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PAGES
10-13



Pressure builds for new playpark at front green

Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A ROW erupted this week as Argyll and Bute Council removed equipment from a children's play area.

The authority's action opened old wounds for Lochgilhead Community Council, which has been working for years for an upgraded play area on the town's front green.

Argyll and Bute Council said this week it removed the seesaw equipment as it was unsafe after being vandalised. Previously, swings had to be removed after being damaged.

The community council, however, is looking for a much improved children's play area – something it claims Argyll and Bute Council was on the

point of agreeing two years ago.

Lochgilhead Community Council slammed the local authority for lack of communication in the interim. Andy Buntin, convener, said: 'It was agreed the existing playpark was not fit for purpose and two years ago a memorandum of understanding for a new facility was ready to be signed by the council.

'It followed a consultation with key groups in the town about what was wanted. A preferred option, on the same site as the current play area, was selected, funding was in place and a contractor ready to begin.

'Then the council produced a separate £3 million in the 2016 budget for regeneration and we have heard almost nothing since.'

Lochgilhead mum-of-two Sarah Watson, herself a community council member, said: 'In the past two weeks, one of the baby swings was removed because teenagers had damaged it and this week I noticed another piece of equipment gone.

'I have two young children and we visit the park regularly. Now the only thing my one-year-old can go on is the only remaining baby swing.'

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'A community project to carry out improvements to the front green has been short-listed for funding from the Tarbert and Lochgilhead regeneration fund.

'A decision on what projects to take forward will be taken by Mid Argyll and the

Isles area Committee in September.

'We would love to do everything our residents ask for. However, we have to be realistic considering the financial constraints we are under.

'If any play equipment is removed, it is because it is unsafe to use.'

Councillor Dougie Philand commented: 'It is vital a play area is provided for Lochgilhead and that the community council and Argyll and Bute Council work together to provide this.

'A couple of weeks ago I got the swings reinstated after they were vandalised, which has not helped recently. And I am told the latest equipment to be removed had also been vandalised. Continued on page 2.

Who are the mystery mice?



A very special game of football was held to raise funds for the Grenfell Tower disaster appeal. For a full report and pictures, turn to page 30.

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Morning after drink driver fined and banned

A WOMAN driving the morning after a drinking session failed a breath test when she was stopped by police at 10am.

At Campbeltown Sheriff Court last Thursday, Anna Lina Savage, 33, of Lochnell Street, Lochgilphead, pleaded guilty to one charge of exceeding the drink drive limit, on July 7, on the A83 near Tarbert.

Earlier the court heard that when Savage, a first-time offender, was stopped a roadside breath test gave a reading of 38mg in 100ml of breath, in comparison to the legal limit which is 22mg.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes banned Savage from the road for 12 months, fined her £300 and ordered her to take a drink driving rehabilitation course within four months.

New festival cancelled after poor ticket sales

A NEW festival featuring big-name acts such as the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, ex-Runrig frontman Donnie Munro and trad stars Manran has been cancelled two weeks before it was due to be held.

The Argyll Gathering, to be held in Helensburgh over two days starting on

August 19, was called off this week by organisers. In an online statement the 'Team AG' said: 'It is with a heavy heart that Argyll Gathering 2017 has been cancelled in its inaugural year. This is due to poor ticket sales in the lead up to the event. Every effort was made to find

solutions that would allow the doors to open, but no such solution could be found. We sincerely thank and apologise to those that had bought tickets to the event.' It is understood anyone who has paid for tickets will be refunded in full, including booking fees.



The depleted, vandalised and dilapidated playpark, paddling pool fenced off, rides removed and picnic benches in their place. Not good enough, says community council. 06_a31playpark01

POLICE FILES

Vandals strike

SOMETIME between Tuesday July 18 and Monday July 24, wooden panels on an out-building at Inveraray Primary School were removed and damaged. The police are investigating and are appealing for witnesses or anyone with any information to get in touch.

Car damaged

POLICE are seeking witnesses after the paintwork on a blue Volvo car, parked on a Lochgilphead street, was scratched. The incident happened between 12.35pm and 12.40pm on Monday July 24 on Argyll Street.

Failed to stop

AT 3.15PM on Friday July 28, a white car collided with a parked beige Skoda Fabia on Oban Road, Lochgilphead.

The white car failed to stop and police are investigating. Any witnesses or anyone with information is asked to contact the police.

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

Continued from page one.

'The community council had worked hard to have an improved play area for Lochgilphead and this got put on hold owing to the regeneration plans, as it would not be good to have placed a new play area on the area which could

have been regenerated. There is no doubt there is full support from community councillors and elected councillors that a play area is of prime importance and they know Lochgilphead residents want this.

'I think the timings around the regeneration plans have made

this longer than it should have been.'

A petition has now been started by Lochgilphead Community Council asking the local authority to act to improve the front green play facilities.

This is available to sign at D&D's Clothing, Fyne Tackle and at the Argyll Book Centre.

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Is Kilmartin Glen more important than Stonehenge?



IN SCOTLAND'S Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, Kilmartin Museum has featured in an exciting edition of The People's History Show, titled 'Why is Scotland called Scotland?'

The episode focused on Dal Riata, the ancient kingdom of the Scotti, and its capital of Dunadd, which is down the road from Kilmartin Museum.

In the programme museum director and curator, Dr Sharon Webb MBE, voiced the opinion that Dunadd is

more important than Stonehenge.

The medieval kingdom of Dal Riata lies at the heart of Scotland's identity, but the importance of Dunadd and the wider area of Kilmartin Glen in understanding our nation's history covers more than four millennia.

Link

It is because of this vital link to the past that is evident in the whole of Kilmartin Glen, with its wealth of incredible archaeological sites and mon-

Dunadd Fort and Kilmartin Glen, part of a hugely important archaeological and historic landscape.

uments, that Kilmartin Museum was established in 1997.

So successful has Kilmartin Museum

been since it was set up 20 years ago that it has outgrown its current facilities.

Fundraising for a

£6.7million redevelopment project is under way. This will enable the museum to continue to tell the fascinating

stories of this ancient landscape and display the amazing artefacts found in the area. Find out more about the re-

development project at the kilmartin.org/redevelopment webpage or contact reddevelopment@kilmartin.org.

New head teacher for Furnace and Minard

FURNACE and Minard primary schools have a new acting head teacher.

Gill MacKenzie, presently at Kilchatan Primary School on the island of Colonsay, will take up her post in the new term, replacing Ms Robyn McIlroy, who is joining Argyll and Bute Council's education department on a fixed-term secondment.

A council spokesperson said: 'We wish Ms McIlroy all the very best in her new role. Furnace and Minard look forward to welcoming Ms MacKenzie to their schools.'

Tarbert skipper fined

A FISHING boat skipper who admitted not having a satellite tracking device fitted was fined £450.

Steven McAlpine, 38, of 15 Eastfield, Tarbert, pleaded guilty to two charges of leaving port without a functional

vessel monitoring system on the boat, owned by his cousin, during work for Loch Fyne Langoustines Ltd.

McAlpine skippered Margaritta TT26 which was boarded by Marine Scotland officers in the Firth of Clyde on Sep-

tember 24 last year. He was admonished on the charge relating to that occasion.

Imposing the fine for the second charge, relating to another inspection on October 6 last year, Campbeltown Sheriff Patrick Hughes said he had taken into account McAlpine was an employee and not the owner of the boat.

Argyll and Bute Cup

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star will host the popular Argyll and Bute Cup football competition, with eight teams taking part.

The competition on Saturday August 5 will be split into two sections. Section 1 will be played at the Ropework and sees hosts Lochgilphead Red Star take on local rivals Tarbert as well as Glasgow Islay and tournament debutants South Lochaber Thistle.

Section 2 takes place at the joint campus 3G and involves tourna-

ment holders Dunoon Ams, Scottish Cup semi-finalists Oban Saints, Neilston AFC and Tannahill who make the trip to Argyll from Paisley.

The winners and runners-up of each section will progress to the semi-finals at the Ropework followed by the final which is scheduled to take place at 5pm.

The opening matches start at 10am with Red Star v Tarbert at the joint campus 3G.

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Inveraray adds Scottish to British and European titles

INVERARAY and District Pipe Band's success continued as they took the Grade 1 Scottish Championship title.

And the ding-dong battle for supremacy continued between Inveraray and Northern Ireland's Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band.

At Dumbarton last Saturday – for the third time in four 2017 majors – it was the Argyll-based outfit that came out on top. At none of the majors so far have these two bands been separated by more than three points.

Inveraray's Scottish Championship trophy

can now be placed on the mantelpiece alongside first prize silverware from the British and European championships – and the band now appears to be odds-on to retain the champion of champions trophy it won for the first time in 2016.

Away from Grade 1, there was success for Oban High School as they became Scottish champions at both Novice A and B grades.

Kintyre Schools Pipe Band came fifth in Novice B, with Dunoon Grammar School eighth in Novice A.

Mid Argyll Pipe Band qualified well from their Grade 4B group,

finishing a creditable eighth among a dozen finalists.

Kintyre Schools' Grade 3A band managed an excellent fifth place among 18 competing bands.

In Grade 2, Kilchoman Distillery Isle of Islay Pipe Band were placed eighth, with Oban Pipe Band a place further down the leader board and two points behind Islay.

Looming on the horizon is next week's World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow on August 11 and 12, where Inveraray and District will be one of the favourites for the Grade 1 title.



Inveraray and District Pipe Band – British, European and now Scottish champions. 08_a29invgames02

Lochgilphead ladies stride out for mighty good cause

MS Centre to benefit from duo's fundraising efforts

TWO Lochgilphead women are taking on a mighty challenge to raise money for a local good cause – and one close to their hearts.

Manager of the Argyll Book Centre Eli Pickering and her daughter Marte will take on the Kilt-walk 'Mighty Stride' – 26 miles in a day – later this month to help raise funds for the local MS Centre.

Eli said: 'The MS Centre in Lochgilphead is a great place for help, support, and therapies including a hyperbaric chamber for my daughter Karen, who has been suffering from MS

for 10 years, and a lot of others in the area with MS and other long-term conditions.

'Please help us raise some much-needed funds for this great local charity.'

You can support Eli and Marte's marathon fundraising effort by visiting the donation website dundeekiltwalk2017.everyday-hero.com/uk/eli.

The Mighty Stride, held on August 20, starts in St Andrew's, taking in the famous Old Course. The route then takes in sites including the Tay Bridge and Broughty Castle before finishing in Dundee.



Eli, centre, with daughters Karen on her left and Marte.

GRADUATIONS



Erin Kelly

Graduated from the University of Middlesex with a BSc(Hons) in Audio Production. Daughter of Ronnie and Ailsa Kelly, Oban. Granddaughter of Andrew and Margaret Ronald, East Laggan Farm and the late Jim and Jenny Kelly, Ralston Road.



Scott Barbour has graduated from Strathclyde University with a BSc in Software Engineering with First Class Honours. Scott is the son of Robert and Anne Barbour, Erskine and grandson of the late John and Margaret Barbour, Dunbeg and Eleanor and the late Ronnie Hamilton, Campbeltown.



Becky Browne graduated from Edinburgh University with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery with Honours degree and a Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours First Class. Former pupil of Lochgilphead Joint campus and the daughter of Chris and Sophie Browne of Tayvallich.

An Arctic adventure for Scout group

MEMBERS of the 19th Argyll Scout group recently returned from inside the Arctic Circle where, with 9,000 others, they attended the world's most northerly Scout and Guide jamboree.

The event, from July 1 to July 8, happened in Bodø, Norway. For the organisers it meant providing services and facilities for a temporary population roughly the size of Oban. This included toilets and showers, cafes and shops, an electronic cashless payment system and (sometimes) wifi.

The event provid-

ed a rare opportunity for the Lochgilphead group to meet up with Scouts and Guides from across the globe – there were representatives from every continent.

The attendees included 8,000 Norwegians and 1,000 international guests from countries including Nepal, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Australia, the US and Canada.

The 13-strong team, including two leaders, six Explorers and five Scouts, camped with a Norwegian group which proved to be an invaluable help to the Argyll Scouts, provid-

ing help while planning the adventure, tents and camping equipment for the week and, perhaps most importantly, amazing meals from a very small field kitchen.

There were a number of organised activities during the week, one of the most popular being market day. Units were asked to run small events that gave an insight into their heritage and culture.

The team from the 19th organised a food stall providing haggis and tatties, oatcakes, shortbread and tablet and organised a Highland Games complete

with pipers, Scottish country dancing and caber tossing.

Being inside the Arctic Circle the sun did not set – and this led to some events starting at midnight and not finishing until 2am. Body clocks tended to move, with the day not really starting till 10am and finishing sometime around 1am.

Campfires are an integral part of any Scout activity and every night people would gather around a fire at the end of the day to catch up and chat.

This opportunity to meet and form friendships is the most pow-



Leaders, Explorers and Scouts from 19th Argyll and Norwegian friends, 3 Drammen.

erful and long lasting legacy from the event. During the visit six Explorers and one Scout were presented with Chief Scout awards, an achievement of which the unit is very proud.

A number of organisations helped to make this an outstanding

event. The Rotary Club of Mid Argyll and the Highlands and Islands Social Enterprise Zone both provided funds.

The Rotary Club bought 20 saltire neckties, or Scout scarves, which 19th Argyll group swapped with other units from

around the world, including one swap of an Australian unit custom shirt.

Planning is now underway for a camp next year in Scotland where the 19th Argyll is hoping to host some of the Norwegian 3 Drammen group.



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Editorial

Action please

THERE has, no doubt, been plenty of work going on behind the scenes at the council on plans for Lochgilphead front green and a new play area for children.

Since the £3 million Mid Argyll regeneration pot was unveiled at the last budget but one, it has all gone quiet over Kilmory way. At least, that's the view of Lochgilphead Community Council.

This is doubly frustrating for the CC, as it had done the legwork on a new playpark, only for the council to back off when the £3 million pot appeared.

Fair enough, you might think, as there's no point in building a new facility only to rip it up and replace it with a new scheme under a different budget.

But that was two years ago and not a sod has been turned since.

As the existing park becomes more dilapidated, it becomes more of a target for vandals.

So, please, Argyll and Bute Council, let's see some action.

Great effort

WELL done to council and ACHA staff – and the odd councillor – involved in last Friday's Grenfell Tower fundraiser. And we hope the hamstrings survived.

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Never mind the rain

Sir,
We have finally got all the tidying of gazebos, sandbags, police cones and paperwork done.

Duncan, Kerry and I would like to say a huge thank you to all the people who, despite atrocious weather, came out and supported Tarbert Seafood Festival.

There are too many people to thank individually for the tremendous support - you all know who you are.

We have to single out our wonderful queen Jacquelyn and her princesses Beth and Robyn, who smiled through all the rain. Well done girls, you were amazing throughout. Until next year.

**Margaret MacNeill,
Tarbert.**

Just fix the playpark

Sir,
So the council, in its wisdom have removed yet another piece of play equipment from the play area at the Front Green in Lochgilphead.

I have no doubt the reasons will be many and varied but health and safety spring to mind.

Despite Lochgilphead being home to the administrative centre for Argyll and Bute Council, we really are the poor relation.

I understand a new play area was on the cards until a magical £3m regeneration pot appeared and scuppered the plans.

Why? This is a much-needed facility for residents and visitors.

The people responsible at Argyll and Bute Council should hang

their heads in shame for denying the town this very well-used resource.

I know there will be value for money, health and safety, meetings and taking things to local area committees until a decision is made, as is its policy and procedure for such things.

May I suggest the council gets its finger out and just gets it done. Enough is enough.

**A very angry granny,
name and address
supplied.**

Appeal to stop gull culls

Sir,
During the summer, there are always alarmist stories of gulls 'attacking' people – which inevitably lead to calls to cull them.

The holiday period coincides with the birds' breeding season and, being such fierce defenders of their offspring, the birds may occasionally become aggressive to see off any perceived threat to their nest and children.

These 'attacks' are usually exaggerated by the media and rare.

To cull wild animals for protecting their babies is nothing short of ludicrous.

Despite this, if gulls are causing issues, there are a number of effective, humane methods that can be used to discourage birds from nesting on flat roofs or chimneys or from rummaging in our rubbish.

We should show tolerance to these birds, not least because they are just being good parents, and six of the seven gull species are in decline.

**Tod Bradbury,
Animal Aid,
Tonbridge, Kent.**



Overflowing bins at the Crinan car park last Tuesday.

Crinan rubbish heap concern

THE ARGYLLSHIRE Advertiser was contacted last week by users of the Scottish Canals car park at Crinan, concerned at the quantity and smell of rubbish left piled up against rubbish bins.

One Advertiser reader commented on Wednesday last week: 'It's pretty unsightly for people using the canal and the car park and it is beginning to stink as well.'

'It's not great considering they charge folk

to park beside the refuse.' Within a few days, however, the overflowing litter had been cleared.

A spokesperson for Scottish Canals said: 'An error on the part of our waste collector resulted in the bins at Crinan Basin being emptied later than usual which caused a build-up of rubbish.'

Our supplier has now cleared the area and we have taken steps to ensure this doesn't happen again.'



A week later, it is all gone. 06_a31CrinanBins03

Ardrishaig Gala thanks

Sir,
Mid Argyll Pipe Band would like offer thanks to a number of companies and individuals for helping make this year's Ardrishaig Gala such a resounding success.

We would like to acknowledge the support of DA MacDonald Contractors, MacLeod Construction Ltd, Colin Broolly Forestry Ltd, G MacNaughton and Son, The Grey Gull, Rumblin' Tum, AM Transport, Travis Perkins, Jewson, McColls Ardrishaig and J Law, Keystore. Thanks

to Bryan Crawford for organising the football match and donating the silverware – well done to the old boys – as well as to everyone involved with the Friday night disco.

The hard work of all band members and parents as well as the ladies in the North Hall providing teas and bak-

ing is also much appreciated. Special mention must go to the hard-working bar staff at our gala dance: Michael, Pop, Calum and Robert. A brilliant night was had by everyone, capping off a great weekend for Ardrishaig.

**Mid Argyll Pipe
Band committee.**

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602345 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Cranog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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REASSURANCE

BUILT IN

Summer road chipping programme comes to an end

A £1.5 MILLION Argyll and Bute Council surfacing improvement programme concluded in July.

Council-maintained roads in number of areas of Argyll and Bute were involved, as part of a wider £3.6 million council capital road-works programme.

The surface dressing work has involved the application of bitumen on to road surfaces before adding stone chips, designed to seal the road to stop water ingress and improve skid resistance.

Surface dressing work took place across the region, including the C38 at Kilmichael Glen, C39 at Crinan Harbour and the B841 at Bellanoch.

In Kintyre, the treated roads were the B842 Grogport, B8001 Gartavaigh and B842 Caradale.

Huge halibut for the George

TIPPING the scales not too far off the weight of a rugby player, a whopper of a halibut was delivered to Inveraray's George Hotel.

Local supplier Aray Fish sourced the huge halibut for the George from Glasgow-based seafood merchants, WAA Eddie.

Estimated at around

60 years of age, the 98kg (15.5 stone) giant was caught in waters around St Kilda and landed at Kinlochbervie.

Paul Blyth of Aray



James Eddie, left, with star-struck Archie McColl Smith, Paul Blyth and the monster halibut.



A filleting masterclass for Paul with Patrice at The George Hotel.

Fish said: 'This is our biggest purchase ever. The heaviest I've had before this was about 44kg, and I thought that was a whopper.'

And there was a thrill for one young rugby fan as the monster was delivered by James Eddie - who has just retired from Glasgow Warriors to join his

family business. Young Archie McColl Smith is a massive rugby fan, so was very excited to see James.

James, a back row forward, made 126 appearances for Warriors over 10 years before injury forced him to retire last year. He won a number of Scotland A caps and represent-

ed his country at the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

But facing ferocious Fijians and monstrous Maori forwards did not prepare him for delivering a halibut just slightly heavier than former team-mate Finn Russell, as he admitted he'd never seen anything like it.

Check before you build in conservation areas

RESIDENTS living in one of Argyll and Bute's conservation areas or in a listed building are being encouraged to check with the council before going ahead with develop-

ment. The area has 32 designated conservation areas, from Campbeltown to Tobermory. Some small-scale plans, such as for a building, shed or boundary wall, will not

need planning permission as they will come under 'permitted development'.

This is unlikely to apply to homes in conservation areas or to listed buildings, and people are reminded that they should get advice before doing any work.

Conservation areas are those that have been given protected status in order to preserve its natural built features, cultural heritage and historic character.

Listed buildings will also need specific consent for any internal or external alterations if they affect the historic fabric of the building.

Policy lead for planning, Councillor David Kinniburgh, said: 'To keep our historic landscapes intact we have guidelines for householders and businesses who live in conservation areas to assist with any proposed development.

'Just as important to the landscape and character of Argyll and Bute are the 2000 listed buildings we have across the area. They are a special part of our rich heritage.

'Please see the planning pages on our website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk which have full details of how to apply for permission.'

Anyone who does need planning permission can now use the council's pre-planning application service, which has been improved to make it more streamlined and speedy. Charges for the service will be levied from August 1 for some development. There will be no fee for householder and small-scale development.

The website also has maps of all the conservation areas, and residents can check whether their property is a listed building.

GRADUATION



ASHLEY FERGUSON
 Graduated from Edinburgh University with a BSc with Honours in Medical Sciences. Ashley is the younger daughter of Lena and Archie Ferguson of Castleton and is a past pupil of Lochgilphead High School.

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A new place to float your boat.



8 new pontoons linked to the new pier enables a safe and inviting way for visiting boat and yacht lovers to explore the island.

23 moorings are available - £15 per night, £20 per night for the pontoon and £5 per day visit to the mooring.

Amenities available at the Boathouse Bar and the Gigha Hotel.

Come fly to Gigha!



Gigha's very own airstrip is located at the South end of the island and is available to private planes and microlights.

Landing fees for single engines **£15** and twin engines **£25**.
Microlight landing fee is **£4**.

This includes transport to and from The Gigha Hotel.

All pilots are required to phone The Trust office on **01583 505390** to enquire the airstrip is free from sheep and the conditions are suitable for landing.

THE BOATHOUSE RESTAURANT

ISLE OF GIGHA



Award-winning beachside restaurant overlooking Ardmish Bay.
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The wee gift shed

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You will be amazed at this hidden gem in a little corner of paradise!

A selection of hand made jewellery, knitted teddies, animals, hats and scarves.

Just follow the track opposite Achamore House.

Caroline - 01583 505151
caroline_mcvean@yahoo.co.uk



Gigha Gallery

Arts & Crafts



Exhibition and tearoom open daily

Stunning local paintings and handcrafts from the island including knitwear, jewellery and skincare. Home baking and teapots!
Preview for Joanna Powell's whimsical musicians painted with love..Sat 30th June 12-5pm all welcome for wine and live music.

Gigha Gallery & Craft Shop
01583 505 150
henri.smashingglass@gmail.com
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Summer Solutions with new ranges now in stock



DURING the summer madness there is rarely much time to think about maintenance and fencing but if you're in Oban for the sales it's worth looking in at Hodge Fencing. Much less than a mile from Oban Livestock Mart and with plenty of room for trailers we're now very easy to get to.

It's worth seeing what we hold in stock including IAE handling products, gates and new creosoted posts. Our customers find it re-assuring to know that in any fencing emergency our wide range of products can be delivered quickly and easily. You are very welcome just to come in and look around or to pick up anything you need.

If you're looking for special sizes or even special species of timber we can source uk grown timber in any cutting size, handy for sheds, bridges and

other projects. We also hold a full list of fencing contractors if you need contact details or quotes.

We have just introduced a new range of screws and fixings and we can offer a huge range of gate latches and fastening systems. We're also happy to talk through problems and technical challenges and explain the solutions on offer. If our customers have suggestions for products they would like us to stock then these are very welcome. If you can't make it in to have a look for yourself then you can see all our products online at www.hodgefencing.co.uk

We wish all our customers the very best of luck for the show season and we're crossing our fingers for decent weather for you.



WITH its long horns and touselled auburn coat adorning many a shortbread tin, the hairy Highland cow is one of the most distinctive and enduring symbols of rural Scotland, and amid all today's talk of wilderness, it is an apt reminder that this is also proud farming country, a fact that villages and towns throughout the region celebrate with a summer fixture, the Agricultural Show.

These events are the much-anticipated forum for serious farmers to show off their carefully bred and reared livestock, from those Highland bulls and heifers, to sheep, poultry, and even llamas, in the hope of winning prizes that are far more about reputation than reward. They are also a much anticipated social occasion, bringing together visitors and residents of all ages.

Most shows include competitions in trade and craft categories, from making jam and knitting, to carving sticks and growing vegetables, with the work submitted on display for the public to browse throughout the day. They are lively, good-natured events, but the competition is tough.

Agricultural shows are a highlight of the west coast's

social calendar. These events are important for the farming community, but they are also an entertaining day out for the family. They celebrate everything to do with agriculture and the countryside, and feature the usual demonstrations and judging of farm animals, as well as parades, music, arts, crafts, food and fun activities. Stalls offer local fare, pipe bands provide the soundtrack and the atmosphere is always festive.

As well as being a chance to socialise with like-minded folk, exchange views and news and maybe partake of a dram or two, these shows have a serious side to them. They are an opportunity to showcase stock, add to their value if rosettes come their way and assess the competition.

Some shows are known for their sheep stock judging, where the sheep are brought off the hills, cleaned up and inspected, talked over and examined with great detail.

Fleeces are brushed and fluffed, horns are polished and hooves cleaned before they are turned into the ring where they are scrutinised by not only the judges, but neighbouring farmers and shepherds.

Other shows are known for

their cattle, like Dalmally, where Highland cattle from folds all over the country are brought for judging in the hopes of taking away the supreme champion title or Salen, where farming is so important to the community.

SALEN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Held August 10, the Salen show is Mull's second agricultural show of the year, this time at Salen showground at Aros and is one of the highlights of the farming year.

Alongside the stockjudging, horse show, food and craft stalls and dog show is the popular terrier racing and horticultural and produce tent showcasing the island's talent. Visitors and locals alike look forward to this fun day out for the entire family.

SUNART AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Loch Sunart provides the lovely backdrop for Sunart's annual show on August 10 at Strontian Show Field, where stock judging of cattle, sheep and poultry



takes place alongside crafts and home produce.

The show starts with a pipe band parade, while around the show ring girls and boys will take to the boards for the Highland dancing competitions.

A special feature of this year's show will be an after party dance featuring Trail West. Always a family friendly and fun show, it is the highlight of the local social calendar and a must-see for visitors to the area.

ISLAY, JURA AND COLONSAY AGRICULTURAL SHOW

As the name suggest, this show draws competitors and visitors from the three islands to Bridgend on Islay.

This year's show is held on August 10, and alongside the stockjudging of sheep, pigs, cattle and horses, there is also a gymkhana, side stalls of food, crafts and other goods, a pipe band, dog show and plenty to keep the children occupied. The céilidh dance in the evening is always a popular way to wind down after the day's events and usually goes on into the wee hours.

MID-ARGYLL AGRICULTURAL SHOW

At the Mid-Argyll Agricultural Show on August 12 at Kilmory in Lochgilphead, hundreds of exhibitors enter competitions in baking, produce, crafts, flowers and vegetables as well as the dog and livestock classes. Tim Lister will preside over the 120th Show, supported by vice presidents Fergus Lyon and Caitriona MacLeod. A large crowd of spectators will enjoy watching the judging of cattle, sheep, dogs, horses, ponies and poultry competitions. Other regular attractions are the display of vintage tractors and the delightful pets section will continue together with the terrier racing competitions. Ewan MacInnes and colleagues with four sets of coach and horses will delight the crowds at this year's show.

APPIN AGRICULTURAL SHOW

The setting for Appin Agricultural Show has to be near the top of the list of the most picturesque, looking out as it does over Loch Linnhe to Castle Stalker. Held August

19, this is the Appin Show's 60th anniversary

This small but perfectly formed show is renowned for its after show dance in the village hall, but during the day it is a focal point for the community, with a good show of stock, including from the island of Lismore, and a variety of entertainment, from children's sports and dancing to young farmers testing their strength.

DALMALLY AGRICULTURAL SHOW

The final agricultural show in the West Highlands calendar on September 2, the Dalmally Show at the village's mart is known for its Highland cattle competitions, with entries from all over Scotland.

At this well attended show, visitors will enjoy a wide variety of attractions such as the ever popular shinty match, trade stalls, stockjudging and terrier racing. The judging includes Highland and commercial beef cattle, Blackface sheep, dogs, poultry, baking and preserves, as well as displays of handicrafts and horticulture.

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DALMALLY SALE – FRIDAY 28TH JULY 2017

PRIZE LIST

United Auctions annual Fair day Show & Sale of Cattle held at Dalmally, an increased entry of 412 top quality store cattle and 36 breeding cattle were on offer to a packed ringside of buyers. Judging was in the hands of Mr. M Steel, Craignathro, Forfar.

CHAROLAIS BLK

1st Semple, Dippen
2nd Semple, Dippen
3rd Ronald, East Laggan

LIMOUSIN BLK

1st Currie, Low Dunasherry
2nd Semple, Dippen
3rd Buchanan, Achnaba

CHAROLAIS HFR

1st Semple, Dippen
2nd Semple, Dippen
3rd MacIntyre, Glenehervie

LIMOUSIN HFR

1st Semple, Dippen
2nd Buchanan, Achnaba
3rd Currie, Low Dunasherry

ANY OTHER BREED HFR

1st Lines, Killocrow

PEN OF FOUR BLKS

1st Semple, Dippen
2nd Lines, Killocrow
3rd Ronald, East Laggan

CHAMPION

Lines, Killocrow (BRB) 416kgs
£1250.

RESERVE CHAMPION

Semple, Dippen (Lim) hfr
430kgs £1200.

BEST OPPOSITE SEX TO CHAMPION

Semple Dippen (Char) blk
488kgs £1260.

Bullocks averaged 251.59ppk to 313.80p for a 290kg LimX from Auchgoyle and £1390 for a 615kg CHX from Balegreggan.

Heifers averaged 246.47ppk to 303.90p for a 408kg LimX from Strathnafanaig and to £1350 for a 585kg CHX from Balegreggan.

TOP PRICES (BULLOCKS)

PPH- Carskies (AA) £1350, £1320; Killocrow (BRB) £1100, £1080; Balegreggan (Char) £1390, £1360; Tangasdale (Gal) £1110; Dippen (Lim) £1210 & Uigle (Lim) £1200; Balegreggan (Sim) £1170 & Strath (Sim)

£1160
PPK- Point (AA) 277.30p & 262.50p; Ruaig (BRB) 308.20p & Killocrow (BRB) 269.60p; Point (Char) 291p & Couston (Char) 280.40p; Auchgoyle (Lim) 313.80p & Scoor 295.90p; Kildalloig (Lui) 273.40p & 268p; Barnakill (SH) 258.30p; Kildalloig (Sim) 268p & Duallin 248.70p.

TOP PRICES (HEIFERS)

PPH- Killocrow (BRB) £1250; Balegreggan (Char) £1350 & £1340; Uigle (Lim) £1310 & £1260; Kildalloig (Lui) £820; Duallin (Sim) £960.

PPK- Point (AA) 239.9p & Kildalloig (AA) 235.6p; Killocrow (BRB) 300.50p & 264.70p; Dippen (Char) 291.70p & Couston 276.50p; Strathnafanaig (Lim) 303.90p & Achnaba (Lim) 302.20p; Muckairn (Sim) 256.50p & Starth (Sim) 251.40p.

BREEDING CATTLE

Ledcharrie (Cow with hfr calf) £1520.
Ledcharrie (Cow with blk calf) £1270.



BLACKFACE SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

SALE DATES 2017

EWE LAMBS	RAMS	SEPTEMBER CONT.	store lambs held at all auctions	SEPTEMBER CONT.
AUGUST	OCTOBER	22 Dalmally		15 Dingwall Show
25 Stirling (Cal)	2 Ballymena	23 Dumfries	SEPTEMBER	19 Forfar Show
31 Ayr	5 Newton Stewart	26 Oban	1 Dumfries Show	22 Fort William
	6 Dingwall	26 Kingussie	4 Stirling (UA) Show	22 Hexham Show
SEPTEMBER	9 Hexham	26 Lanark -	5 Oban Show	OCTOBER
14 Stirling (UA)	11 Oban	UNCROSSED	6 Lanark Show	12 St Boswells Show
16 Castle Douglas	14 Stirling (UA)	27 Lanark -	9 Dalmally Show	17 Longtown Show
16 Portree	16 Castle Douglas	CROSSED	11 Stirling (Cal) Show	
17 Longtown	17 Portree	27 Stirling (Cal)		
19 Lanark -	17 Longtown	27 Longtown		
6 Lanark	19 Lanark -	27 Thainstone		
9 Dumfries	SHEARLINGS	28 Hexham		
15 Hexham	20 Lanark -	30 Stirling (UA)		
15 Newcastleton	LAMBS	30 Loughash Farm Sale		
19 Stirling (UA)	21 Dalmally			
21 Huntly	NOVEMBER	OCTOBER		
22 Dalmally	2 Lanark	5 Fort William		
23 Dumfries	3 Fort William	6 Dingwall		
26 Oban		6 Dumfries		
27 Lanark	GIMMERS	10 Longtown		
27 Longtown	AND EWES	11 Lanark		
27 Thainstone	SEPTEMBER	12 St Boswells		
28 Hexham	14 Ayr			
OCTOBER	15 Newton Stewart	WETHER LAMBS		
6 Dingwall	15 Newcastleton	AUGUST		
10 Longtown	19 Forfar	Weekly sales of		
12 St Boswells	20 Castle Douglas			
12 Hexham	21 Huntly			
	21 Ayr			

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For further information on the breed contact
Aileen McFadzean Tel: 07768 820405, Email: aileen@scottish-blackface.co.uk



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LAIRG

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CUMBRIA

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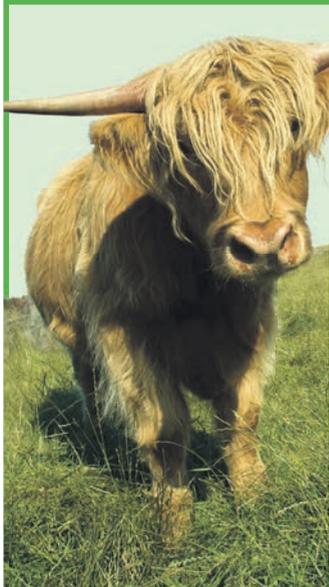
07710 488 679/ (01290) 661 258

Jack Buckel (Cumbria) 07446 912 381



Champion beast from Rodney Lines, Killocrow his two children and judge Matthew Steel, Craignathro, Forfar.

Sunart & District Agricultural Society Show & Family Fun Day Out



Saturday 12th August 2017
Strontian Showfield
Judging Commences 9.30am

Sheep, Cattle, Poultry and Dog Show
Local Crafts, Highland Dancing,
return of the Horse show and so much more
Including Bubbles the Clown!

Adults: £ 5, Child: £2
Family: £12, Concession: £3

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KINTYRE SHEEPDOG TRIALS will be held at Clochkeil Farm on Friday 11th August from 8am

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- Case 856 XL Plus 4WD, 1994, c/w Quicke US 2300, 85 HP £11,495
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- Kubota STV36 Compact, 2011, c/w Kubota 6ft mid deck, ex council £9,495
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- John Deere 2140 XE 2WD, 1985, just of local farm £6,995
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- International 856 XL Turbo 2WD, 1985, 2 spools, 85HP approx £6,795
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- Massey Ferguson 565 2WD, very good tinwork £6,295
- Kubota B2400, 2006, hydraulic Snow Plough & Salt Spreader £5,995
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- Benford Terex PT6000 Forward Tip Dumper, 4WD, 2007, 6000G £6,495
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Fane Valley Stores

Government thanks for Argyll Gambia charity

A MID Argyll-based charity has been recognised at the highest level for its efforts to help people in the Gambia.

Based in Inveraray, First Aid 4 Gambia has been providing first aid training and equipment

for schools and nurseries in the African nation for almost eight years.

But it was back in February – after a serious accident where a taxi ran into a crowd leaving a Gambian football match – that

the charity launched a special appeal to help ship across a major donation of supplies.

The charity's co-founder Bill Nelson explained that UK manufacturer Reliance Medical Supplies had offered to help with supplies and equipment worth £50,000.

He explained: 'They contacted me to see if we would be interested in some free donations and I accepted their kind offer.'

'Later in the week they contacted me to say they had six pallets of materials for us. When I showed them pictures of the recent accident and explained the lack of supplies in

Gambia they increased

their donation to 14 large pallets.'

The supplies were one thing, but to ship it to Africa would cost £2,500, so an appeal was launched.

Bill Nelson told the *Advertiser*: 'We managed (just) to cover the shipping bill of £2,500, and it was a bit touch and go for a while.'

'We managed to ship 24.5 cubic metres of supplies in two shipments in March and April. The bulk was passed on to the Gambian Ministry of Health to their central stores at the main hospital in Banjul.'

'We retained some for our own projects and to also pass on directly to various small commu-

nity clinics. The ministry agreed to distribute the donation to the other hospitals and approved clinics.'

Then, on July 14, Bill Nelson received a letter with an official-looking stamp.

Sent on behalf of the Gambian Minister of Health, it read: 'I have the honour and pleasure to extend this ministry's profound gratitude and appreciation to you for the donation of hospital equipment and first aid boxes to this ministry and for your invaluable contributions towards the advancement of our health delivery system.'

'We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.'



The vital medical supplies are unloaded in the Gambia, thanks to a fundraising effort earlier this year.



Supplies are handed to grateful members of the Gambian fire service.

Argyll and Bute rubs shoulders with big hitters in personnel awards

ARGYLL and Bute Council has been shortlisted for a top national award.

The local authority has reached the final of the Personnel Today awards 2017 in the award for 'Excellence in Public Sector HR' category.

It is one of nearly 100 organisations and individuals who have made the shortlist for the annual awards, which recognise and reward excellence in employers.

Policy lead for corporate services, Rory

Colville, said: 'I am delighted we have been chosen as a finalist in these major and prestigious awards.'

'The calibre of those on the shortlist is extremely high and we are up there with some of the biggest names in the UK, from across the public and private sector.'

'It's a terrific achievement and we'll be one of the few organisations flying the flag for Scotland at the final.'

'A great organisation is made by the people it employs, and Argyll

and Bute Council has some of the very best.'

'Congratulations to everyone and the best of luck in the final.'

In the same category, Argyll and Bute will be up against British Business Bank, NHS Supply Chain, Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust, OneSource, Thurrock Council, University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust and Worcestershire Council.

Also nominated for prizes are household names such as

Mercedes Benz, Barclays and Great Western Railways.

The winners will be announced in London on November 21.



Councillor Rory Colville.

One-stop-shop for planning and building advice

ARGYLL and Bute Council is reminding potential builders to check whether their project needs permission from the local authority.

Many small-scale developments may not need planning permission, which can save people time and money.

Under 'permitted development', some work can go ahead without the need to apply to the council. Full details can be found on the planning pages of the council website, which have been upgraded to provide a one-stop-shop for planning and building advice and

services. There are a number of types of alterations or extensions covered by permitted development. Examples include building a boundary wall garden shed, porch, putting up solar panels and certain garden structures, all subject to certain sizes and height restrictions.

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A new Edinburgh Fringe show by Ellie Dubois explores what lies beneath circus performers' professional image.

Tayvallich performer lifts circus veil at Edinburgh Fringe show

TAYVALLICH circus performer Ellie Dubois is returning to the Edinburgh Fringe after her highly acclaimed 'Ringside' show in 2015.

Ellie's latest creation 'No Show' joyously and heart-breakingly reveals what lies hidden beneath circus showmanship.

What do you expect when you go to the circus? The greatest show on earth? The glitzy smiles, the glitter of sequins, the drum rolls as performers who seem superhuman effortlessly perform death-defying acts?

No Show opens with five strong, glamorous female circus artists – the perfect showgirls performing to the best of their ability, showcasing their spellbinding acrobatics and flexibility.

After this opening number the show starts to break down.

Frustrations

Instead of showing perfect tricks, No Show starts to unveil attempts and failures, revealing frustrations and how artists are pitted against each other.

The audience learns of

everything that could go wrong from finger crushing to concussion and shoulder dislocation in a Cyr wheel act.

Behind the flawless smiles and perfect execution of traditional circus performance, see the wobbles, the pain and the real cost of aiming for perfection.

This is a show for anyone who has tried, failed and failed better.

No Show deconstructs superhuman circus performers and shows them as vulnerable and human.

It explores the idea of not always making it and about knowing when to give up and when to go on. It asks whether it might sometimes be better and more interesting to be flawed rather than flawless.

Pressure

With an all-female cast, this is particularly relevant in an era when women feel under increased pressure to be perfect in every aspect of their lives.

This is a production that puts female strength, skill and power centre stage. Ellie

Dubois said: 'With No Show, I wanted to break the mould of male-dominated circus ensembles by working with five talented female circus performers.'

'It's a fun and spectacular circus show for all ages, but it's also a piece about ambition and achievement which questions what success really means and why we push ourselves to accomplish it.'

You can see No Show during August at Summerhall (The Old Lab), Summerhall Place, Edinburgh.

Food, ale and music - can you dig it?

THIS weekend offers the chance to experience Fyne Food, Fyne Ales and Fyne Music at Argyll's open air museum.

Auchindrain will be getting the Time Team treatment as archaeologists work together with young people to learn more about the township.

Members of the public are invited to get close to the dig, talk to the experts and be among the first to see the finds as part of an open day.

The event, on Saturday August 5, will cel-

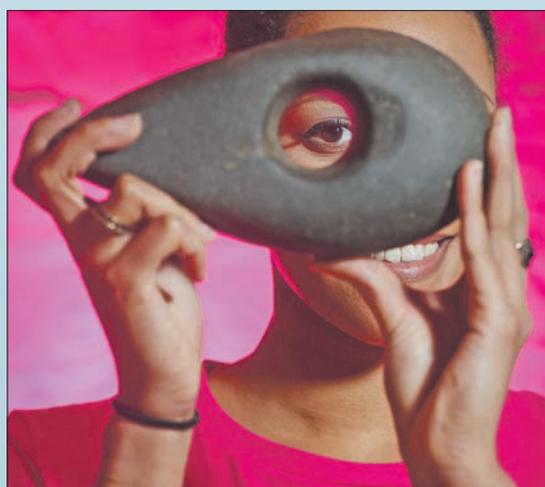
brate an archaeology project made possible by the National Lottery and Museums Galleries Scotland. The Auchindrain Trust received £10,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the project and Museums Galleries Scotland donated a further £3,500.

The project is part of a partnership between Auchindrain, Xchange Scotland and Dig It! 2017. It will enable 12 young people with disabilities or from disadvantaged backgrounds to take part in

the professionally-supervised excavation of a site within Auchindrain and create a small exhibition of their finds.

Bob Clark, Auchindrain's curator and director, said: 'We are thrilled to have received support thanks to the National Lottery and Museums Galleries Scotland.'

'In addition to the dig and exhibition, we've lined up a great programme of music and crafts to mirror the lives of those who once lived in the township. Fyne Ale will also be served



The Auchindrain project is part of Dig It! 2017.

alongside local food offer heritage recipes' and the tea room will Lucy Casot, head of

HLF Scotland, said: 'Uncovering where and how our ancestors lived helps communities understand their own history and identity. Thanks to National Lottery players, HLF supports projects such as Dig It! 2017 at Auchindrain that produce tantalising clues about the past and provide volunteers with new skills.'

All activities are included in the price of admission. Find out more at the digit2017.com/events/auchindrain website.



No such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothes.



Damp conditions didn't deter dogs and handlers for the show.

Dog show, paella and dancing – it all happens in Tayvallich

TAYVALLICH was the place to be last weekend as revellers enjoyed the annual fundraising jamboree for the village hall, which remains at the heart of the community.

The fun weekend raised more than £5,000 for the running and development of the hall.

It all got under way on Friday with a barbecue and live music at the Tayvallich Inn and on Saturday at the hall and playing field a

large crowd of locals and visitors enjoyed sports and games including children's races, a bouncy castle and a pop-up crazy golf course.

Everyone was sustained by teas and home-baking and an enormous paella. The dog show, incorporating waggiest tail, fancy dress and doggy agility classes, kept spectators entertained.

Stalls by Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation, Friends of the Sound of Jura, RNLI

and Highland Homewares were popular.

The festivities were rounded off in the evening with a capacity crowd at the family ceilidh, who birked and reeled to the rousing sounds of the accomplished young musicians of the Argyll Ceilidh Trail. The hall was, quite literally, jumping.

A raffle was drawn at the ceilidh with prizes generously donated by local businesses including the Tayvallich Inn, Portavadie Marina



Who can resist the coin roll challenge?

and Spa, Tayvallich Coffee Shop, Fyne Ales and local artist Susan Berry.

A roll the coin event, where participants tried to win a bottle of whisky by getting their pound coin closest to the bottle, was enjoyed.

The World Crab Racing Championship, a fun event for children, brought celebrations to a close on Sunday giving humans, canines and crustaceans a 12-month rest before it all kicks off again in the last weekend of July 2018.

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Ewan's own team of bays - three Dutch warmbloods and a part-bred Welsh cob.

Arrive at show in style

NEXT weekend's Mid Argyll Show will be a one-off.

Never again are show-goers likely to have the chance to travel by horse and carriage to this annual event.

Ewan MacInnes, originally from Lochgilphead but now living in Aberdeenshire, will have two horse-drawn charabancs and two wagonette/brakes taking passengers from Kilmartin, via Bridgend and MACpool, to the Mid Argyll showground.

Passengers

The carriages have the capacity to take 35 passengers, and the plan is to leave Kilmartin at around 10.45am bound for the show.

Mid Argyll Show president Tim Lister said: 'This is going to be a spectacular addition to this year's show.'

Tickets for the carriage ride from Kilmartin cost £50 and are available via the Mid Argyll Show Facebook page or by calling Tim Lister on 01546 605239.

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History comes alive on Lochgilphead front green

There will be plenty more blue-painted fun on the front green on Saturday.

HOT ON the heels of the recent Viking invasion, it is the turn of the Celts and Picts to overrun Lochgilphead. This Saturday, August 5, sees the return of the Lochgilphead Celtic and Pictish Festival. After last year's successful inaugural event, organisers at Lochgilphead Community Council have been working hard to put together an interactive programme of events for families to enjoy. From battle re-enactments and weapons demonstrations to workshops in wood carving, spinning, weaving and more, there will be something for everyone. New additions for this year include a giant labyrinth and the Lughnasadh games – a traditional celebration and contests of strength and speed. Event co-ordinator Brian MacLennan of Lochgilphead Community Council said: 'We are delighted to be able to build on last year's success and bring this festival back again. 'It has been a great way of bringing people into the town at an important time in the tourist season. 'Everyone is working very hard to ensure another successful day which will firmly establish Lochgilphead Celtic and Pictish Festival on the Mid Argyll calendar.' The festival will get under way at 11am on Lochgilphead Front Green.

Wildlife Wonders in association with Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation

THE LAST couple of weeks have seen increasing numbers of visitors coming along to our events and visiting Barrandaimh wildlife centre.



A red squirrel gnaws on a piece of antler.

We had a very successful 'Seashore Safari' at Carsaig with more than 30 people, armed with nets and buckets, scouring the shoreline as the tide retreated.

We knew it was a good beach but even we were surprised by the variety of animals found. Hermit crabs proved very popular, as did a variety of weird and wonderful fish. Lump-suckers, pipefish, blennies, flounders, bullheads and sea sticklebacks all featured alongside scallops, sea spiders and dogwhelks.

We also had a very busy butterfly day. The weather wasn't great, so we set about making our own. A steady stream of butterflies and dragonflies were proudly carried away by both local folk and visitors.

Knapdale continues to be the place to be in Scotland for amazing wildlife experiences. We have had some wonderful views of our red squirrels recently as they become used to people quietly watching them from the windows. The image shows one of them gnawing on a piece of deer antler which not only helps keep its teeth in good shape but also provides vital calcium. The beavers, still busily getting on with their lives,

can also provide moments of surprise. The other night I was within a metre of one that quietly swam almost to my feet and then calmly went about its business.

Finally, why has it gone quiet? I am sure we all notice the multitude of birds singing throughout the spring so where have they all gone now that we are in the middle of summer?

Singing is a luxury most birds can't afford at this time of year. Small birds such as Blue tits, and others that will be staying all winter, are forming mixed flocks to find food.

Our migrants are starting to feed up for their long journey home. Some, such as adult Cuckoos, are already travelling to their winter home in the forests of the Congo Basin. Others are moulting and have no wish to advertise themselves during this vulnerable period.

The centre at Barrandaimh is open Monday to Friday until August 18. We also have a summer programme of walks and events. Full details via our website heartofargyllwildlife.org or on our Facebook page.

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A quacking day of Inveraray fundraising

FEATHERS flew on the River Aray in the annual fundraising Duck Derby.

Organised on Sunday July 30 by Inveraray and district branch of The Royal British Legion Scotland, this has become a fun event for all the family.

Helped by Alistair Rodden, Robert McCulloch and Robert Wilson, Ian Lindsay set off 500 ducks off in a yellow cascade, each sponsored to the tune of £1.

After a slow start, the pace picked up and two competitors found the faster current they were looking for.

A third sneaked up on the inside on an eddy as the rest of the 500 flocked together in the pack further upstream.

In the end, it was the speedy duck sponsored by Inveraray woman Lesley Pirie - no slouch herself in the speed stakes - that crossed the winning line in first place, earning Lesley a tidy £50.

The second prize winner will be heading to Gillespie's butchers for a T-bone with his £25 winnings. What else would Jak the Jack Russell - owned by David and Cindy MacInnes - do with the cash?

The third place prize of £15 was won by young William McArthur. After a lot of shepherding work by Robert Wilson in his rubber dinghy, the final duck to cross the line was one sponsored by 'DJ' MacDonald of Inveraray, earning him £10.

At the end of an afternoon enjoyed by children of all ages, as well as the many canine 'helpers' who took a shine to the ducks, Ian Lindsay said: 'Thanks to everyone who came out to support the event and bought ducks. It's been great fun.'



The crowd is enthralled by the bright yellow spectacle as the competitors cross the finishing line.

06_a31DuckRace04



Ian Lindsay gets the race started as Robert McCulloch stands by.

06_a31DuckRace01



Children, ducks and dogs all had a great time. 06_a31DuckRace08



Duck 199 gets some help out the water from eager labrador Daisy. 06_a31DuckRace07



Racing down the River Aray. 06_a31DuckRace03

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

CLACHAN ART SHOW
Clachan Village Hall
Friday August 11th 10-6
Saturday August 12th 10-6
Sunday August 13th 11-5
Exhibits for sale
Refreshments available
Pauline Simson - 01880 740255

TABLE TOP SALE
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Lochgilthead Community Council presents
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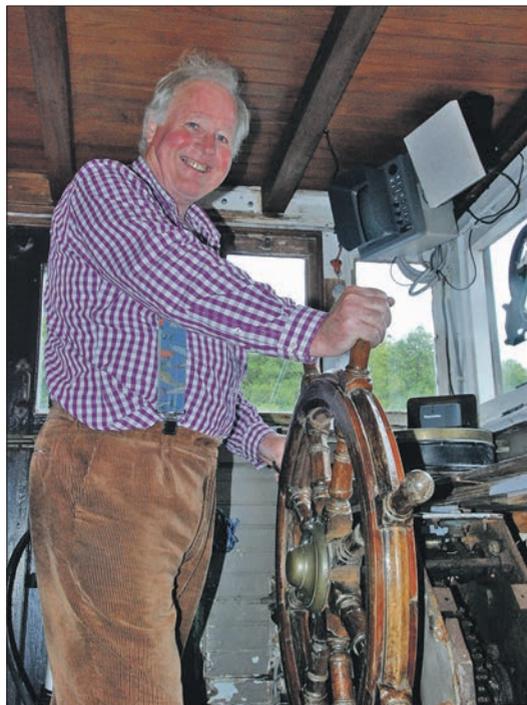
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Handing in: Saturday 5th August, 10am - 4pm at Lochgilthead Drill Hall.

Crinan Duke seeks new owner for TLC



Nick Walker in the Duke's wheelhouse - looking to steer her towards a secure future.
06_a31dukeofnormandy07

SHE HAS appeared in countless photographs of Crinan and must be a feature in 'selfies' from Auckland to Anchorage.

German-built former customs boat Duke of Normandy II has been a resident of Crinan Basin for decades. Owners Nick and Rachel Walker are now looking to sell the vessel to a new owner who will look after her properly.

After a couple of years trying to attract buyers through traditional means, they had little success. Maritime agents, shipping magazines and a poster in the wheelhouse window failed to come up with a buyer.

They turned to modern technology, advertising 'The Duke' on Ebay and posting on Facebook.

'We've recently been contacted by someone who may be interested,' said Nick. 'But whoever takes her on, the boat needs someone to love her - perhaps younger people with an interest in mechanical engineering.'

He added: 'I would even be willing to help the new owner with advice on any aspects of the boat.'

Crinan Ferry couple Nick and Rachel bought the Duke of Normandy II from British Waterways in 1992 after spotting her languishing in a poor condition on the Caledonian Canal.

After a period of restoration, using skills learned during work on the VIC 32 puffer project - and 'learning as we went along' as Nick put it - she became been a faithful

vessel to the family. Nick said: 'She provided lots of fun at Brest and Douarnenez Classic boat festivals between 1996 and 2008. In 1994 we had the holiday of a lifetime, taking her to Stockholm via the Gota canal and Copenhagen.'

The Duke of Normandy II has a fascinating history. Built in Oldenburg for the German customs in 1934, she was named 'Ems' and was taken over by the German Navy at the outbreak of war. Renamed 'FK01', she was fitted with fore and aft machine guns and patrolled the waters around the Channel Isles.

She was fired on by American troops at Granville on the Cher-

bourg peninsula in March 1945 and still bears the bullet holes.

She became a British registered vessel at the end of the war and, after service on the River Rhine with the British army, she was bought for £700 by the States of Jersey from the Admiralty.

For 17 years she performed many tasks as the 'Duke of Normandy', including escorting the Queen Mother on a royal visit, starting yacht races at Gorey, towing and tugging and taking people from Jersey to the Minquiers Rocks on an annual visit to remove French flags and replace with them with the Union Jack.

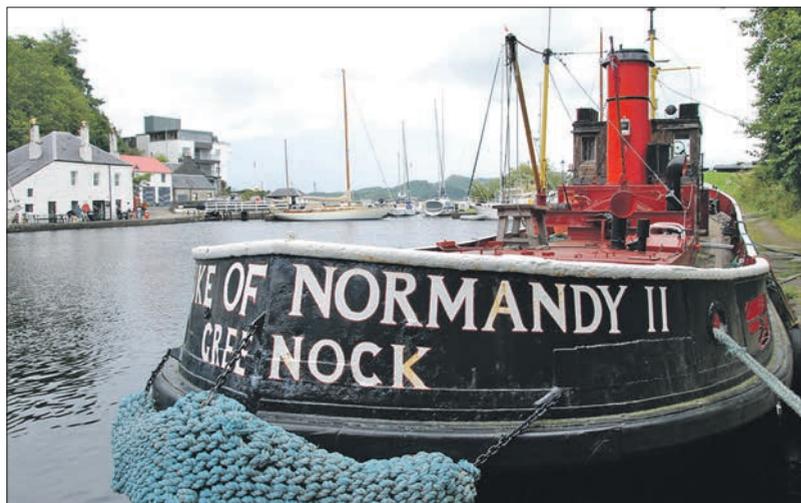
The boat was bought by a Scottish company to tow barges loaded

with dynamite to Orkney and barges loaded with cement to Portavadie, Loch Fyne, in anticipation of concrete oil rigs being built there which, of course, never happened.

Bought by British Waterways in 1975, she was used to tow the 'gate-lifter' barge on the Caledonian Canal.

Nick concluded: 'We have enjoyed this fabulous boat, but our children are grown now and we decided to put her up for sale. She would suit a group of interested people with mechanical minds who can continue looking after this wonderful vessel with such a rich maritime heritage.'

If you are interested, The Duke can be yours for an asking price of £60,000.



Above: A familiar sight around Crinan.
06_a31dukeofnormandy02



Left: On the water off the west coast - her natural environment.

Laughter, banter and 1,000 voices

PEOPLE from throughout Argyll will be gathering in Helensburgh next week to celebrate the work of the area's 1,000 Voices project - and have a laugh.

The Helensburgh event is the culmination of a week of activities, building upon several years of Argyll Third Sector Interface (TSI) community resilience work.

The 1,000 Voices aims to open up opportunities for older people, supporting a wide variety of groups and activities ranging from exercise classes to day trips, lunch clubs to Men's

Sheds and knitting groups to computer classes.

Project co-ordinator Ian McVicar said: 'It is well established now that loneliness is as harmful to a person's health as smoking. With the older population of Argyll growing in numbers, we try and make sure there is always something to do, somewhere to go, someone to talk to and something to look forward to.'

'People can find themselves at a loose end for a variety of reasons, even simply a lack of having someone to go out with. We want to bring opportunities for

having a laugh, or just socialising, into the heart of our communities.'

The 1,000 Voices week will run from Monday August 7, with the Helensburgh event taking place on Thursday August 10, where there will be musical treats, refreshments, stalls and a raffle.

Ian added: 'This is a great reason to bring people together. Amongst our planned activities there will doubtless be a great deal of blether and banter.'

The 1,000 Voices is an Argyll TSI Project, funded through the Lottery and NHS.

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Fine show of sheep and machinery at Cairndow



Judge David Murray casts his eye over the open championship class.
06_a31CairndowSheep10

A LITTLE rain was never going to deter hardy Argyll shepherds and sheep, and together they put on a fantastic show at the head of Loch Fyne.

The weather cleared later in the day for Cowal Blackface Sheep Breeders annual show at Clachan Farm, and a good turnout of spectators lined the show ring.

It was no easy task for Aberfeldy judge David Murray of Lurgan Farm, but few would argue with his choice of open champion.

The open winner was a powerful sook-it gimmer from Messrs McArthur, Arnicle Farm, Glenbarr, and the same family pretty much swept the boards across all the open classes.

Only the McVicar family of Lephinchapel could claim the distinction of knocking Arnicle off its perch in one class, as their confined champion ewe lamb took the open honours.

Confined champion was a ewe from Messrs Jackson, Pole Farm, Lochgoilhead. David and Jock Jackson's near neighbours at Drimsynie secured the reserve champion rosette with their gimmer.

After his first time judging at Cowal, David Murray said: 'It



The open champion from Arnicle, Glebarr. 06_a31CairndowSheep13

was a really strong show of sheep across the board, but the open champion ewe was a worthy winner. She impressed me because she has bags of character and is just a good all-round sheep.'

David McArthur of Arnicle explained what he believes made his show champion stand out: 'She has got great character, moves about well and has a good shape of head.'

He added: 'All in all we're very pleased with how we've done today.'

An added attraction was also on the field in the form of a display of vintage tractors and cars, courtesy of Cowal Vintage Transport Club.

Two Kintyre enthusiasts were there with their gleaming 1950s tractors. John Gourlay



Jackie Morrison receives his trophy from Cowal Vintage Transport Club president, Tam MacDonald. 06_a31CairndowSheep15



Winner of the young handlers' class was two-year-old Niamh Toner, pictured with her ewe lamb and helped a wee bit by dad Chris. 06_a31CairndowSheep09

from Clachan brought along his spotless 1957 Ferguson 35, which he – just the tractor's second owner – has looked after for 30 years.

The trophy for best in show, presented by Cowal Vintage Transport Club, went to Campbelltown enthusiast Jackie Morrison for his McCormick International B250, dating from 1957.

Show results: Confined old tup - Jackson, Pole; Open old tup - McArthur, Arnicle.

Confined shearing - McVicar, Lephinchapel; Open shearing - McArthur, Arnicle.

Young farmers tup lamb - Roan and Luke McVicar, Lephinchapel; Confined tup lamb - Campbell, Drimsynie; Open tup lamb - McArthur, Arnicle'

Confined ewe - Jackson, Pole; Open ewe - McArthur, Arnicle.

Confined young ewe - McVicar, Lephinchapel; Open young ewe - McArthur, Arnicle.

Confined gimmer - Campbell, Drimsynie; Open gimmer - McArthur, Arnicle.

Young farmer ewe lamb - Niamh Toner; Confined ewe lamb - McVicar, Lephinchapel; Open ewe lamb - McVicar, Lephinchapel.

Confined group - Campbell, Drimsynie; Open group - McArthur, Arnicle.

Confined champion - Pole ewe by 50k pole out of a ewe by 24k Dalchirla. She will be in the top pen of draft ewes for sale this year.

Confined reserve champion - Drimsynie gimmer by a homebred son of 14k Dalchirla out of a ewe by bolt.

Confined opposite sex to champion - Drimsynie tup lamb an embryo by Allanfauld Pogba out of the Cowal show 2014 champion ewe by 40k Nunnerie.

Open champion - Arnicle young ewe by 8k Nunnerie out of a 27k Auldhouseburn mother.

Open reserve champion - Arnicle ewe by 20k Auldhouseburn out of a dam by Ronaldo.

Open opposite sex to champion - Arnicle tup lamb by 16k Merkland out of a dam by 1,100k Con-nachan.

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Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12.30 - 13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/01712/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 15 metre high tower and associated works	Land South West Of Ardrowan Whitehouse Tarbert Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert
17/01919/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land North Of North Craighuadh Tayinloan Tarbert Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Tayinloan
17/01956/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access	Plot 2 The Roading Campbeltown Argyll And Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
17/01888/PP	Re-roofing of dwellinghouse and installation of rooflights	Ardmaleish House Lock 13 Cairnbaan Lochgilhead Argyll And Bute PA31 8SQ	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/01798/LIB	External alterations comprising; limeharling, replacement of external stairs and rooflights, installation of secondary glazing, internal alterations and inlet for proposed air source heat pump.	Tangy Mill Kilkennie Argyll And Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown

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

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



Ben Nevis Distillery Office Administrator

To complement our team, we are seeking an enthusiastic individual to help run our busy office. To be considered for this post, the successful applicant will require excellent communication skills both written and verbal, be computer literate including Microsoft packages and have broad experience and understanding of office administration. You will be a team player but also able to work on your own initiative. An understanding of customs and excise legislation and web based applications would be of benefit but training will be given. Please apply with full CV and covering letter to:

Aaron A R Ross, Finance & Sales
Ben Nevis Distillery (Fort William) Ltd, Lochy Bridge, Fort William, PH33 6TJ
aaron@bennevisdistillery.com

FERGUSON TRANSPORT & SHIPPING

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

An opportunity has arisen to join our ever expanding, forward-thinking multimodal logistics company based in Corpach, Fort William.

The post requires a qualified accountant (ACCA, CA, CIMA or qualified by experience) to prepare group monthly management and annual accounts and projections and to take responsibility for further development of the finance function and systems, joining our senior management board and reporting to our Director for Finance.

Closing date for applications: 25th August 2017

If you would like to apply for this position please contact Jacqueline MacLeod, Head of Human Resources:

Integrated Freight Facility, Annat, Corpach, PH33 7NN T: 01397 773840 E: hr@fergusontransport.co.uk

CAMPBELTOWN PICTURE HOUSE

Campbeltown Community Business Ltd are seeking enthusiastic and dedicated staff for the soon to be re-opened Campbeltown Picture House.

DUTY MANAGER

40 hours per week.

Applicants should have experience of customer service and staff management. A background in cinema is not required but a previous position of responsibility in retail, food service, event management or similar would be a distinct advantage. This role includes responsibility for cinema projection equipment. Although full training will be given a certain level of technical aptitude is essential.

FRONT OF HOUSE

Full Time and Part Time positions available.

Applicants should be committed to excellent customer service. Experience is not necessary, more important is a polite and friendly manner, ability to follow instructions and a cheerful attitude to hard work. Campbeltown Picture House will have two screens, a cafe/bar and conference room and all staff will be required to work in all areas of the business.

ALL STAFF MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR EVENING AND WEEKEND WORK

To receive a job description and application details for these roles please contact Ellen Mainwood on manager@campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk.

Closing date for Duty Manager applications 17th August 2017.

Closing date for Front of House applications 24th August 2017

ARDFERN YACHT CENTRE LTD

We have some vacancies in our workshop team we are looking to fill. If you have an interest or knowledge of boats with skills that may be transferrable please ask for an application pack.

Boat Repair Technician - 2 Positions Available

With full order books we currently have two positions available within our Workshop Team for Boat Repair Technicians. Working as part of the team successful applicants would be undertaking a wide variety of repairs, including major structural repairs and cosmetic repairs of repair aboard yachts and motorboats. Applicants should ideally have experience of undertaking FRP & GRP structural and cosmetic repairs along with a basic knowledge of timber repairs. All relevant skills and experience from would be considered.

Riggers Mate

We have a position available within our on-site rigging team here at Ardferrn. With two riggers on-site our rigging team undertake all types of rigging work as well as working closely with other parts of the team. Working alongside our existing rigging team the successful applicant would be provided with extensive 'on the job' training. Successful applicants should ideally have an interest in or previous experience of sailing in some capacity.

For further details on either position or to obtain an application pack please contact Mark Cameron on 01852 500 247 or email mark@ardfernyacht.co.uk

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COURIER RECRUITMENT

To advertise in the Campbeltown Courier and Argyllshire Advertiser recruitment section please call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

RECRUITMENT WITH ASSOCIATION HIJOBS



Scottish Sea Farms are an internationally recognised farmer of superior quality Scottish salmon. We pride ourselves in providing industry leading and highly personal development paths which build into fulfilling professional careers. If you are committed to developing our industry and are driven to put your strengths to work we would very much like to hear from you.

We are currently recruiting for the following positions at our Marine Farms at Loch Nevis, Mallaig.

Senior Husbandry - with Net Specialisation

Earnings Potential for this Role: (£29,000 - £32,500) + Bonus

The successful candidate will have control of 2 net cleaning vessels equipped with new SSF 245 cleaning systems. You will have direct line manager responsibility for 3 other members of staff, including a net specialist. A high level of commitment and pride is essential to deliver pristine net walls and bases. The maintenance and presentation of both vessels and their respective cleaners will also demand discipline and technical skill.

How you schedule work is ultimately up to you. What we are looking for is the highest of standards, a commitment to hard work and the success of the Nevis team. We want you to be ambitious and demanding.

The position would especially suit successful Net or Boat Specialist with a clear track record of success. Nevis is a farming zone in transition with new appointments bringing exciting new people into positions of responsibility. If required, we will support the successful applicant with relocation assistance.

Candidates will ideally be Yacht-Master Coastal qualified. Day Skipper applicant's must be prepared to gain Yacht-Master Coastal in the next 6 months. During your first month of acclimatization you will work closely with the Site Manager, the existing Nevis Senior Husbandry and our Engineering Manager, thereafter, you will take over senior responsibility for nets. You will be directly involved in the formal appointment of your team – including the Specialisation role covering the 2nd vessel.

This is an opportunity for the right person to secure 1 of the 2 senior net specialisation roles in the region. It's a job where you will be developed and can grow into your full potential. You will see your impact from the biological success of each of the 3 farms and you set the tone on standards and work ethic.

Experienced Husbandry - with Feed, Fish Health & Net Specialisation

Earnings Potential for this Role: £27,000 + Bonus

Applicants should have at least 1.5 years' practical salmon farming experience and are looking to develop into a practical specialisation of Feed, Fish Health or Net Management.

You should be able to demonstrate competence across a wide range of farming disciplines including: fish health monitoring, stock appetite assessment, boat handling skills, whilst being proactive in health and safety. Above all you should have the drive and ambition to further your career through training and development. A formal boat qualification would be desirable. Relocation package can be available for the right candidate.

Flexible working hours can be considered to suit your personal circumstances.

A full clean driver's licence is essential.

Other benefits on offer are: pension support, life cover, subsidized gym membership and occupation health support.

To apply for any of the above exciting opportunities please contact Angela Hand, Recruitment & HR Coordinator on 01786 445521 or email angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com for an application pack.

Closing date for applications: Friday 11th August 2017



RESIDENTIAL CARE WORKERS (£20,880-£21,296 DOE)
SENIOR RESIDENTIAL CARE WORKERS (£22,392-£26,760 DOE)
DEPUTY MANAGER (£26,950-£28,450 DOE)

Inistrynich, Dalmally

New Reflexions are a childcare organisation working with young people who have experienced trauma in their lives resulting in emotional behavioural difficulties and requiring a high level of intervention. We are currently looking to recruit Residential Care Workers; Senior Residential Care Workers and a Deputy Manager.

You will be a confident and non-judgemental person with the drive to make a difference to the lives of others and be dedicated to promoting the rights and welfare of children. Following an in-depth induction, you will be placed within one of our homes which are rated either 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted.

As this service is outdoor based, we are looking for individuals who have experience of delivering outdoor education. Holding outdoor qualifications such as SPA, ML and BCU awards would also be highly desirable. Applicants for the Senior RCW and Deputy Manager positions will need to meet the qualification requirements as set out by the Scottish Social Services Council.

Our staff members are supported and valued; as an organisation we are committed to the continued learning and development of all our employees which will enable you to develop your skills and offers opportunities to progress within the company.

You will also receive a highly competitive pay and benefits package consisting of:

- Excellent salaries
- You will work a four days on, eight days off rota pattern
- Access to a pension scheme
- Comprehensive induction training
- The opportunity to gain nationally recognised qualifications
- Childcare vouchers
- Bike to Work Scheme
- Employee Assistance Programme

Due to the location of our homes a full manual driving licence and access to transport is required. Successful candidates will also be required to complete an Enhanced Disclosure & Barring check.

For further details on the above positions and an application pack please email Lencie Abbott, HR Assistant, Lencie.abbott@newreflexions.co.uk or call 01939 210040.

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 CVs are not accepted.
 If you are unable to access the website contact the Recruitment Team:
Tel 01546 605917 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 11 August 2017.
Interviews will be held in Lochgilthead on 21 August 2017



Supporting People & Communities
Support Worker and Support Assistants – Oban and Support Assistants - Campbeltown

RELIEF (bank staff): £7.45/hr
SUPPORT WORKER - PERMANENT (FT or PT): £16,808 - £18,239 per annum (pro rata)
SUPPORT ASSISTANTS – PERMANENT (FT OR PT): £16,523 per annum (pro rata)

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Carr Gomm's services in and around Oban and Campbeltown provide specialised person-centred care and support that enables people to stay safe and well in their own homes, and to achieve their personal aims and objectives.

Our Support Workers and Support Assistants play a vital role in supporting people to maintain their independence at home and enjoy a better quality of life. They assist adults (in the home and outdoors), personal care, managing medical conditions, meal preparation, practical tasks around the home and other activities in the local community.

- If you are...
- A 'people person' who can build positive relationships with others – based on mutual respect and understanding – regardless of age, background or support needs
 - Able to communicate effectively and accurately in English, both spoken and written
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 - Interested in a rewarding career in social care with one of Scotland's leading providers

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 • Phone: 0131 659 4770
 Post: Carr Gomm, SPACE, 11 Harewood Road, Edinburgh EH16 4NT.



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 If you cannot access the website, please contact the recruitment team:
 01546 605817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk
 CVs are not accepted.
For more information, please contact Brian Murphy on 01546 605932 or email brian.murphy@acha.co.uk
Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 18th August 2017
Interviews will be held on 29th August 2017 in Oban.



Oban Recruitment
 An exciting opportunity has arisen for motivated individuals to effectively manage our Oban services.

Project Manager
 £29,361 - £30,795 (award pending)
 35 hours per week. Closing date: 16th August 2017.
Housing Assistant (Days)
 £15,015 - £16,224
 35 hours per week. Closing date: 15th August 2017.

Relief Worker
 £8.25 per hour. As and when required.
 Closing date: 15th August 2017

To apply, please visit www.btha.org.uk/items/BTHA-Jobs and submit an application form to recruitment@btha.org.uk, or by post to the Recruitment team, Blue Triangle (Glasgow) Housing Association, 3rd Floor, 100 Berkeley Street, Glasgow, G3 7HU.

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Springbank Distillers Ltd

We require an Office Trainee for our busy sales office in Campbeltown. The successful applicant will possess good administrative, communication and personal skills, as the role involves dealing with external customers as well as fellow team members. Previous experience in an administrative role, or a qualification in administration or business studies, will be preferable.

To apply, please email your CV and covering letter to pa@jandamitchell.scot.
Closing date: Close of business on 15th August 2017.



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Subaru Forester



Subaru Outback and Forester have picked up a quartet of awards from Driver Power, the UK's Number 1 car ownership survey. In the best family car category, Subaru Outback picked up a Silver Award with a score of 91.18 per cent. Subaru Forester won gold awards for ride and handling and safety features with Outback also picking up a silver award for practicality and boot space. Steve Fowler, editor-in-chief, Auto Express, commented: 'This is an outstanding result for Subaru, with the Outback making its owners very happy. Topping the ride and handling and safety categories is hugely impressive, while second place in practicality and in the family car class confirms how highly owners rate their cars.'



Forester is a large SUV designed around the concept of 'do anything, go anywhere', whilst Outback is the world's first crossover, successfully combining the benefits of a passenger estate car with the all-road capabilities of an SUV.

Both Subaru Forester and Outback have 5* Euro NCAP safety ratings, Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive and Outback comes equipped with EyeSight, Subaru's advanced collision avoidance technology.

To keep up to date with Subaru news, please follow Helensburgh Subaru on Twitter and Facebook or give us a call on 01436 672779.



Subaru Outback

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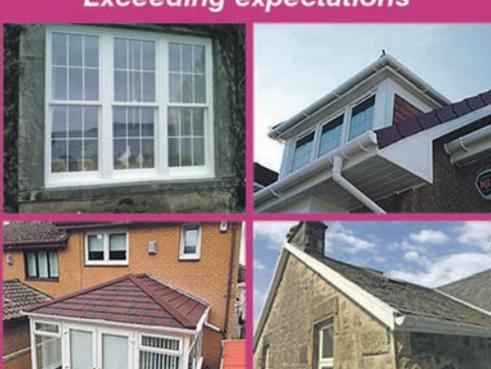
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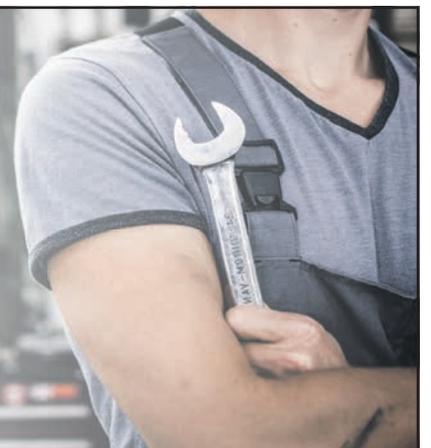
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£40 Telephone 01631 567188

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PERSONAL NOTICES

HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY JANE LOVE FROM MUM, DAD & ALISON



HAPPY 18TH CRAIG LOVE DAD, MUM AND LORNA



You'll recognise this lassie's face and hair with tint of red, The Gortchan Farm was her abode till James she met and wed. The reason for this little rhyme is we all want to say, Best wishes on the Big '50oh' you turned just yesterday!

Many Happy Returns, love from D, M, K & C x



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Call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345



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COWAL

Grant boost will secure walk jobs and improvements

LONG distance walk The Cowal Way has received almost £300,000 in grant funding from the latest round of Coastal Communities funding.

The new cash was announced by Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust.

The 57-mile long way-marked route from Portavadie to

Loch Lomond was one of eight successful applicants in the Highlands and Islands.

The funding will help to retain two full-time direct jobs, provide further infrastructure improvements to the path and help efforts to promote the tourism path and related businesses to a worldwide audience.

INVERARAY

Cobra Drivers Club hits the road on fifth annual rally from Doune

OWNERS of classic cars will descend, or rather ascend, the Rest and be Thankful later this month.

The Cobra Drivers Club will set off on the last Sunday in August for its fifth annual rally from Doune before heading for the Rest via the Duke's Pass. After testing their trusty machines in the mountains, it will be down to the shores of Loch Fyne and Inveraray Castle for lunch.



Gleaming metalwork will gather for a graceful rally at the Rest.

Shinty players' pedal power

SHINTY players from Lovat visited Tighnabruaich earlier this week as part of a charity cycle.

From Monday July 31 to Thursday August 3, members of Lovat Shinty Club took on a 400-mile cycle with a 16,000 foot climb around all this season's premiership shinty clubs, including Kyles Athletic.

Proceeds from the marathon challenge will be split between Highland Hospice and Lovat Shinty Club's new community clubhouse fund.

The first leg on Mon-



The shinty cyclists contemplate the road to Tighnabruaich.

day was an epic run from Glasgow to Oban via Tighnabruaich.

After a penalty shootout in the rain at Kyles on Monday, the

lads headed for Oban and a similar penalty challenge at Mossfield Park. It was then onto Lochaber and all points north.

ARDFERN

Midday pirate parade to market

IT WILL be no ordinary Sunday market in Ardfern this weekend.

There will, of course, be the usual stalls selling top-notch local produce but it would be advisable to keep a weather eye open for interlopers.

There are strong rumours a band of pirates may attempt to storm

the village. If you want to join the swash-buckling crew, muster at 11.30am at Craignish Village Hall, ready for a mid-day parade to the Galley of Lorne Inn, where the market is taking place.

The Sunday market itself will be open between 11am and 3pm on Sunday August 6.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



A VERY dear friend gave me a book recently, within which are many treasures.

I would like to share a poem which touched me and gave me pause for thought. This is what it says:

'Isn't it strange that princes and kings
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings
And ordinary folk like you and me
Are builders for eternity
And each is given a bag of tools
An hour glass and a book of rules
And each must build
Ere their time has flown
A stumbling block or a stepping stone.'

It is interesting to think that whatever or whoever we are, God has given us 'tools' or gifts to use in the service of his Kingdom.

From the richest to the poorest, from the most powerful to the most powerless, God has given us our own unique gifts.

Can we really be 'builders for eternity?'

I think we can. I really believe that whatever we do in our own lifetime echoes throughout eternity.

What will we do with 'our bag of tools'? How will we use our God-given talents?

We have but an hour glass of time to make a difference, and the sands of time run faster than we would like.

What will we do with that hour glass? What is our book of rules?

Well it is pretty clear. It is to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, help those in need, and show the love of God to everyone we meet.

Will we be a stumbling block or a stepping stone?

What are our building blocks for eternity?

In Scripture it says that we are 'living stones', so we'd better look to ourselves to build the Kingdom.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

God says, 'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease' (Genesis 8:22).

BIRTHS



WALKER

Kevin and Christine are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Cara Elizabeth, on July 23, 2017. A wee sister for Eilidh and Andrew. Sixth grandchild for Raymond and Elizabeth McCallum, Campbeltown and fifth grandchild for Liz and Tom Glover, Helensburgh.

ENGAGEMENTS



WATSON - SMITH

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Lauren and Andy, on July 8, 2017, at Mar Hall, Bishopston.

MARRIAGES



HASSON - WARD

Both families are delighted to announce the marriage of Katie, daughter of Lorna and the late Albert, to Jon, son of Dave and Sandie, at Las Vegas, Nevada, on July 7, 2017. A fantastic, happy day!

DIAMOND WEDDINGS

SHAW - On July 31, 1957 by the Rev G H Green at St Brendan's Church, Skipness, Duncan to Jean. Still at Skipness.

DEATHS

CASKIE - At Glasgow Royal Infirmary, on July 26, 2017, after a long, painful, but hard-fought battle, Sheena Hunter, née Baird, aged 79 years, beloved wife of Gordon, best friend and sister of Fiona, mother of David, Kathleen and Heather, granny to seven grandchildren and old gran to three great grandchildren. A celebration of Sheena's life will be held at Cleit

Church, Muasdale, on Saturday, 5th August at 11.00am. No flowers please, donations to RNLI. Please wear bright colours.

GIFFEN - Suddenly at home, Dunara, High Askomil, Campbeltown, on July 25, 2017, John Alexander Giffen, in his 66th year, dearly beloved husband of Lindsay Fox and a much loved daddy of Richard and John. Service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Tuesday, August 8 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Patchan Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation.

KING - Suddenly but peacefully, at home, 9 Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig, on July 30, 2017, Mr James (Jimmy) King, aged 88 years, much loved husband of the late Terry Carty, beloved father of Irene, David and Jim, dearly loved grandfather of Stephen, David, Alan and Andrew and great grandfather of Mason James. Funeral service was held at Maryhill Crematorium, Glasgow, on Thursday, August 3, 2017. Forever in our thoughts. Jimmy's family would like to extend their thanks to doctors for their care and to the local police and ambulance staff for their kindness and support at this time. Special thanks to Jimmy's home care team, who have been a valuable and important part in providing wonderful care and attention to Jimmy over the last few years, here in Argyll.

MACEACHERN - Peacefully, at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on July 19, 2017, Donald (Donnie) MacEachern, in his 85th year, of Seaview, Ormsary, Lochgilphead, beloved husband of Isobel, much loved father of Donald and David, much respected father-in-law of Lorraine and Val, adored papa of Chris, Jenny, Elizabeth and Elaine and a very proud great-papa. A dearly loved and respected friend to many. Funeral service was held at Achahoish Parish Church, on Monday, July 24, 2017, followed by interment at Ormsary Cemetery. Will be sadly missed.

MCAVOY - John McAvoy lost his brave fight against acute lymphoblastic lymphoma and leukaemia, at home in Kilmelford, surrounded by loved ones, on July 30, 2017, leaving his beloved wife, Alice (née McPhie), son Andrew and daughter Cristina, Archie and Rosie. Brother to George, Margaret and Ann and friend to many. A special man, too good for this world. Celebration of life, at Craignish Village Hall at 2.00pm, on Friday, August 4. Casual dress, no flowers, bring memories!

MCMILLAN - Peacefully, at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow, on July 31, 2017, Elizabeth Downie Macadie, in her 75th year, Ballymenach, Carradale, dearly beloved wife of Matthew McMillan, much loved mum of Elizabeth and John, loving granny of Joanna, Greig, Jamie, Katie and Ellie and great granny of Hannah. Service in the Carradale Village Hall, today Friday, August 4 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Brackley Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation.

MILLAR - Peacefully at home, Gleniffer, Stronvaar Avenue, Campbeltown, on July 30, 2017, Robert Millar (Bobby), aged 67 years, much loved and loving husband of Irene McCallum, dearly loved father of Carolyn and Alison, dear father-in-law of Darren and Kenny and adored grandpa of Andrew, Iona and Ailie. Service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Saturday, August 5 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Macmillan Nurses, Kintyre Locality and the Community Nursing Team, Campbeltown.

ROWAN - Peacefully at home, 14 Seaside Park, Ardrishaig, on July 27, 2017, John (Jackie) Rowan, in his 80th year, beloved brother of Duncan, Colin, Kenny and the late Chrissie and a dearly loved uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service was held in Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Monday, July 31, 2017, followed by a private cremation. Forever in our thoughts.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ANDERSON - Mari and Shaun wish to thank everyone for flowers, cards, calls and messages of sympathy and support following the sad loss of their mum, Mary (Rena). Special thanks to Maggie, Caroline, Hilary, Lorna, Fiona, Dr Toledo and Dr Norrie for continued support. Thanks to Kenny, David and Alasdair Blair for professional services, to Rev Wallace for his uplifting service and to the Argyll Hotel for purvey. Thanks to all who attended the church and graveside, the retiral collection raised £382.67. Thanks to Mum for her years of love and support to us all, she is dearly missed.

CAMPBELL - Margaret and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for flowers, cards, phone calls, messages and for paying their last respects at the church and graveside, following their sad loss of

Charlie. Special thanks to Donna and staff in Macmillan Day Bed Unit, Oban; to Anne Crossan and paramedics, Dr Villalba, Anne and Louise in A&E, Campbeltown; to air ambulance crew and staff in HDU, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow; to Rev Philip Wallace for a comforting service; to Kenneth, Alasdair and Rhys Blair for caring and professional services and to the Argyll Arms Hotel, Bellochantuy for a lovely tea.

HAMILTON - Marie, John, Robert and their families would like to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, phone calls, cards and letters received, since their recent sad loss of Johnnie. Grateful thanks to Dr Phillips, local ambulance staff and police for their care and attendance. Special thanks to Gordon and Lesley McNair for their unflinching support and kindness to us all. Our thanks also to Rev David Carruthers for a comforting service; to Eileen Bruce for organist accompaniment; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for compassionate arrangements; to the Grey Gull Inn for excellent purvey, and to Morna for beautiful floral tributes. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at church and graveside to pay their respects. The retiral collection raised over £400 for RNLI and Erskine Home.

HARVEY - Jake and family would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, calls and flowers received on the sad loss of Mary. Grateful thanks to Dr Lazarus, Dr Norrie and staff of the Acute Ward, district nurses, Carers Direct and Homecare. Thanks to the Rev Philip Wallace for a comforting service, to T A Blair Funeral Directors for all their help and guidance, and to the staff of the Argyll Hotel. Special thanks to Maggie and Heather. Thanks also to all who came to pay their respects at the church and graveside, to give Mary the send off she deserved, and to all who gave generously to the retiral collection, which raised £844.16 for the Sunshine Room, which was a God send to all the family.

MACAULAY/WILSON - Rhona's family would like to thank all their relatives, friends and neighbours for their wonderful love and support during her illness and for all the cards and messages of sympathy they have received in recent weeks. Thanks to the Rev William Crossan for such a personal and fitting service, to Mr David McEwan for his beautiful organ music, to T A Blair Funeral Directors for their professional services and to the Ardshiel Hotel for catering. We also thank the medical practices in Helensburgh and Campbeltown, the

dedicated community nurses and the Macmillan nurses for their care and compassion, and to all who came from near and far to pay their respects. The retiral collection for Macmillan Nurses, Kintyre Locality raised the sum of £2,691. Thank you so much.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHNSTONE - In loving memory of my husband, Donnie, who died August 8, 2003. We think about you every day. We talk about you too. We have precious memories. But we wish we still had you. - From your loving wife Morag and family xxx.

CHURCH NOTICES

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
SUNDAY 6 AUGUST
Service at 11 a.m
Speaker this week - Graham McLean
"Called, Chosen, Faithful"
Followed by a light lunch
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
6th August 2017
Sunday Worship
Jesus said
"No procrastination. No backward looks. You can't put God's Kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day."
Luke ch 9 vs 62
Ford 11.45am
Mr. D. Logue
All welcome
SC0 02121

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 6th August 2017
Skipness Service 10am
Marilyn Shedden
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Mr John Morrison
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735
Everyone very welcome
Tarbert & Kilberry SC002622
Skipness SC004280

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 6 August
Inverlussa Church 10 am
Mr David Logue
Saturday 5 August
Achnamara Hall 10.30 am
Café Connect
Monday 7 August
Tayvallich Church 10.30am
Prayer Time
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.northknapdale.org

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"
6TH AUGUST
Services in Achahoish at 9:45am and Ardrishaig at 11:00am

CHURCH NOTICES

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

Highland Parish Church
SC002493
Sunday 6th August 2017
The service will be conducted by Matthew Ramsay and will be held in Kirk Street Hall at 11.15am
All Welcome

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 6th August
10.00am Informal Service
New Hall
11.15am Traditional Service
Creche
Rev P Wallace
Tuesday 8th August
Tiny Tots New Hall

THE SALVATION ARMY
Campbeltown Corps
Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009359
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Worship
Majors Ben & Ruth Russell
All welcome

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 6 August
Family Communion Service at 11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies.
All welcome
Wednesday 9 August
Bible Study and Prayer
12.30pm at the Free Church
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SC014646

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 6th August
Transfiguration
Morning Prayer 10.45am
followed by Theological Reflection
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome (SC002876)

ST. KIERAN R.C. CHURCH
ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN
SC002876
All Welcome
Rev. Tony Wood,
01586 552160
VIGIL MASS
Saturday 6pm
(except the 1st Saturday of the month)
HOLY MASS
every Sunday 10am

free church of scotland
George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 6th August
11.15am Worship Service
Professor Bob Akroyd
4.00pm Service in Lorne Campbell Court
Wednesday 9th August
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES
Christ Church
Friday 4th Aug 6.30pm
FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION
Preacher: The Revd Amanda Fairclough
Our Feast of Title Refreshments after:
All are invited
Sunday 6th Aug 11am
FEAST OF DEDICATION
Preacher:
The Revd Anne McIvar
Lunch after: All welcome
St Columba's, Poltalloch
1st Sunday of the month
9.00am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of the month
6.00pm Evensong
Father Simon Mackenzie
01546 602315

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 6th August 2017
Cumlodden
Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Minister: Rev. Dr.Roderick D. M. Campbell
Morning Service in Lochgair Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray at 11.30 am
Charity No. SC016665
All welcome

Big Argyll match scores for Grenfell charity

Grenfell Tower Charity Match

Argyll and Bute Council 12
ACHA 0

LOCHGILPHEAD hosted one of the biggest football matches in recent years as an Argyll and Bute Council select took on the cream of footballing talent available to the region's biggest social housing provider.

The local authority and Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) came together on Friday July 28 in a special charity match to help those who lost their homes in the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

Captained by the respective chief executives – Cleland Sneddon for the council and Alastair MacGregor of ACHA – the match featured players of all vintages.

Among the more impressive performers were the ladies in both teams, who

were unafraid of mixing it with the boys while showing plenty of skill.

The match started evenly, but as the first half wore on it became clear that it might be a long afternoon for ACHA.

Despite having had the lion's share of possession, though, Argyll and Bute Council had just a single goal to show for their efforts at half time.

The second half began with much the same pattern, and it took just a few minutes for the council select to add to their tally. With ACHA's smaller pool of players visibly tiring, the opposition showed no mercy to the beleaguered ACHA chief executive in goal.

For his part, Cleland Sneddon had a roving commission, starting in defence, then coming back to seek glory up front.

Speaking after the big

game, Alastair MacGregor said: 'Our guys put everything into the match.'

'I think too many of our players had been shearing sheep and ran out of steam in the second half, but it was played in a fantastic spirit. Hopefully we will beat our £3,000 target by next week.'

He added: 'It was great to see so many people turning out today for a worthy cause.'

'It's been a long time since I played an 11-a-side game, but it was good fun,' said Cleland Sneddon.

'I went off for a spell, during which time my team romped ahead. I came back on later in the match just to put the brakes on.'

Mr Sneddon went on: 'But the real winner today was the cause of raising money for the Grenfell survivors and their families.'

The 24-storey Gren-



Pictured after the game, Alastair MacGregor of ACHA and the council's Cleland Sneddon – together for a good cause. 06_a31CharityFootie18

fell Tower block of public housing flats in North Kensington, London, was hit by a serious fire on June 14, killing scores of people.

All proceeds will go to the London Fire Relief Fund, run by The British Red Cross Society to help people in need after the fire

at Grenfell Tower. There is still time to donate, and this can be done by visiting justgiving.com/fundraising/argyll-bute.



The race is on. 06_a31CharityFootie03



No quarter was asked, or given - even to players on the same side. 06_a31CharityFootie01



Nothing mousey about this pair of fundraisers, despite appearances - Lesley Lindsay and Gayle Stead from ACHA.

06_a31CharityFootie08



Making a guest appearance for ACHA was Councillor Roddy McCuish.

06_a31CharityFootie12



No need for heroics from either chief executive as the offside flag goes up.

06_a31CharityFootie14



ACHA director Christine Johnston had a wicked game for her team after coming on for a spell.

06_a31CharityFootie06



A break down the left wing for ACHA player Ruaridh Maclver. 06_a31CharityFootie05.

Shot in the arm for target shooting club

A TARGET shooting Club in Mid Argyll is among the latest organisations to benefit from lottery cash.

Mid Argyll Shooting Club, which meets every Tuesday in Lochgilphead, can now look forward to bringing more people together through the Olym-

pic sport of 10m air rifle target shooting.

The club has been granted £7,000 from Awards for All Scotland, earmarked to buy new equipment and provide more of its members with accredited safety and coaching qualifications.

In addition to increas-

ing participation in the sport, the club is aiming to develop a junior section for secondary school students and young adults under the age of 18. The club is actively seeking to recruit and train new adult rifle coaches to volunteer with its junior section.

Club chair Graham Love explained: 'Target shooting has an appeal across a wide age range and is accessible to both men and women. The club started two years ago with support from its founding members and from Argyll and Bute Council.'

'The announcement

from the Big Lottery has come at a great time.

'Our membership is growing and we can now provide the equipment and instructors needed to build a strong club at grass-roots level for both senior and junior members. New applications for membership are very welcome.'

Mid Argyll Shooting Club is a Police Scotland-approved air weapons club and is affiliated to the national governing body, the National Smallbore Rifle Association.

More details about the club can be found on its Facebook page.



Helen Samborek, left, winner of the Handicap Cup and club champion Seona Martin.

Seona seals Tarbert golf championship

THE WOMEN of Tarbert Golf Club braved high winds and heavy rain over the weekend of July 29 and 30 to participate in their club championship.

The winner of the 36-hole club championship, played over two days - was Seona Martin with a gross 174 over the 36 holes. Seona's gross score of 88 on the Saturday was particularly impressive,

given the wild and wet conditions.

Helen Samborek won the Handicap Cup, playing steadily over the 36 holes, with a spectacular pitch on the Sunday onto the 16th green, hitting the flag pole and landing in the hole for a par.

Sheena Ferguson came second in the championship, with Angela Vernel second in the handicap competition.



Members take aim at Mid Argyll Shooting Club.
08_a19shootingclub04

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £500

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

I Taylor / M Ross
Bolgam Street
Campbeltown

D Mitchell
Muasdale Cottages
by Tarbert

All you have to do

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

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

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

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

Easy to enter

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

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.

Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



Name

Address

Tel No

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

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Seona seals Tarbert golf championship

Team aims for Special Olympics glory

'LET ME win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.'

Since 2005, Boccia players from Lochgilphead Resource Centre have been repeating this oath at the GB Special Olympics every four years.

They have successfully represented the Scotland West team, bringing back team and individual gold, silver and bronze medals.

Campbell Ferguson, Flora Currie and Iain Macdougall, together with head coach John Gillies and coach Mary Gillies, will be trav-



The Special Olympics team with three members of the boccia club which meets every week in the Lochgilphead Resource centre.

elling to Sheffield on Monday August 6 with almost 300 Scotland West athletes and more

than 600 parents and carers to support them in their events.

Ahead of them lie

four days of intense competition as well as days when they can meet up with the many friends they have made over the years at previous Olympics.

In the photograph is another Special Olympics competitor, Sandy McKellar centre front, who has now retired from competition but has always come back with gold medals.

He still plays every Thursday with the team and other members of the boccia club.

All this would not have been possible without the help of so

many people and organisations throughout Mid Argyll.

The athletes and coaches would like to thank everyone who supported their fundraising efforts over the last two years to help cover the costs of athletes' kits, transport, accommodation and meals in Sheffield as well as additional costs of travel and accommodation for attendance at training events and qualifying rounds for the GB Olympics.

Mary Gillies said: 'Thank you to all at Lochgilphead Re-

source Centre, Tesco, Dalriada Ceilidh Band, Furnace Bowling Club, the round table and Kate McGlynn holiday home.

'So many people from all of these groups have worked so hard for us to make this a reality.

'Thank you also to everyone who came along and supported all the events organised for us.'

She added: 'The team members hope to be the best ambassadors for Mid Argyll in living up to their athlete's oath.

'Medals will be nice, but we will do our best for all of you.'

For the first time the event will have a wide TV coverage, so look out for some familiar faces at the Sheffield event.

What is boccia?

Boccia is a precision ball sport related to bowls and pétanque. The name 'boccia' is derived from the Latin word for 'boss' – botia.

The sport is contested at local, national and international levels by athletes with severe physical disabilities.

Confidence-boosting victory for Lochgilphead Red Star

Lochgilphead Red Star 4

Stedfast AFC 2

RED STAR once again welcomed good quality opposition to the joint campus on Saturday as they played Central League 1B side Stedfast.

Stedfast took the lead early on when referee Jimmy Lister awarded a penalty after Star keeper Ben Pollock brought down a Stedfast forward in the box and the striker scored.

Star had the chance to draw level from the

spot themselves when Ciaran McPhie was brought down by a defender in the Stedfast box. The young winger stepped up but saw his effort saved by the keeper.

Star pulled themselves level after 25

minutes when Ciaran McPhie hammered home from the edge of the box after a neat lay off from Neil Russell.

McPhie added a second goal before the break with another superb strike from 25 yards to make the score

2-1 at the break. Stedfast pulled themselves level after 62 minutes when their winger cut in from the Star right and beat Ben Pollock.

It stayed this way until the last five minutes when Ciaran McPhie fired Star back in

front and completed a superb hat trick. Ben Pollock made an excellent save for Star in the last minute before Neil Russell secured a 4-2 win with a well-placed strike to give Star a confidence-boosting victory.

Lottery results

DRAWN on Monday July 31, the Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery draw numbers were 5, 11 and 14.

There were no winners and the jackpot will be £300 next week.

In the Inveraray Shinty Club lottery, the numbers were 7, 8 and 13. There were no winning tickets so next week's jackpot will be £800.

Winning numbers in the Tarbert football club lottery draw on July 31 were 7, 14 and 19.

Stephen Maxwell won the £100, so it is back to £100 for the next draw.

Argyll rivals clash in shinty cup final

INVERARAY will face near neighbours Strachur this weekend in the final of the 2017 Bullough Cup.

The venue was decided by the toss of a coin at the Camanachd Association offices which Strachur won, so the final will take place at Strachurmore on Saturday August 5, with a 3pm throw-up.

The sides currently occupy the top two places in Marine Harvest South Division 2 with Inveraray holding a two-point advantage and each team having only three games re-

maining. Strachur and Inveraray have met once already this season when four-goal Euan McMurdo helped Inveraray to a 6-0 victory at The Winterton.

Exciting

A good crowd is anticipated at Strachurmore for what is certain to be an exciting afternoon of shinty.

The return league fixture is scheduled to take place at Strachurmore the following Saturday, when the sides return to the scene of the final with two crucial league points at stake.



Some of the south contingent, back row: Daniel McCuish, Cameron Sutherland, Scott MacDonald. Front row: Ross Montgomery, Ross MacMillan and Calum Mclay of Glasgow Mid Argyll.

Young Scots star on Irish tour

SCOTLAND'S U17 shinty select have completed another successful Irish tour.

The 17-player squad was accompanied by Ronald Ross, Paul MacArthur and Alasdair Bruce.

After a trip to Croke Park, the Scotland squad travelled south to play Waterford U17 and ran out convincingly (12-7) 43-13 (1-10) winners.

The annual meeting with Dublin U17 was played at the GAA National Games Development Centre. Though the Scots eventually won (9-3) 30-11 (1-8) winners, the game was

closer than the final score suggests.

The travelling Scots, as always, are indebted to Marine Harvest, Gilmore Sports, Seamus Curtis, Waterford GAA and the Dublin County Board for their assistance before and throughout the tour.

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