weather proof building come January if funding can be gathered in time.

The parish of Glenaray and Inveraray has been awarded more than £200,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland on the condition it raises £50,000 in match funding.

The church, which has a leaky roof and damaged masonry, is in need of urgent repairs to make it wind and watertight.

The project, which involves replacing the original slate roof tiles and repainting the church with a lime based paint, aims to restore the grade A listed building for future generations of the Royal Burgh to enjoy.

With the local community

having already raised £5,000 the first phase of the project is getting underway. Assisted with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, officials at the church are currently investigating how, and by what means, the church can be brought back to its former glory.

Explaining that the work is particularly expensive, minister of the parish, Rev Bezuidenhout, said because the church was Historic Scotland grade A listed, materials such as lime based paint and extra thick slate tiles had to be used for the restoration.

'The work that we are doing at the moment is not a luxury but a necessity,' said Rev Bezuidenhout.

Calling for the whole community to get behind the fun-

draising campaign Rev Bezuidenhout said the church was 'not only a place of worship, but the centre of the community'.

'What we need is ideas,' he said. 'We have already had a lady do a parachute jump and people are coming forward with their suggestions.'

Rev Bezuidenhout added: 'The second phase requires £50,000 and that is the challenge. We are a small congregation so we are applying for more grants and we will see where that takes us.'

Glenaray and Inveraray Church was built by Robert Mylne in 1802. Sitting in the centre of Main Street, the church's unusual split design was to cater for both the Gaelic and English speaking parishioners.

Ardrishaig woman warns of phone scam

AN ARDRISHAIG woman is warning people in Mid Argyll of a new telephone scam that is blighting the area.

Elaine Fletcher is concerned that vulnerable members of the community could fall foul of the scam, which sees fraudsters seeking bank details.

Mrs Fletcher explained that she received a call from an Indian-sounding woman who said she was phoning from an international company in relation to nuisance phone calls.

Database

'The lady informed me that if I signed up to their database I would no longer receive any nuisance calls,' said Mrs Fletcher. 'No-one likes to receive pestering calls so I think it's something people could be caught-out by.'

The woman then confirmed Mrs

Fletcher's address before confirming her bank details - which were in fact wrong.

'Alarms bells starting ringing then. I thought to myself 'there's just something not right here', said Mrs Fletcher.

Informed

After hanging up the phone, Mrs Fletcher then informed her bank.

'I just want to warn people, especially older residents who may be taken in by something like this.'

She added: 'I'm now frightened to set up direct debits over the phone because you just don't know what's real and what's not.'

Anyone with concerns over nuisance phone calls, or a call they suspect might be fraudulent, should contact their bank or police station.

Police summer crack down

POLICE have launched a summer-long campaign to tackle drugs, anti-social behaviour and bad driving.

Operation Vantage hopes to cut the number of serious accidents on Argyll and Bute's roads after figures showed they were among the most dangerous in Scotland.

A police spokesman said: 'The first phase, targeting serious and organised crime, commenced in June and involved 30 police officers, including road traffic officers, community policing teams, response police and proactive drugs teams.'

'Using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology, officers stopped and searched more than 100 vehicles during a five-hour period on the A82, near Arrochar, looking for drugs, bogus workers, and those suspected of being involved in other criminal activity. 'Intelligence on individuals thought to be involved in the trafficking of heroin was gathered.'

'Police will be deploying extra patrols including the use of unmarked cars and our colleagues within the Strathclyde Safety Camera Partnership will also be in the area.'

A blooming good day in Tarbert

TARBERT Medical Centre's car park was transformed into a sunny tea party for local residents on Monday.

Medical centre staff hosted a Blooming Great Tea Party in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care with Tarbert villagers enjoying tea and cakes amidst glorious sunshine.

A group of local youngsters, Peter Tyler, Craig Smith and Alice Tindall held a 'Guess the number of sweeties in the jar' competition, which added to the overall fundraising total.

Overall the event raised £264.40.

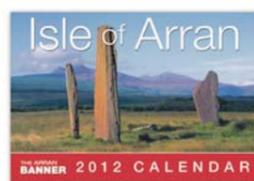
Cathanna Smith, a practice nurse in Tarbert, said: 'We were sent a pack through for the Blooming Great Tea Party, which is obviously a national campaign.'

'We wanted to raise money for Marie Curie, because it is a service that is used locally.'



Fun in the sun: pictured from left are: Fiona McKinney, Flora Bain, Ishbel MacLulich, Jenny McFarlane and Betty Rintoul enjoying the Blooming Great Tea Party. 06_a29bloom02

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Those Were The Days

The Argyllshire Advertiser
July 20, 2001

Farm traders angry over planning requirement

FARM traders across Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay have been angered by a demand that they need planning permission for their market sites.

Argyll County Market has been told that a temporary 'change of land use' permit is needed for each of the Campbeltown, Tarbert and Ardrishaig sites - at a cost of £210 each. Argyll County Markets has been operating for one year without permits. The sudden need for permission is the result of problems that occurred when another group tried to establish a market in Oban.

Senior planning officer Richard Kerr said: 'This has come about not because we wanted to make a point about farmers' markets, but because of issues in Oban.'

'The market there will require planning permission, despite ones already going on in Tarbert, Ardrishaig and Campbeltown. We feel we have got to treat them all equally.'

MacConnell heads new school

A FORMER Tayvallich resident has been appointed head teacher of a new school that will provide the most up to date facilities in Scotland.

Kirsteen MacConnell is a former pupil of Lochgilphead High School.

She trained at Craigie College and Glasgow University, has previously taught at Kilmartin and Glassary Primary Schools and is currently head at Moy Primary School, in the Highland region.

Moy Primary is one of two schools to be replaced by the new school, to be called Strathdearn Primary.

Bowler to represent Argyll

A JUNIOR bowler from Ardrishaig is set to represent Argyll at the Scottish Junior Singles tournament in Ayr next month. Robert Scott, aged 21, already holds the title of Argyll District Junior Champion.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



I LOVE the road across the Kintyre peninsula from near Whitehouse over to Cloanaig.

At the summit of the single-track road, it is worth stopping to take in the amazing view. On a clear day looking back you can see the Paps of Jura while ahead are the majestic hills of Arran.

Often in life we look back at what has seemed to be so good, and we may yearn to have that time again. At other times we look forward and wish our life away by wishing it was time for whatever particular event we so eagerly anticipate, or we spend time worrying about what might never be.

Sometimes we need to just look around where we are and realise all the joy that surrounds us in the present - in the beauty around us and the friends beside us.

Sometimes, like the psalmist we need to lift our eyes to the hills and give thanks for the wonder of it all in the right here and now. For often the present is the best place to be, and often we miss its joy by yearning for the past and worrying about the future.

As we approach Cloanaig, we can no longer see the Paps of Jura behind but only the mountains of Arran ahead.

Goat Fell peeps out of the cloud and as the mist is scattered from the hills, a wonderful panorama lies before us.

And as I board the ferry and look at the waves and think of the storms in life, past and in the future, I am reminded of that lovely prayer:

*Lord Christ, you are the still centre of every storm.
In you is calm, whatever the wind outside.*

In you is reassurance, however high the waves.

In you is strength, however contrary the tide.

And I resolve once again to appreciate the present.



Down Memory Lane

THIS WEEK'S Down Memory Lane was taken from the Advertiser's archives. We thought it was fitting to take a look back at our files from Inveraray Highland Games. This picture was taken in 1995 at the games and shows the women's wrestling competition. We don't know who the pictured ladies are but if anyone recognises them, please contact our news desk on 01546 602345 or email - editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Achahoish School 1980

Sir,
Referring to the Down Memory Lane Picture in the *Argyllshire Advertiser* on July 1, I can supply the names of the children pictured at Achahoish Primary School in 1980.

In the front back row, beside Mr Watt, the minister, is Kathleen Gorrie, Karen Moreland Eilsa Geddis. Teacher Mrs Geddis is pictured to the far right.

In the middle row the three children are Rory Keane, Stewart O'Ryan and another of the Moreland girls, whilst in the front row is Isla Geddis, Iain Dagleish, Catherine Lester, Julie Chalk and Donald Cameron.

Mrs Chalk,
Mid Argyll.



Down Memory Lane Picture from the July 1 edition of the *Argyllshire Advertiser* - Children at Achahoish Primary School in 1980.

Letters to the Editor

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www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Love it or hate it: speak up

Sir,
Your readers will have read in last week's issue a retrospective planning application for Tarbert Harbour Trustees described as 'Change of use of former boatyard site and associated land to form amenity area and other associated works (Retrospective)'.

What is described in the planning notice as 'other associated works' is in fact the dumping of hundreds of tons of boulders from the Harbour Office at the pontoons right

along the shoreline to the listed Thomas Telford wall in front of the Victoria Hotel.

People may be wondering why this application is being made now rather than before the work was started more than eighteen months ago. However rather than for me to offer an explanation, it is for Tarbert Harbour Trustees to explain why they did not feel obliged to lodge a proper, transparent planning application which would allow the people of this village to have their say on a development which has had a huge impact both on the appearance of the north side of the harbour and Tarbert Conservation Area and the scope for future use of the old boatyard site.

It is also for Argyll & Bute Council as the planning authority with responsibility for building development and control on the relevant site to explain why they took no action to stop Tarbert Harbour Trustees from committing what they admit was a gross breach of planning law. An explanation from the Council is particularly important as it

was well publicised and understood that Argyll & Bute Council was a participating partner in the Tarbert Town Centre Regeneration Scheme of which the 'associated works' was a part.

It hardly needs to be stated but despite the appalling circumstances in which this planning application has been made the views of the Tarbert people are still very relevant to its outcome. Everything which has been done in contravention of planning law can as easily be undone - it is just a case of telling our public servants firmly enough to do it.

So now, very belatedly, our legal and moral rights to influence the future of this apart of our village have been conceded to us and it is time for everyone who sees themselves as a son or daughter of Tarbert to speak up.

You have until July 29 (ironically, Tarbert Fair) to make representations on this application. Whether you love what has been done or hate it don't waste this opportunity to exercise your right to say what you think about it.

Arthur Mc Farlane,
Mount Pleasant,
Tarbert.

Joined up thinking

Sir,
In last week's *Argyllshire Advertiser* (Friday July 15), page two - 'Housing shortfall crippling families' and page 17 'Farmland planning permission tightened': Argyll and Bute Council say 'there is no easy solution'. Time for a bit of joined up thinking perhaps?

Jane Allan,
Seafeld Farm Cottages,
Achnamara.

World Cancer Research

Sir,
World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) is offering athletes and fun-runners the chance to compete in the prestigious Great South Run, the world's leading 10-mile run.

The charity has a number of reserved places for the run through Portsmouth and Southsea on Sunday, October 30.

To get free entry with WCRF, runners must enter by September 12 and raise £350 sponsorship for the charity's cancer prevention education and research programmes.

To sign up for a WCRF place visit www.wcrf-uk.org//signup or contact the Events Team on 020 7343 4200, events@wcrf.org.

Sian Fraser,
Events Fundraiser,
WCRF.

press policy

WE AT *The Argyllshire Advertiser* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a weekly local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to the Senior Reporter, *The Argyllshire Advertiser*, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB, giving your daytime telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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The views expressed in *The Argyllshire Advertiser* are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of no more than 200 words for publication on this page.

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

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

All things highland in Inveraray . . .

CABER tossing, piping, dancers, haggis rolls and a wee dram – it can only mean one thing – Inveraray Highland Games.

And for a change the rain did not make an appearance this year.

Some grey clouds did linger but were slowly pushed away by some bright sunshine in the afternoon.

Visitors from across the world travelled to the games to soak up the traditions of Scotland.

Around 4,000 people came through the gates this year; 1,000 more than last year.

Almost 200 highland dancers competed, slightly down on last year's numbers as the overseas contingent were unable to make the journey. A

total of 112 solo pipers took part in a variety of piping competitions, some travelling from Northern Ireland and the South of England. Eighteen competitors took part in the heavy competition, with nine of those being from overseas.

This year's event was tinged with sadness however as the games paused to take a one minute silence to remember

three 'dedicated' members of its committee.

Robert Stewart, John Rankin MacColl and Janette Gibson's deaths were marked by a tribute on Tuesday at 3pm with Inveraray and District Pipe Major Stuart Liddell playing a lament in their memory.

**Results for this year's games will feature in next week's paper.*



Cyclists power through the estate's fine turf. 06_a29games14



(L-R) Iona Sicard-Cras, Callum Beaumont, Alasdair Henderson and Findlay Johnson of Inveraray and District Pipe Band. 06_a29games34



Flexing his muscles: a competitor in the heavy weight competition prepares to toss the caber. 06_a29games30



One of the world's strong men prepares to throw the weight metres into the air. 06_a29games40



Highland dancers from all over the world descended on the grounds of Inveraray Castle to compete. 06_a29games27



Lochgilhead girls Laura Young and Eileen Wallace enjoyed the sunshine at the games. 06_a29games37



Inveraray Pipe Band make their way into the Castle grounds as part of the parade. 06_a29games01



The entrance to the castle was lined with a sea of visitors each making their way into Winterton Park. 06_a29games02



Athletes from across Britain took to the track at the games, which saw dozens of runners compete across a number of distances. 06_a29games25



His Grace the Duke of Argyll looks on at the Highland Games Heavy Weight competitions. 06_a29games28



Max Lossie from Hamburg and Samantha Johnson from Somerset cozied up on the grass to watch the world strongest men toss the caber. 06_a29games35

ON SALE

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH FIELD...

Alan Cochrane ponders the strict dress code of the Oban Ball

READ... MISS HOOLIE ON MULL...

The Balmory actress on her love affair with the island

THE REAL ME... Gary Tank Commander

THE 10 GREATEST SCOTS WOMEN

Scottish pirates of the Caribbean

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Fun in the sun at Tarbert Raft Race

THE SUN decided to make an appearance at last Saturday's Tarbert Raft Race, taking the chill off the water for the many plucky sailors who turned out.

Some unusual vessels could be seen making their way around the harbour, including a Viking raft, a castle and some hoola ladies aboard their floating Hawaiian raft.

Visitors and locals lined the

harbourside to watch the afternoon's entertainment.

The annual event, now its ninth year, is organised by a group of local volunteers, with all money raised going to the Firefighters Benevolent Fund.

Taking the 2011 Tarbert Raft Race title was the Islay Frigate Hotel's HMS Kerr.

They narrowly beat the Mid Argyll Rugby Club boys on

their raft, HMS Plantyard. And taking third spot was the Magnus Barefoot raft – ably navigated by Tarbert Fish Farm.

The Hawaiian ladies took the prize for the Best Dressed.

The event, which was sponsored by the Islay Frigate Hotel, was rounded off with a cream cracker eating competition and a disco in the evening.



The Hawaiian ladies from Tarbert get some practice in ahead of the race. 06_a29raft03

Firefighters talk safety in the home



Tarbert Fire and Rescue's Watch Commander, Donald Blair, is making residents aware of the free home safety visits.

06_a29home01

AS part of last Saturday's event, Tarbert's volunteer firefighters were on hand to talk about safety in the home.

Donald Blair, watch commander for Tarbert Fire and Rescue Service, said he wants people to be aware of the free home safety visits on offer.

Speaking at last weekend's event, Mr Blair, said: 'It's important that residents are aware of the free fire safety home checks we can do.'

'We will provide and install smoke alarms for people as well.'

Anyone who would like to find out more about the free service telephone: 0800 0731 999.



Ahoy there: the Mid Argyll Rugby Club make their way across Tarbert Harbour for last weekend's race. 06_a29raft01



Left: Stonefield Castle's crew got a bit of a sinking feeling aboard their raft. 06_a29raft06



The Magnus Barefoot raft from Tarbert Fish Farm took third place in this year's race. 06_a29raft04



Right: Three of the rafts get ready for the first heat of the races. 06_a29raft05

Community Noticeboard

SKDT **APPLICANTS WANTED**
 Volunteers aged 16+ living in South Kintyre to help create the South Kintyre community action plan.
 Am I suitable?
 If you live in the South Kintyre area and can spare a few hours a month for up to 6 months then we would be delighted to hear from you.
 How do I get involved?
 Get in touch with Malcolm McMillan from the South Kintyre Development Trust.
 Phone: 07852 956 645
 Email: malcolm.mcmillan@skdt.org

KINTYRE CRAFTERS
JULY FAIR
 Friday 22nd July 7pm – 9pm
 Saturday 23rd July 10am – 4pm
 Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown
 MacMillan Cancer Support

Skipness Church
SALE OF WORK
 Wednesday 27th July
 at 3pm
 Stalls – Baking,

SUMMER ART EXHIBITION
 Organised by the Fyne Art Club
 Monday 25 July – Saturday 30 July
 Community Centre, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead
 Mon – Fri : 10am – 9pm
 Sat: 10am – 3pm
ADMISSION FREE
 Open to all artists
 Handing in: Saturday 23 July
 10am – 4pm at the Community Centre
 Entry Fee: £5 for up to 4 original framed exhibits (£10 for non-members)
 Club commission on sales: 10% members; 15% non-members
 For further information contact:
 fyneartclub@googlemail.com
 Fraser – 07795186698;
 Teresa – 01546 886226;
 Laura – 01546 606902



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HOME-START PLAY DAYS
 ALL WELCOME
 Suitable for up to 8 years
 All children please bring an adult
 Fri 22nd July Tayinloan Village Hall 10 - 12
 Sat 23rd July Carradale Village Hall 10 - 12
 Mon 25th July Glenbarr Village Hall 10 - 12
 Tues 26th July Tayvallich Village Hall 10 - 12
 Tues 26th July Furnace Village Hall 2 - 4
 Fri 29th July Clachan Village Hall 10 - 12
 Info - Eleanor 07917 285154

Multiple Sclerosis Society
 Campbeltown & District Branch
MS MS MS MS
COFFEE MORNING
 Victoria Hall
 July 30th
 10am – 12 noon
 Baking, bottles & raffle
 Entry £1.50

Kintyre Agricultural Society & Young Farmers
August Show Ceilidh
 featuring
 'CEOL AN AIRE'
 Raffle & buffet
 Saturday 6th August 2011. Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown
 Tickets available from Glenside Tractors, Jim Martin
 Supplies, or contact Emma – 07900516429
 Under 18's must be accompanied by a parent/guardian
 ID will be required. Tickets £10

Clachan Village Hall
 Funday and Licensed Ceilidh
 (£6 adults, £2.50 under 18s)
 Saturday 23 July 2011. 1-4pm, 8-12am
 BBQ, Crazy Golf, Crafts, Home-Baking, Plants, Books, Collectables, Games and Competitions.
 Adults and Childrens entries welcome
 Themes this year are a beach scene on a tea tray and a creature made from fruit or vegetables

FAMILY DANCE
 Skipness Village Hall
 Friday 22nd July at 8.30pm
 Archie John McVicar's Band
 Adults £6 Under 18s £3
 Under 12s Free
 Teas and raffle
 In aid of Skipness Church

Crear Concerts
 Paco Peña (guitar)
 followed by Island Poetry
 6pm on Saturday 13 August 2011
 Please visit www.crear.co.uk
 Advance tickets only.
 Tel: 01880 770369 E
 concerts@crear.co.uk
 Individual ticket: £22
 Under-18s: Free admission
 Season ticket: £65

Rebecca puts her 'heart and sole' into first solo exhibition

WHILE there's a mystical quality to Lochgilhead based artist Rebecca Barnett's work, a children's paddling pool plays a pivotal role in the process of creating her woodcut prints.

Rebecca, who studied animation at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design in Dundee, explained: 'The paddling pool is used to soak the paper prior to being pressed on an inked hand carved plate and rolling through a giant mangle.'

Woodcut Prints

During the run up to her first solo show at the RGI Kelly Gallery in Glasgow, which takes place from July 26-August 6, Rebecca features

more than 20 quirky woodcut prints inspired by the romance of the sea, the paddling pool has been working overtime.

'As I have sea views from my home and walk on the beach every day, it's not difficult to imagine why I chose fish for the theme of this new show,' said Rebecca. 'I've been working on the woodcut prints for the past year, and have had great fun with playing with words for the titles.'

As well as the piece from which the show takes its title, there's *Fish Cake* which is a cake on a cake-stand overflowing with blue fish, *Heart & Sole* with two lemon sole in the shape of a love heart,

and *That's Amore* which features a Moray Eel.

Rebecca added: 'The process of woodcut printing is quite physical which suits me as I love using my hands.'

Connection

Rebecca, who exhibits throughout Scotland, has a strong connection with the RGI and has exhibited at The Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts Summer show held at Crinan, and the RGI's annual exhibition at The Mitchell in Glasgow.

This year, the RGI is celebrating its 150th anniversary, with the annual show running from October 23 until November 12.



Rebecca Barnett from Lochgilhead is to have her first solo show at the RGI Kelly Gallery, in Glasgow, starting next Tuesday. Inset: *Heart and Sole*. One of Rebecca's fish-themed artworks.

Two 'fabulous' concerts at Crear

AS CREAR studios becomes increasingly busy with sell-out shows and performances this month Colin Hunter reviews what he describes as two 'fabulous' concerts.



Steven Osborne rehearses at Crear's Piano in Peril.

Renowned Scots pianist Steven Osborne returned to Crear recently to play a second benefit concert in aid of the charity's 'Piano in Peril' - its renowned Steinway Model D.

Classical music enthusiasts from as far afield as Caithness and Edinburgh descended on the Kilberry studio to enjoy an evening of superb pianism, as Steven worked his way through all thirty-three Beethoven *Bagatelles* - the brief character pieces which the composer wrote at various stages throughout his career.

Having compared Beethoven's manuscript of one of the bagatelles with its published editions, Steven is convinced that a final page of

manuscript has consistently been missed by the editors. Consequently, he believes that the version he played at Crear, complete with Beethoven's final bars, might well mark the world debut of the piece in its intended form - since the great man himself played it during composition, that is!

Earlier in the month, the wind and brass ensemble of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra impressed a similarly far-travelled and enthusiastic audience with a dazzling performance of works ranging from Scheidt's *Canzona* (trumpets and horns), via Gounod, and Mozart, to Beethoven's *Symphony No 1* - sheer quality.

Live music and the Royal An Lochan

A LEADING Argyll hotel is celebrating the one-year anniversary of its relaunch with a night of live music.

The Royal An Lochan, in Tighnabruaich, is celebrating its first anniversary as a luxury hotel on July 23 with a live performance from band Three's a Crowd.

With a selection of music for all ages and a ceilidh, the party will be an opportunity for locals, as well as guests, to mark the continued success of the refurbished hotel.

Formerly named An Lochan, Christine and Keith Bettis, took over the hotel last year after adding 'royal' to the title.

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THE PICTURE HOUSE

Saturday 23 July for 6 days at 8.00pm

Green Lantern (12A)

NO EVIL SHALL ESCAPE MY SIGHT

Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard and Mark Strong

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Coming Next:

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Coming Soon

Transformers: Dark of the Moon (12A)

Doors open thirty minutes before showing

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All programmes subject to change without prior notice

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Synopsis: Green Lantern

In a universe as vast as it is mysterious, a small but powerful force has existed for centuries. Protectors of peace and justice, they are called the Green Lantern Corps. A brotherhood of warriors sworn to keep intergalactic order, each Green Lantern wears a ring that grants him superpowers. But when a new enemy called Parallax threatens to destroy the balance of power in the Universe, their fate and the fate of Earth lie in the hands of their newest recruit, the first human ever selected: Hal Jordan

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

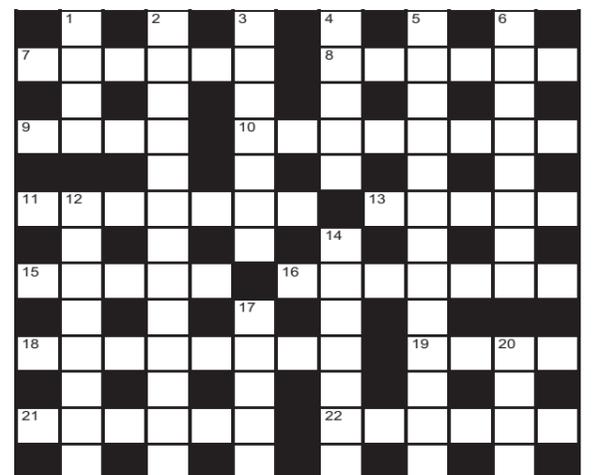
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

Across

- 7 Felt hat (6)
- 8 Early spring bloomer (6)
- 9 Shop for cold meats (4)
- 10 Making large profits (8)
- 11 Convenience (7)
- 13 Organic compound such as fat (5)
- 15 Creeper (5)
- 16 Early dweller (4,3)
- 18 Ornamental carving (8)
- 19 Existence (4)
- 21 The part that comes between the verse (6)
- 22 Plant for bruising (6)

Down

- 1 Arid (4)
- 2 Film (6,7)
- 3 Deficiency (7)
- 4 Eight of (5)
- 5 Hit money? It's ours! (5,8)
- 6 Writ to enforce attendance (8)
- 12 Rulers (8)
- 14 Small bladed tool (7)
- 17 A ride (5)
- 20 Confront (4)



Last week's solution



Garden Clippings

with Robert Westerman

GADGETS, GIZMOS AND HANDY GARDEN TOOLS

The ever changing weather conditions at this time of the year can be challenging and can leave us with a tedious and difficult chore, however, there are items available on the market which could make gardening easier and quicker.

BERRY PICKER

This device makes the harvesting of berries easy. The berry picker has a comb to separate the berries from the stem and can make harvesting of the fruit faster than hand picking. This unique device is simple to use once you get the hang of it and 'combs' the branches to remove the fruit. The comb separates the berries from the stem as the picker slides along the stems lifting off berries and allowing them to fall into a container. Regular emptying is necessary so that the berries do not get squashed.



HANGING BASKET PULLEY



Hanging basket pulleys make the task of watering, maintaining and tending to your hanging baskets incredibly simple. Consisting of a clever spring and ratchet mechanism, the hanging basket pulley will allow you to raise and lower your hanging baskets by pulling down on them. Hanging basket pulleys remove the need to lift heavy watering cans above your head in an attempt to water your baskets.

GARDEN VAC

When it comes to tidying your garden, why spend time bending over lifting and brushing when you can vacuum. The windy conditions we have been experiencing has left many of our gardens looking like Autumn instead of Summer. A Garden Vac hung over the shoulder will lift fallen leaves, hedge clippings and small sticks with ease from gravel paths, lawns, patios and drives. The leaves are shredded and are held within a bag which can then be easily emptied into the compost bin. An item many gardeners very seldom seem to use, but tried once you will never be without.



BUMBLEBEE LODGES AND HIVES



Have you noticed there are fewer bees in your garden? One reason for this has been a loss of natural nesting sites. As well as thought behind what you plant up in the borders there are also a number of artificial lodges you can hang or place which will encourage them back into your garden. Coming in the form of small huts, logs and traditional shaped hives,

if set up in a sheltered corner of the garden protected from the wind and rain, in time will get occupied. Some companies will also supply a live hive so you don't have to be a bee keeper to use one. All you need to do is remove the hive from the shipping box, place it near your garden on a cinderblock or bricks, open the hive entrance, and walk away. The bumblebees will do the rest.



Ronnie Reid of the West of Scotland Drystone Walling Association, pictured left, overseas the work of Adrian Whitaker and Douglas McCallum. 06_a29dry01



John Hendrie and Bruce Robertson take a moment to pose for the camera before continuing to rebuild the Auchindrain wall. 06_a29dry02

Dry stone walling at Auchindrain

'IT'S MORE than just building walls'. That was the sentiments of the man in charge of last weekend's drystone walling course at Auchindrain.

Ronnie Reid from the West of Scotland Drystone Walling Association led the two-day course at the Auchindrain Township Museum.

Nine people from across Argyll signed up for the course, which saw them strip down and rebuild one of the walls at the Township.

'We don't just rebuild walls,' explained Ronnie. 'Over the years this Association has built bridges, arches and helped with seating in community gar-

dens.'

Ronnie explained the wall at Auchindrain was in a 'state of collapse' so the trainees had to lay all the stones out, before setting about rebuilding it.

'This is not the first wall we've helped rebuild here,' said Ronnie. 'We also held a training course last summer and rebuild a wall further up the Township site.'

'It's good to come back to Auchindrain - it's nice to be part of something historical.'

To find out more information about the West of Scotland Drystone Walling Association visit - www.wdsdswa.org



Funds for Fire Brigade

ANYONE passing by the Templars Hall in Tarbert last Saturday was sure to have been enticed inside with the smell of delicious homebaking and the prospect of a good West Coast cup of tea.

A group of Tarbert ladies held the coffee morning last Saturday to raise money for the Fire Brigade Benevolent Fund. Organiser Anne Horn said the event, which coincided with the village's annual raft race, was 'very busy' with visitors able to take part in a grand raffle before sampling the delicious homebaking. Pictured from left are: Myra Hunter, Anne McFarlane, Colin Hunter and Anne Horn at last weekend's event. 06_a29tarb01

Befrienders group hold coffee morning

LOCHGILPHEAD'S Baptist Church hall was brimming with hot cups of tea and coffee and trays of tasty homebaking last Saturday as the local Befrienders group held their annual coffee morning.

Tables with bric-a-brac, a raffle and a tombola greeted customers to the charity's fundraiser.

The coffee morning, one of several fundraisers the group runs each year, was well attended.

Chair of Befrienders, Stephen Hunter, said: 'We were very pleased with how the morning went and I would like to thank the Baptist Church for offering us the venue.'

Mr Hunter added: 'I'd also like to thank everyone who supported our annual raffle.'

'The local support was excellent, in particular the support we receive each year from the Mid Argyll Rotary Club - they are especially generous.'



Befrienders: Pictured from left are: Marion MacCallum, Kirsty McCuaig, Cathi Bertin and Stephen Hunter at last Saturday's coffee morning. 06_a29bef01

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Car Boot Sale. Barbecue.

Bring the family for a great day out
See www.craignishartsfestival.org.uk
C3 Scottish charity no. SC035761

LOCHGAIR

Tick kits available

EARLIER this month three Lochgair residents set out to clear one of the village's footpaths.

On Friday July 1 Dave McTaggart, Ian Smith and Willie Lamb worked to clear the footpath between Lochgair village and Loch Glashan.

The first part of the path is overgrown with grass and scrub, and clearing it helps protect walkers from ticks.

For a free DIY tick repellent, send a SAE to Ian Smith, 6 Gallanach, Lochgair, PA31 8SD.

Guided walk

THE LOCHGAIR Association is inviting residents and friends to a guided walk tomorrow (Saturday).

Participants will leave from Loch Glashan and head along to Lochgair, leaving from the Glashan car park at 9.30am prompt.

Walkers are advised that the route underfoot to Lochgair with Ian Smith is rough whilst an alternative route around Loch Glashan with Jean Smith will be easier.

People are advised to come equipped for the weather and conditions, as well as bringing their own First Aid Kit.

KILFINNAN

Tree to table event

KILFINAN Community Forest Company (KCFC) is hosting an afternoon long celebration of the Community Forest next weekend.

The 'Tree to Table' event takes place on Saturday July 30 from 12pm.

Held at the Kilfinan Community Forest in Tighnabruaich, the event will offer an insight into the valuable resource

ARDRISHAIG



Planting fun: Brothers, Callum and Ruaridh Green, pictured left, with friend, Roddy Carroll, helped plant one of the Ardrishaig community planters last Saturday. 06_a29comm01

Community get behind village planters

PEOPLE of all ages came together last Saturday to brighten Ardrishaig's main street.

Villagers old and young planted six 'community planters', now situated on Chalmers Street.

The half-sized former whisky barrels, donated by Springbank Distillers, were planted with flowers and bedding plants – brightening the look of Ardrishaig's main route.

Local businesses were able to sponsor the barrels. British Waterways, Peter Law and Son, M&K MacLeod, the Planning department of Argyll and Bute Council, and Ardrishaig Horticultural Society, have their sponsorship recognised by way of a brass plaque on each of the planters.

Edward Laughton, convenor of Ardrishaig

Community Council, said: 'The idea for the community planters came about through various workshops as a small step towards the regeneration of the village.'

Maintained

Mr Laughton said the planters would be maintained by the community.

The project was originated by the Townscape group and undertaken by Ardrishaig Community Council on their behalf.

Councillor Donnie MacMillan, who helped with the planting last weekend, said: 'I'd like to congratulate the community council on an excellent project to further enhance the village.'

The community council hope to hold another planting event in the autumn.

LOCHGILPHEAD



Beach fun for Badden Farm Nursery children

Last week we were unable to print this lovely photograph of the pre-school children from Badden Farm Nursery, Lochgilphead. Here are the youngsters celebrating their last days with the nursery before moving onto primary school in August. The children enjoyed an outing to Ormsary Beach - with a picnic on the beach and the use of Ormsary Hall for lunch.

that the forest is for the local community, with demonstrations of milling and firewood processing as well as the opportunity to explore the site and sample the delights of the current 'Growing Green' Project.

At 12.30pm there will be the official opening of the fantastic, new Community Allotments by Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute.

As well as tasty takeaways and teas, the monthly Producers' Market will be in full swing with all the usual goodies.

Kyles Allotment Group is running a soup kitchen, and there will be children's activities and workshops with circus skills, face painting, green woodworkers, fun and

games, a raffle and prizes and much more.

In the afternoon The Walking Theatre Company will be taking visitors back to the austerity of World War Two with their 'Dig for Victory' in the Forest.

There will be no on-site parking on the day of the event but KCFC are running a shuttle bus service with pick-up/drop off points in Tighnabruaich and Kames.

CRAIGNISH

Arts festival underway

THE BEST of all things creative, sporty, outdoors and fun have been married together to make this year's Craignish Arts Festival better than ever.

The mainstay of the festival – showcasing work by local arts and crafts people – sees the best of Argyll's home-grown talent exhibit at a range of venues, large and small, indoors and out, around the peninsula.

With 53 artists, five exhibition venues, a sculpture garden and 10 live music events taking place in Ardfern, Barbreck and Craobh Haven,

there is something for everyone throughout the two-week festival.

For those hoping to express their own creative flair a series of workshops will be held to allow locals and visitors alike the opportunity to try something new or develop existing skills.

A host of sporting activities and events for children have also been scheduled to take place during the festival, which takes place between July 23 and August 7.

To view the full programme of events log on to www.craignishartsfestival.org.uk.

TARBERT

Road repairs

THE A83 Lochgilphead to Tarbert stretch has seen one of its worst areas re-surfaced this week.

The Transport Scotland-owned section of road at the sharp corner near Stonefield was re-surfaced on Monday with a convoy system in operation to protect the workers.

One Tarbert driver said: 'It was getting really bad. Especially when your trying to negotiate a steep hill riddled with holes.'

INVERARAY

Musical treat for housing residents

RESIDENTS at two of Mid Argyll's sheltered housing complexes enjoyed a special concert last week as musical duo *For you Alone* travelled to the Royal Burgh.

Performing old show tunes, as well as traditional Scots, Irish and Welsh songs, pianist David Mackie and singer Billy Strachan catered to the musical tastes of their audience.

Encouraging all the Chalmers Court and Caledonia Court residents to join in the sing-song *Oh Danny Boy* and *The toast of New Orleans* were particular favourites.

Performing as part of the Music in Hospitals Charity, *For you Alone*, is one of many leading musical groups that bring live music to people in care.



Singer Billy Strachan dazzled a captivated audience with his impressive voice at a music in hospitals concert in Chalmers Court in Inveraray. 06_a29singing01

United Auctions serving Argyll and the Islands

Donald Morrison looks forward to the Autumn Sales.



A busy sale at Islay Mart

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AS WE approach 2011's bustling autumn market season, one man will be busier than most, making sure every sale goes through without a hitch.

In recent years Uist native Donald Morrison, United Auctions' regional managing director for Argyll and the islands, has overseen some of the most dramatic changes in the company's infrastructure throughout its centres at Oban, Dalmally, Islay, Tiree and South Uist.

New pens, lairage facilities, and state-of-the-art equipment have been installed at marts and lairage sites but this major investment doesn't mean Donald has any less to do.

'It is hard work but I really get a buzz out of the sales at this time of year, especially in years like this when trade is looking favourable.

'I am looking forward to this autumn because I am forecasting sheep trade to be buoyant and it will show increases on last year's values.

'Likewise finished cattle prices at the moment have crept over £3.20 per kilo, deadweight. I don't remember it ever being as good as that and allowing for the high cost of 'the three Fs' (fuel, feed and fertiliser) it is still looking like a good autumn.'

A lot of eyes will be on the first sale of the autumn, the Fair Day Sale at Dalmally on July 29, where suckled calves are the main talking point.

This sale will be full of high quality stock and the prices are usually the indicator for the rest of the sale season throughout the country. It is therefore a sale that buyers and sellers, alike, don't want to miss.

Indeed, Dalmally mart is a busy place throughout the autumn - not least for its record-breaking October Blackface ram sale - and is expected to see a through-put of more than 2,000 cattle and 27,000 sheep. On Islay, which will

host an opening sale of lambs and sheep on August 26, there will be in excess of 2,000 cattle and 20,000 sheep coming through.

For Donald, who has spent the past 38 years working in Argyll and the islands with United Auctions, this season will be one of the most exciting, as the company has invested heavily in his 'patch'.

Island stock coming from, and going to, mainland markets can be stored at United Auctions' lairage facility in Oban, meaning Oban is also a busy place at autumn sale time.

From this Oban base it can also offer customers use of livestock trailers; the two larger trailers measure 22 feet and 18 feet to meet the modern day needs of buyers and sellers.

Using the Oban lairage, United Auctions also undertakes its pioneering Direct Marketing service.

Established 10 years ago, Direct Marketing allows stock to be sold through United Auctions as agents and weighed and priced on a per-kilo basis. This takes place at the Oban lairage, when it is not being used to store cattle. A suitable buyer is then found from the company's huge list of finishing farmers.

The company can expect to see more than 1,000 cattle and 12,000 sheep be sold via Direct Marketing.

The mart at Dalmally has undergone a £300,000 facelift in the past few years, with wooden pens replaced with steel, a new high-spec washing facility has been built and the mart's roofing has been completed. On Islay, steel pens and concrete flooring has been introduced and more car parking spaces created.

Electronic tag readers have also been installed at all United Auctions markets, including the lairage facility at Oban.

Donald said: 'If you compare our marts to how they looked fewer than 10 years ago you will notice a huge difference.'

'We have met all the EC standards, regulations and criteria that have been put in front of us.'

'We have done that to give our customers the best we can offer. We could have just put handheld electronic tag readers into these marts but we owe it to our customers here to give them the same standards they would expect at our main centres in Stirling and Huntly.'

'Since our management buyout four years ago, everyone in the company has one thing in mind: Marketing livestock. That is a big bonus for today's United Auctions.'

And there's more to the 21st century United Auctions than just running mart sales.

For island sales, in particular, the planning for transport

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and haulage is done months in advance, road transport to take stock to and from marts is arranged and buyers from as far afield as Aberdeen and Wales are encouraged to attend sales.

Donald said: 'No longer is it enough to simply bring stock to a market and sell them. You have to provide other services to customers.'

'For the direct marketing service we are happy to go to farms to assess stock and give the owners a price. Our customers are the most important part of our business.'

The appreciation United Auctions has for its customers extends into the communities it serves. Where possible it uses local staff in its seasonal west coast and island markets, as well as local hauliers.

'I have always felt strongly about hiring from the communities we work in and being mindful of giving something back to

these places,' said Donald. 'Because we have a lot of small crofts in the area, I have made it a personal policy that the crofter who has two cows is just as important as the farmer with 100

cows. Both deserve my highest level of commitment.' It is this dedication to the area that has given Donald a unique view of the farming and crofting landscape.

And this autumn he will be passing on his expertise to United Auctions' newest recruit, Derek An-

derson, who said he was looking forward to meeting the company's west coast customers.

Donald Morrison, United Auctions' regional managing director for Argyll and the islands



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Open Day on Kintyre farm

MID ARGYLL farmers are invited to joint their Kintyre counterparts at a farm open day in Barrglen on Tuesday, July 26, starting at 11am.

The day will be hosted by Duncan Macalister and family at 'The Big Shed', Charleston, in conjunction with the Kintyre branch of the National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS).

The farm tour of Barrmains leaves at 11.30am and visitors will get an insight into Glenbarr Farms enterprises including fattening cattle, ewes, grassland, cropping, breeding cattle and current management practices, plus the ambitions of a three-year monitor farm programme. A barbecue lunch, refreshments and stock judging with prizes of £100 worth of mineral buckets kindly donated by Harbro; and other prizes.

Everyone is welcome, and suitable footwear for the tour plus waterproofs if wet are recommended. If attending, please telephone 01586820226 or 07725994521, to allow organisers to know how many to cater for.

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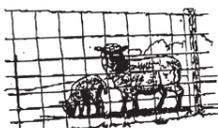
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- BBQ lunch and refreshments
- Stock judging-Highest points-£100 Harbro
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ALL WELCOME
Please wear suitable footwear and waterproofs if wet.
Call Linda on 01586820226 or 07725994521 to
book your burger!



If left unchecked *Rhododendron ponticum* can soon take over huge areas, growing to enormous size and to the detriment of all other species.

Project to rid forests of rhododendron underway near Lochgilphead

WORK is currently underway to free mid west Argyll's forests of tree killer rhododendron.

Part of a £15 million project to rid Scotland's forests of the alien plant, which kills everything in its path, Forestry Commission Scotland has already begun work in and around Lochgilphead to protect its woodland.

One of the worst effected areas in the country, mid west Argyll has 3,000 acres of forest affected by the deadly flower.

Native woodland ecologist at the forestry commission, Richard Thompson, said: 'Rhododendron ponticum is one of Scotland's most unwelcome invasive species - and it's just really nasty stuff.'

'It suffocates habitats, hampers

biodiversity and - if that wasn't bad enough - it harbours tree-killing phytophthora species. Getting rid of it would be a real shot in the arm for Scotland's environment and for forestry.'

Huge area affected

Labelled an 'ambitious' plan by the authority, it is envisaged it will take 15 years for the plant to wiped out completely from the nationally owned forest estate.

With 16,000 acres of forestry commission land infected with rhododendron, the commission is tackling an area almost the size of Dundee.

Planning and environment manager for the commission, Moira Baptie, said: 'We're under no illusions - it's going to be a big job and while it sounds like

it might be an expensive job, in terms of biodiversity it's a small investment for a big return.'

A comprehensive planning and recording system has been established to help coordinate the effort but a detailed survey has still to be completed in some areas.

Calling on everyone to do their bit and report any rhododendron that they see Mr Thompson said: 'Don't walk past it and ignore it - because if you do you soon won't be able to move for the stuff.'

Work has also begun on the Cowal peninsula, the Trossachs and Lochaber - some of the worst affected areas - with £1.6 million already allocated to the task in 2011/12.

New style cattle passports will be phased-in from the beginning of August

FARMERS across the Highlands have started receiving their new Cattle Keepers Handbook, ahead of the introduction of the new passports on August 1.

Single page passports

The compulsory, single page passports replace the current chequebook style documents. They are designed to be more environmentally friendly and less expensive.

The new documentation will be required for cows born after August 1, while existing passports will only be replaced if returned for amendment or when the movement history is full.

The change is being introduced as the electronic

services for cattle reporting - CTS Online and the self-service phone system - prove increasingly popular.

With more than 80 per cent of movements now being reported electronically, cattle farmers say it makes sense to produce a more environmentally-friendly and less expensive passport.

As such, movement cars are no longer provided. A number of alternatives for reporting movements are available, including the CTS Online website and the self service telephone line, helpful for those without broadband internet access.

Farm software packages can also report movements for farmers as they update their records.

Tup tips

AS THE SEASON for tup sales approaches farmers are being offered practical advice on making the right purchase.

The Scottish Sheep Strategy is running a series of workshops to help farmers make sure their purchases aren't based on looks alone.

Run by Quality Meat Scotland, the workshops will give farmers an overview of performance recording and estimated breeding values. It is hoped this will remove some of the uncertainties in tup selection.

For more information on performance recording and the availability of recorded tups, contact Rod McKenzie on 07889 963907.

Award for SAC vice principal

THE VICE principle of the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) has been awarded a personal professorship in rural education development.

David McKenzie, head of the college's learning division, was recognised for developing SAC's education provision at its annual graduation ceremony last week.

David joined SAC in 2001 and has been responsible for an increase in student recruitment and ensuring the college was recognised as an institute of higher education.

Changes ahead for Crofters Commission

PLANS to make the Crofters Commission more democratic and accountable have been unveiled by environment minister Stewart Stevenson.

The proposals recommend that the majority of the Crofters Commission, to be renamed the Crofting Commission from April 2012, should be elected by crofters.

A consultation on the draft plan also covers the constituency boundaries for the elections and who should be eligible to vote. Mr Stevenson said: 'Through having directly elected voices within the future Crofting Commission, voted in by crofters for crofters, I am confident that we can build a strong partnership to deliver the growing, prosperous, inclusive and sustainable crofting communities we all want to see.'

The consultation runs until October 5, 2011 and can be accessed online at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/07/13090620/0> or by phoning 0131 244 9847.

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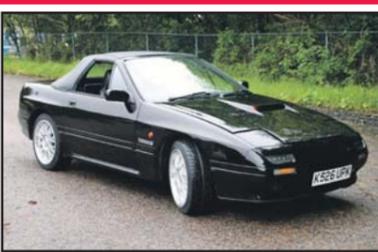


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PLANNING

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

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00 - 17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 67 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the alternative locations detailed below or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/00944/PP	Erection of six 15 kilowatt wind turbines (15 metres to hub height)	Land North West of Low Knockrioch Campbeltown Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
11/01124/PP	Erection of 2 dwellinghouses.	Skookum House Kilmichael Glen Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8QL	Mid Argyll Area Office
11/01136/PP	Renewal of planning permission 06/01247/DET - Change of use and alteration of dwellinghouse to form four dwellinghouses.	Ardpatrick House Ardpatrick Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6YA	Sub Post Office Tarbert
11/01145/PP	Erection of engineering workshop, extension to classroom wing, extension to covered working area to provide secure storage, associated hardstanding area, external working area and formation of additional parking spaces.	Argyll College Construction Skills Centre Site 18 Kilmory Industrial Estate Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8RR	Mid Argyll Area Office
11/01249/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, formation of new access and installation of sewage treatment plant.	Land South of The Anchorage Silvercraigs, Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
11/01263/PP	Erection of dwelling house (Amendment to planning permission 05/00371/PP).	Plot 5 Achnabreac Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
11/01264/PP	Erection of dwelling and formation of new access.	Schoolhouse Glenbarr Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6UT	Sub Post Office Tayinloan

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
11/01235/PPP	Site for the change of use of land for business (Class 4) or general industrial use (Class 5)	Templar Hall Site Millknowe Campbeltown Argyll and Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
11/01239/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached double garage, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Plot 2 Land Adjacent to the Lodge Ardpatrick Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6YA	Sub Post Office Tarbert
11/01260/PP	Installation of replacement timber windows.	Scottish Woodlands Ltd 4 Poltalloch Street Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8LP	Mid Argyll Area Office

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST.

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.

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

Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

Harbours
HARBOURS ACT 1964 (AS AMENDED)
The Caledonian Maritime Assets (Port Ellen) Harbour Revision Order 2011

Notice is hereby given that the Caledonian Maritime Assets (Port Ellen) Harbour Revision Order 2011 was made by the Scottish Ministers on 27 June 2011 and came into force on 28 June 2011.

Any person who desires to question the making of the Order on the ground that there was no power to make the Order or that a requirement of the Harbours Act 1964 was not complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from the date on which the Order becomes operative, make an application for that purpose to the Court of Session.

A copy of the Order and accompanying plans, sections and elevations may be inspected at all reasonable hours at the offices of Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd at Municipal Buildings, Fore Street, Port Glasgow PA14 5EQ and at The Pier, Port Ellen, Isle of Islay PA42 7DW.

Dated 21 July 2011
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Contact: Strutt and Parker, 150 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5NE

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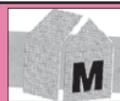
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The Scottish Government

Crofting Commission Appointment of Members

The Crofting Commission is a public body established by the Crofters (Scotland) Act 1993 (as amended) and based in Inverness, whose general functions are regulating and reorganising crofting, promoting the interests of crofting, keeping under review matters relating to crofting and any other functions conferred on them by Act of Parliament.

Applications are invited for 3 or more persons to serve a five-year term as a member of the Crofting Commission commencing 1 April 2012, alongside up to 6 elected members. Members will commit to a minimum of 4 days per month and will receive remuneration of £7,440 per annum. The appointments carry reasonable expenses (including travel and subsistence costs and childcare and carer expenses) associated with Board work. On occasion substantial travel may be required as Commission meetings are held throughout the crofting areas of the Highlands and Islands.

In particular, applications are invited from Gaelic speakers and representatives of the interests of landlords of crofts.

One of the Members appointed must demonstrate the ability to communicate in Gaelic, and one must demonstrate the ability to represent the interests of landlords of crofts. This could be the same person. For the avoidance of doubt, it is stressed that applications from persons with neither of these abilities are also invited.

The Members' role at Board meetings and on other occasions involves:

- Ensuring that Ministerial policies and priorities are reflected in Board decisions and the overall strategic direction of the Crofting Commission.
- Ensuring that the Crofting Commission has policies in place to deliver fair, reasonable and transparent decisions on regulatory matters affecting crofters and their landlords.
- Deciding on difficult regulatory casework and develop procedures for delegation of casework.
- Ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements relevant to the business of the Crofting Commission.
- Ensuring appropriate standards of corporate governance in the work of the Board and the organisation as a whole, including observance of collective responsibility for Board decisions.

You will be required to demonstrate:

- Knowledge and understanding of crofting tenure and issues.
- Knowledge, and practice if possible, of the principles of public life and the requirements of effective corporate governance.
- Highly effective communication skills, including the ability to work as part of a team, used internally and externally to carry out the functions of the Commission.
- Ability to work effectively on strategic and specific policies and priority setting within a regulatory framework; and to take decisions accordingly, with sound analytical and problem solving skills.
- Commitment to delivery of National Outcomes promoting the occupation and use of land and shared management of communal resources.
- Ability to operate in a politically sensitive environment.

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 9 August 2011.

For an application pack and full details on this and other public appointments please visit the dedicated public appointments website: www.appointed-for-scotland.org

Alternatively, application packs can be obtained by email, post, telephone and fax. Details are below. You should provide your name, address and the appointment that you are interested in.

Email: application requests and returns should be e-mailed to: paapplicationsmailbox@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Postal: Scottish Government, HR Public Appointments, Saughton House (E1 spur), Broomhouse Drive, Edinburgh EH11 3XD

Freephone: 0800 015 8449

Fax: 0131 244 3833

Appointed on merit; committed to diversity and equality.



Fish Farm Technicians: Loch Etive

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

We are seeking to recruit 3 individuals to fulfil roles as Seawater Fish Farm Technicians. These positions will be based at our seawater cage farms on Loch Etive, nr Taynuilt.

The role of Seawater Technician is interesting and varied. Working outdoors as part of a small team, it is focused upon all aspects of successful large trout production including feeding, grading, harvesting, net changing and other general farm maintenance tasks, including boat handling.

Applications are invited from individuals who have a positive approach to this type of work, who feel comfortable working over water and be willing to work flexibly to meet the demands of the job.

Previous aquaculture experience is desirable but not essential as full training and support will be provided. A full driving licence is essential.

These posts will be initially offered on 6 months fixed term contract basis, but with good potential for leading to full time positions, working a 40 hour week on any five out of seven days. Beyond the nature of the roles, the post holder(s) would be expected to undertake over-time as required in order to accommodate the needs of the business, this will include weekend cover on a rota basis.

If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, by Friday 5th August 2011, to:

Lindsey Elder, HR Assistant, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS. Office 01698 810008, E-mail: lindsey.elder@dawnfresh.co.uk

Informal enquires can be made to Sean Lydon, Seawater Manager, Office 01866 822549, E-mail sean.lydon@dawnfresh.co.uk



Farm Assistant – Tervine Site

A vacancy has arisen at Tervine on Loch Awe, Taynuilt, Argyll, for a Fish Farm Assistant.

Basic knowledge and understanding of fish husbandry would be useful but not essential as training will be provided. A biological background would be desirable.

This is a fresh water cage site position in which you will be required to work rotational weekends.

Must have a full clean driving license.

Preference will be given to applicants having an agricultural experience working with animals.

Must be able to:

- Work as part of a team
- Work with the requisite aquaculture systems and equipment
- Conduct basic data entry farm control and use excel
- Work diligently and safely, unsupervised at times
- Play an active role in Health and Safety

Key Critical factors of the role:

- Ensure that work is carried out in a competent, safe and professional manner
- Assist the manager in ensuring compliance with all relevant legal & ethical standards and codes of practice
- Maintain highest standards in fish husbandry at all times
- Maintain all relevant records
- Involved in harvesting and feeding

To apply please submit your C.V. and covering letter to:

HR Department, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS

Telephone: 01698 810008

CLOSING DATE: Wednesday 27th July 2011

PRODUCTION FOREMAN REQUIRED

for food processing plant Lochaber, Scotland

Salary of £21,000 plus benefits

You will be required to have the following skills and experience:

- Hands on approach willing to drive standards.
- Some basic understanding and application of disciplinary management.
- Compliant and process driven.
- Communication skills – clear and consistent.
- Previous supervisory experience production. Ideally having worked way up through the organization.
- Ideally experience/knowledge of fish/seafood processing sector.

Please e-mail your CV to Louisa.industrial@pertemps.co.uk or call Louisa on 07747 048183



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Working as part of the existing team undertaking all kinds of cosmetic and structural repairs on a variety of craft. Applicants should be experienced with GRP & Timber craft, all relevant experience considered.

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Working as part of our existing team undertaking a variety of engineering jobs. Applicants should have experience with modern marine diesel engines and petrol outboards. Welding skills would be beneficial, all relevant experience considered.

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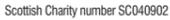
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Morag A Telfer on 01631 562168

Closing date for applications
 is Tuesday 26th July 2011


Scottish Charity number SC029457

Oban Hospice is committed to supporting best practice in palliative care in all care settings in Lorn and the Isles and are providing funding to North Argyll Carers Centre to set up a social care support service for patients and their carers needing Hospice at Home services in our area. This is a new and innovative service which will improve the lives of patients and carers needing palliative care across Lorn and the Isles.

North Argyll Carers Centre is therefore seeking to recruit a highly motivated and committed individual who will work with a network of existing professionals in Social Services and Health Care.

Hospice at Home Coordinator
21 Hours per week - £19,500 to £22,676 pro rata

For an application pack or more information contact North Argyll Carers Centre on 01631 564422 or email ruth@northargyllcarers.org.uk

Successful applicants will be subject to a Basic Disclosure.

North Argyll Carers Centre's commitment to Equal Opportunities is reflected in our selection process.

CLOSING DATE: THURSDAY 18th August 2011 at 12 noon.



Technical Manager

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

We are currently looking to identify a suitably skilled Technical Manager to join our farming business management team.

Reporting to the Farming Director, you will be fully responsible for all aspects of technical input and support to areas of business and process development and to seek and promote opportunities for further business growth through the application of technical knowledge and expertise.

Key tasks will include the organisation and implementation of environmental survey and modelling work to meet the requirements of our various regulators, preparation and completion of internal and external audits to ensure all QHSE procedures are implemented and followed correctly on all farms, follow up on all corrective actions and be responsible for the delivery of production development projects e.g. hatchery recirculation.

The ideal candidate will be a strong team player, will have a proven track record in contributing to commercial success in farming operations. Strong interpersonal, communication, organisational and planning skills as well as the ability to problem solve are some of the key attributes required for this post. In addition applicants require a full driving licence and should be prepared to undertake significant travel.

In return the successful candidate will benefit from an attractive salary package, company car and the opportunity to develop their career through this exciting role.

If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, by Friday 12th August 2011, to:

Lindsey Elder, HR Assistant, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS., Office 01698 810008, E-mail: lindsey.elder@dawnfresh.co.uk

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



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 Apply to Mr C McDonald
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 Full clean driving licence required

- Good rates of pay

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Nurse
Part Time. £11.56 per hour. 22 hours per week plus additional cover for annual leave/sickness when required.

You will be a qualified nurse with empathy with older people able to work as part of a team with excellent clinical skills and ability to use own initiative for problem solving. You will be able to complete care plans and associated paperwork in line with regulatory requirements. Experience of working in a care home environment and evidence of leading a team are both preferred.

Care Assistant
Full Time. £6.00 per hour. 36 hours per week.

You will have empathy with older people with the ability to work as part of a team. Experience of similar employment and care preferred although training will be provided.

For further information please contact Hilary Forbes on 01586 553615. Closing date: 31 July 2011.
 Subject to disclosure. We are an equal opportunities employer.

Apply online at: www.schealthcare.co.uk

Carol Lekalake Optometrist
Part time person required

Duties will include reception, making appointments, answering telephones, window dressing and stock ordering.

This position may lead to full time.

Good communication skills and the ability to work on their own initiative are advantageous

Please apply in writing with C.V to;
Carol Lekalake,
 6 George Street, Oban PA34 5RX



action for people affected by mental illness

Support In Mind Scotland
Project Worker/Café Co-ordinator
 (part-time, 21 hours per week) **Glengarry Centre, Fort William**

The Glengarry Centre is a resource centre and drop-in for adults with mental health problems. It is funded by the Highland Council and NHS Highland. The post holder will provide support to individuals using the Centre and co-ordinate the running of the café facility. Applicants should have a clear understanding of the issues faced by people affected by mental illness, and experience of working in a social care/support setting. A good understanding and enjoyment of food preparation is important as are excellent communication skills and a strong commitment to Service User empowerment.

Salary range AP2, Support in Mind Spinal Column Points 19 - 22, £18,319 - £19,830 (pro rata), starting at £10,991 per annum.

Closing date for applications is first post, Friday 29th July 2011 with interviews being held on Thursday 11th August.

For an application pack please contact the Support in Mind Scotland Administrator Liz Mackay on 0131 662 4359 or email lmackay@supportinmindscotland.org.uk

Note: this post is subject to membership of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme

Charity Number SC013649



ENERGY SAVING SCOTLAND ADVICE CENTRE
HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS

Changeworks exists to improve quality of life and to protect the environment. We work with passion, integrity and in collaboration to develop and deliver innovative projects and businesses in energy, waste and transport that inspire and empower people and communities to make a difference.

Closing date for applications is 10am Monday 22 Aug 2011
www.changeworks.org.uk

Charity No. SC015144

Changeworks operates the Energy Saving Scotland advice centre for the Highlands & Islands, and is seeking an:
Outreach Engagement Officer (Ref: OEOHI).
 SJC SCALE AP4 (£23,232 - £25,716) plus 8% pension contribution
Based in Oban (other locations will be considered)

You will be an enthusiastic self-starter in order to represent the advice centre in your area and provide local services to householders, community groups and businesses. In order to deliver support on energy efficiency, renewable energy and lower carbon personal transport, you will be motivated, able to enthuse others and be confident about engaging with diverse sections of the community. Full and extensive energy advice training will be provided.

This is an opportunity for you to deliver real carbon savings across the whole community through events, home visits and providing information and support. You will be highly organised, able to prioritise your workload and be an excellent communicator to meet the demands of this varied, public facing role. An understanding of, and a passion for sustainable energy is desirable.

This post requires high calibre staff with the drive to succeed. To request an application pack, please contact: 0131 555 4010 or recruitment@changeworks.org.uk or visit www.changeworks.org.uk

Interview date: Wednesday 7 September 2011 in Oban

The Energy Saving Scotland advice network is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by the Energy Saving Trust.

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Marion McKinven (Maisie), would like to thank all her family, friends and neighbours who visited and sent flowers, cards and good wishes on her 95th birthday! A "special thanks" to the Ardsheil Hotel for their excellent menu and impeccable service, to Lorna Hume for her singing, David Brodie for his dynamic flower demonstration and Mari Martin for the beautiful birthday cake! A memorable evening of song and laughter was greatly enjoyed by all!

I wish to thank staff and all who helped me get home when I fell in Tarbert Post Office in April.

I also wish to thank Staff at the Mid-Argyll, Southern General and RAH for their Nursing Care, Help, Encouragement and Patience from 29 May to 29 June 2011.

Special Thanks to the Larder Staff who alerted my family. All Phone Calls, Cards, Visits and Kind Enquiries were much appreciated.

Nan Crawford

Look Who's 30



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LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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Shinty camp experience for young Inveraray players

TWO YOUNG Inveraray shinty players have returned from one-weeks intensive training.

Brothers, Lewis and Fraser Macnicol, both play with Inveraray, and were selected by their team to attend the 2011 Scottish Hydro National Player Development Camp.

The camp was held from Sunday July 10 until Thursday July 14 at Strathallan School in Forgandenny, Perth.

More than 70 of the country's brightest young shinty prospects, aged between 14 and 17, were put through their paces under the guidance of National Shinty Development Officer, Ronald Ross MBE.

Lewis, aged 17, and Fraser, 15, from Ormsary, both agree that the camp was 'very beneficial'.

Lewis, who been with Inveraray for five years, has attended four of the development camps; this year being his last. He said: 'It's really good but hard work. There's a lot of fitness training but you get a lot out of it.'

Fraser, who has played with Inveraray's second team for three years, enjoyed the experience of his first camp.

Weaknesses

He said: 'It was good because the coaches will identify your weaknesses and you'll work on them during the camp.'

'There was a lot of fitness which was hard but it was also good because you meet a lot of people from the different teams.'

Throughout the week, attendees received specialist training from Camanachd Associa-

tion coaches based around techniques relating to hitting, dribbling and tackling.

Camp organiser, Ronald Ross, said: 'The Scottish Hydro National Player Development Camp has once again proved a great success and numbers have increased from 2010. Since its inception over 15 years ago, the camp has helped hundreds of young players from across the country to improve all aspects of their game from the technical to the physical elements of the sport. The camps are also a great way for the participants to meet other aspiring shinty players, forging ties and friendships throughout the sport.'

For more information on the shinty development camp visit www.shinty.com



Brothers, Lewis and Fraser Macnicol, represented Inveraray at last week's Scottish Hydro National Player Development Camp in Perth. Lewis is pictured back row, first left, with Fraser below.

Inveraray Golf Club Gents Open

THE INVERARAY Golf Club Gents Open was held last Saturday (July 16).

Despite heavy overnight rain the competition went ahead with a good attendance and saw some excellent scoring. The course, especially the greens, was in excellent condition and held up very well in the damp conditions.

The early starters saw the worst of the weather but despite this some low early scores were posted. The best scoring came from the mid-morning starters and the competition for the scratch and net titles was hotly contested.

The scratch competition was won by A. McKee from Glen-cruitten Golf Club with an excellent 71. Second was G.

Booth from Torrance House GC with a 76 and third was D. Thom from Inverkeithing with a 78.

The battle to take the net competition was closely fought and the top players in this section were all from Inveraray GC.

The winner with an impressive 67 was George J. Morrison, second went to Jimmy Kerr with a 69 and third was Dougie Fraser with 71 who just edged out two other players on count-back.

The club would like to thank their main sponsors The George Hotel and Meridian Salmon Farming for their support and also Loch Fyne Oysters, Londis and the Co-op for donating prizes.



Golf club winners. From left are: Janeanne Reppke, Rona Young, Heather Brownlie.

Tarbert's top golfing ladies

TARBERT Golf Club held its annual Ladies Club Championship last weekend July 16-17, with 18 holes being played each day.

In spite of poor weather forecasts for both Saturday and Sunday, the ladies turned out to brave the weather and each other, with five players scoring within five points of each other, over 36 holes.

The trophy winners were

Heather Brownlie, who won the Club Championship with a scratch 166, and Janeanne Reppke, who won the net competition with 130.

The Ladies Captain, Rona Young, would like to thank all the players who participated in the competition, with particular thanks to the green keeper Steven Barclay for his work on improving the ladies tees for the Club Championship.

Trophies displayed in new cabinet

A NUMBER of old trophies and shields, some dating back to the early 1930s, can now be displayed in Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Clubhouse.

Six trophies, along with the *Argyllshire Advertiser* shield, are sitting proudly in the clubhouse following the donation of a display cabinet.

The cache of silverware found their way back to the club's committee in April. But unable to put them anywhere, members' Fiona and Donald MacLachlan were tasked with keeping them safe.

Following an article in the *Advertiser*, a couple from Lochgilphead, who do not wish to be named, delivered the glass-mirrored cabinet to the club.

Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Clubhouse, president, Derek Wallace, said the cabinet allowed the history of the club to be shown in a very

visible way. He added: 'It's something that we never had before so it's nice to see it here in the clubhouse. With the trophies on show it will act as an incentive for young competitors.'



Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Clubhouse president, Derek Wallace, stands in front of the donated trophy cabinet.

06_a28cabinet01



Inveraray's nett competition winner George J. Morrison, pictured right, is presented with his trophy by Club Captain Kenny McDougall.

Fun in the sun for pony club members

ARGYLL (South) Branch of the Pony Club held its annual summer camp at Skipness earlier this month.

Riders from Arran, Kintyre and Mid Argyll all took part in the week-long event with members enjoying a variety of tuition from flat work to showjumping.

The club would like to thank their instructors for the week - Jane Gilchrist, Sheena Adams, Lucy Hallett, Katie Wil-

son and Laura Campbell.

Thanks must also go to She-lagh Oakes for providing road safety training, and to Cloan- aig and Skipness Estates for the use of their fields. The club would also like to thank all parents and friends involved in the organisation, before, during and after the week.

At the end of the camp, which ran from July 4-8, prizes were presented to the following riders: dressage:

walk/trot test: 1. Jay McCon- nachie; intro dressage test 2007: 1. Hannah Bone; horse trials dressage test 1998: 1. Sara MacDougall.

Jumping: small course: 1. Morwen Phillips; 2. Katie Luxmoore; 3. Joey Luxmoore; 4. Leah McConnachie. 75cms: 1. Lori Young; 2. Hannah Prill; 3. Signe Riddell; 4. Rosie Richmond. 90cms: 1. Hannah Bone; 2. Eilidh McNeil; 3. Gemma Rae; 4. Taylor Smith; 5. Lauren MacAlister; 6. Janey Van Stone.

Citizenship award: Rosie Rich- mond and Taylor Smith.

Most improved junior rider: Katie Luxmoore. Most improved senior rider: Lauren MacAlister.

Pony Club tests: E Test: Leah Mc- Connachie and Jay McConnachie.

D Test: Joey Luxmoore, Katie Luxmoore, Rose Richmond, Lori Young, Hannah Bone, Eilidh Mc- Neil.

D + Test: Katie Luxmoore, Rosie Richmond, Lori Young, Hannah Bone, Eilidh McNeil and Hannah Prill.

Mini road rider: Joey Luzmoore, Katie Luxmoore, Rosie Richmond, Lori Young, Hannah Bone, Eilidh McNeil and Hannah Prill.

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Lochgilphead Golf club results

LAST weekend's Lochgilphead Golf Club competition was the Peter White Cup which was played over two rounds.

This was a stroke play event which was won by Alex Macaulay with a very respectable nett score of 122. Adrian Angus was second on 124.

Previous competition winners were Matthew Maculay who won the Hall of Fame stableford event with 38 points and Adrian Angus who won the medal at the start of the month.

Round Three of the monthly midweek challenge was also played recently and Jim Hunter came out on top with a nett 60.

Tomorrow, Saturday, is the annual gents open competition and a good turnout as well as good weather would be appreciated.

Argyll and Bute Golf Union

ARGYLL and Bute Golf Union men's championship will take place at Taynuilt on Saturday.

The following day the Handicap Championship will take place at Rothesay.

Late entries for the Handicap Championship are available by calling Graham Bolton on 07720 627397.

The draws for both events will appear on the website www.argyllandbutegolfunion.com

Club lottery numbers

TARBERT Football club lottery numbers for this week are 7, 9 and 18. The £100 prize was won by Irene McNicol so prize money for next week is still £100.

KILMORY Shinty club lottery numbers for this week are 10, 18 and 20.

There were no winners with next week's jackpot rising to £500.

INVERARAY Shinty Club lottery numbers for this week are 1, 10 and 12. M. Renton won the £400 prize. Next week's jackpot will be £100.

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Inveraray share the points with Glens

EACH Inveraray Shinty game is now being treated as a 'must win' to avoid the relegation that's looming.

With that in mind, 'Aray set out their game from the off playing some fast attacking shinty against Glenurquhart at the Winterton last Saturday.

After numerous attempts on goal, Gary MacPherson opened the scoring for 'Aray on six minutes with a well-worked goal being passed to him from midfield.

Equalised

But the lead was short lived when John Barr equalised straight away at the other end. 'Aray continued to dominate the first half and pressed forward to stretch the Glenurquhart defence with a number of shots.

Russell MacKinlay gave 'Aray the lead on 22 minutes

again from a well-worked piece of play starting in mid-field and ending in a weaving run by Russell around the defence.

The pressure continued and Russell added to his tally on 40 minutes with a superb goal after some valiant defending by Glenurquhart.

The second half began as the first had finished with total pressure from 'Aray.

But as the win looked in sight, mistakes began to creep into the game and 'Aray were slow getting to the ball.

Glenurquhart, pushed forward in only one of the few times they'd been in sight of the 'Aray goal and John Barr scored again on 80 minutes.

The home supporters urged 'Aray to pick up the game again but the match had swung Glenurquhart's way.



Inveraray's Gary MacPherson tests the Glenurquhart defence during last Saturday's game.

A terrible clearance from goal by Graham MacPherson which clipped the back of defender Allan MacDonald let

Lewis MacLennan pounce on the loose ball to put it in the net on 86 minutes and level the score.

It was a great result for Glenurquhart but a hard loss to take for the Inveraray boys. Final score: 3-3.



Pictured from left: George Young, Connor MacArthur and Peter MacArthur.

Bank of Scotland Trophy

THIRTEEN triples players met at Lochgilphead Bowling Club on Saturday July 2 to compete in the Club's annual Bank of Scotland Triples competition. Weather and playing conditions were excellent and the preliminary rounds saw many competitors playing excellent bowls.

After the initial rounds, those watching the semi finals saw two very close and exciting games.

The winners of the semi finals were the triples skipped by George Young (Lochgilphead) and Donald Crawford (Ardrihaig).

The final was played in a very competitive, yet sporting man-

ners and after the regulation seven ends, the winners were the triple comprising Connor MacArthur, Peter MacArthur and George who managed to edge out the triple of Douglas Philand, Sandy Cameron and Donald Crawford.

The Club President presented the prizes to both the runners up and the winners. The latter also receiving the prestigious Bank of Scotland Triples trophy for the second successive year.

Connor and Peter MacArthur are the grandson and son of the late Archie MacArthur, who was a stalwart member of Lochgilphead Bowling Club for many years.

Angus sets sail for France

A LOCHGILPHEAD teenager is gearing up to join the world's top Youth Laser sailors at La Rochelle in France.

Sixteen-year-old Angus Grey Stephens will this week leave for the Laser Radial Junior World/European Championships - the biggest sailing event of his life.

The sixth-year Lochgilphead Joint Campus, student has embarked upon his first full year of sailing the Laser radial dinghy. After some very promising results in his first few UK events, his first international event is very much about gaining valuable experience in the highly competitive arena of dinghy sailing at this level.

Angus has been sailing on the competitive circuit since the age of 11 having started at Craignish Boat Club and is currently a member of Tarbert Loch Fyne Yacht Club.

He has been through the RYA Scotland Squad programme first in the Topper dinghy, and is now a member of the RYA Scotland Elite Squad in the Laser.

He currently ranks third in Scotland and is in the top eight Under17s in the UK where he is also a member of the RYA

GBR Transitional Training Squad for sailors in their first year in the Laser class.

Speaking to the *Advertiser* ahead of his trip, Angus said: 'It's been a really busy year for me.

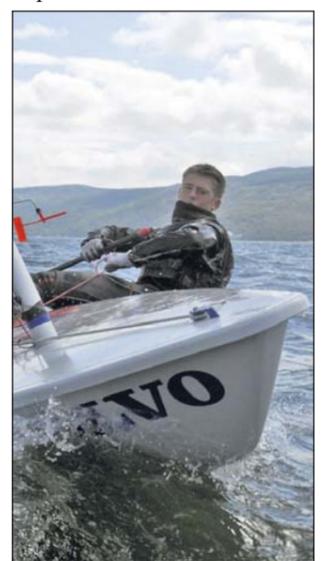
Enjoy

'I had a lot of training and competing in the spring, mostly on the south coast and then Highers in May, but I've managed to fit in my Dinghy Instructor Certificate which is great because I can be of more help to the Tarbert kids who are learning to sail and I really enjoy the teaching.'

He added: 'I would like to thank RYA Scotland, Argyll and Bute Council and West of Scotland Institute of Sport for supporting me. Also my family for all the organising and driving.

'I'm really looking forward to the Worlds and hope to

achieve some good race scores and really improve for the experience.'



Angus Grey Stephens is about to embark on the biggest sailing event of his life.

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