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PetIdol



Turn to pages 12 & 13

Tarbert gets apology as sewage plans unveiled

Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

RAW SEWAGE running down streets and through homes in Tarbert should be a thing of the past, with a major sewer upgrade in the pipeline.

But after years of delays, angry and frustrated Tarbert residents were not about to let representatives of Scottish Water away scot-free as the plans were unveiled at a council meeting.

Scottish Water regional communities manager Ruaridh McGregor attended the December meeting of Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles area committee to present the utility firm's annual report. Among investment plans for this part of Argyll, he said,

is a £3 million project to upgrade pipes serving Tarbert's sewage system – just a decade after the last major sewer works.

Tarbert residents have been complaining to Scottish Water in the years since about untreated sewage bubbling up from drains, running along streets and into homes and business premises.

Residents claim complaints to Scottish Water over the years have resulted in promises of action, but nothing more.

Mr McGregor said: 'We recognise this is a significant issue for people in Tarbert. Perhaps we have been ambitious with our timescales, for which I apologise.'

The engineering perspective was given by

Scottish Water colleague Kieran Downey, who told councillors: 'The main reasons for the flooding are combined sewage and surface water and tidal factors at times.'

He outlined plans for the installation of a larger-diameter pipe between Barmore Road, the harbour and pumping station.

The scheme is anticipated to cost around £3 million. Provided funding is secured and subject to planning approval, it is anticipated work could begin by September 2018, taking around nine to 12 months to complete.

A public meeting is planned in January or February to keep people informed of the plans and likely disruption during construction.

Costs and tradition at the Advertiser

THE *Argyllshire Advertiser* has been bringing news, events and sports coverage to the people of Mid Argyll and beyond for the past 141 years.

Our small, hard-working team produces the weekly print edition while keeping the *Advertiser's* new website (www.argyllshire-advertiser.co.uk) and social media channels up to date seven days a week. And it all happens at the heart of the Mid Argyll community in Lochgilphead.

But as the costs involved in printing a newspaper have risen in recent years, the *Advertiser* and sister titles have taken the difficult decision to increase our cover price.

The increase in price – the first in many years – will be just 5p, meaning the print edition will cost 90p, still offering great value for money. We value the loyalty of readers – print and online – and look forward to your continued support.



RDS Forestry's Tarbert-based office administrators Alice Blackman, left, and Linda Howden get into the Christmas spirit.
06_a50ChristmasTrees04

A tree-mendous Christmas gift

A FORESTRY firm with Tarbert roots has donated Christmas trees to communities around the region, saving Argyll and Bute Council cash.

Full story, page eight.

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MSP slams unfair delivery charges in Argyll and Bute

MSP Michael Russell is calling for an end to unfair delivery charges faced by online shoppers in Argyll and Bute. Citizens' Advice Scotland (CAS) research has revealed many postcodes across the country are sur-

charged by more than 30-50 per cent. Mr Russell, supporting fellow MSP Richard Lochhead's fair delivery charges campaign, has condemned the charges which CAS dub 'the postcode penalty'.

Mr Russell, the MSP for Argyll and Bute, said: 'It is extremely unfair that some of the most loyal online shoppers in Argyll and Bute and across rural Scotland are the ones facing location discrimination and have to pay a postcode penalty to get their items delivered this Christmas.'

'Citizens' Advice Scotland's research shows many businesses and families in Scotland are being charged an average of nearly £19 extra when buying goods online.'

'Hopefully, the campaign will force retailers to stop this discrim-



MSP for Argyll and Bute Michael Russell has condemned high delivery charges.

06_a18hustings_russell01

ination and adopt set standards for deliveries to every corner of the UK, not least Argyll and Bute.'

Drugs found at Lochgilphead Joint Campus

A QUANTITY of cannabis was recovered by police from the grounds of Lochgilphead Joint Campus on Friday December 1.

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said parents had been informed of the recovery and the council was working with police to protect pupils.

She said: 'The school takes a zero tolerance approach to drugs, which are not permitted on school premises. On this occasion the police and parents were informed immediately and the appropriate action taken. We will continue to work with Police Scotland and other agencies to protect pupils from the risks associated with drugs.'

Lochgilphead man fined for speeding

A LOCHGILPHEAD man has been fined £200 and his licence endorsed with four penalty points after he appeared at Campbeltown's Justice of the Peace Court.

William James Holmes, 47, of 43 McDonald Terrace, pleaded guilty to driving at 85 miles per hour on the A83, exceeding the 60 miles

per hour speed limit at Achnafad, near Tayinloan. Procurator fiscal depute Eoin McGinty said: 'He has no previous convictions. The charge speaks for itself.'

JP Richard Scott reduced the fine from £300 and the penalty points from six for Holmes' early guilty plea.

Newsdesk
01546
602345

POLICE FILES

Dangerous driving

POLICE received a report that, on Monday December 4 at 10.30am, a white van overtook an articulated lorry in a dangerous manner on the A816 between Bridgend and Kilmartin.

Officers are appealing for witnesses to contact PC Niall Barber at Oban police station.

Stopped for speeding

AT 8.45AM on Monday December 4, on the A816 near Lochgilphead, a motorist was stopped

for speeding. The driver, a 26-year-old man, was charged with dangerous driving and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Abusive behaviour

AT 2.40AM on Sunday December 10, a 20-year-old man was issued with a £40 fixed penalty notice for abusive behaviour in Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig.

Under the influence

ON THE A83 in Inveraray, at 1.05am on Saturday Decem-

ber 9, a car was stopped and a 43-year-old woman who was supervising a learner driver was arrested for being in charge of the vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. The woman was charged and a report sent to the procurator fiscal.

Breach of the peace

AN 18-YEAR-OLD man was issued with a £40 fixed penalty notice for vandalism following an incident on Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, at midnight on Sunday December 10.

Argyll and Bute Council

Christmas and New Year Refuse and Recycling Arrangements (Domestic and Commercial Premises)

Mid Argyll
Refuse and recycling collections due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Friday 22nd December
Refuse and recycling collections due on Monday 1st January will instead be collected on Friday 29th December
Lingerton recycling and civic amenity site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January

Kintyre
Refuse collections due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Saturday 23rd December
Refuse collections due on Monday 1st January will instead be collected on Saturday 30th December
Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Thursday 28th December
Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Tuesday 26th December will instead be collected on Friday 29th December
Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Tuesday 2nd January will instead be collected on Thursday 4th January
The Roading recycling and civic amenity site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January

Information is also available from the Council website and from your local office.
To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
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Tandoori Restaurant

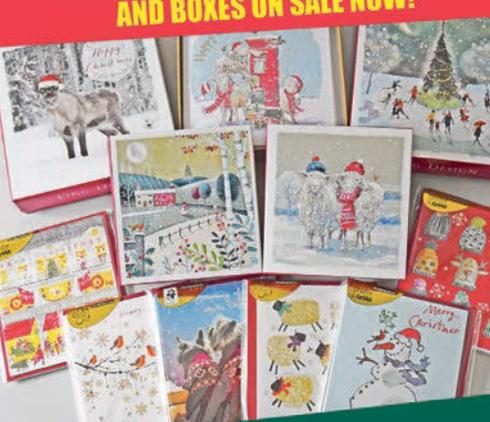
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GRADUATION



LOVISA ERLA EMILSSON

Graduated from the University of the West of Scotland Ayr, with a BSc (Distinction) in Mental Health Nursing. Lovisa is the daughter of Margaret (Wilkie) Emilsson and granddaughter of Barbara Wilkie, Crossibeg, Campbeltown and the late Robert Wilkie.



Stephanie Evans of Purdie's said it was a 'shocking decision'.

Customers are not impressed

LOYAL business customers on Inveraray's Main Street were scathing of the decision by RBS.

With two shops on Inveraray's Main Street, Margaret Renton said: 'It's a regression for the town. Not just in job losses, but the loss of a cash machine. The bank is vital to small traders like us to bank change and do our business.'

'Inveraray's meant to be expanding, so this is not progressive.'

Stephanie Evans, manager at Purdie's shop, said: 'It's absolutely shocking they are doing this.'

'What happens to the older people or single parents and disabled people who can't drive? The bus service is sporadic at best.'

Pressure

'They've said we can go to the Post Office, but that's going to pile on the pressure to the Londis shop [which hosts the Post Office], which isn't fair on staff there. RBS in Inveraray is busy, especially in the summer,' explained John Sweeney, who operates the Dewars and MacIntyres shops.

'All the locals and a lot of Inveraray businesses use it. We'll lose the last ATM on the main street and where will visitors exchange money? It makes no sense.'

Talk to us

Send your news and photographs to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Campaign builds against RBS Inveraray closure

Colin Cameron editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

FEELINGS are running high following the decision by the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) to close its Inveraray branch – the last bank in town – by June 2018.

And anger turned to action last week when two separate petitions were raised in protest at the bank's move.

Mid Argyll author Marian Pallister started an online petition against the closure of the Inveraray branch, attracting almost 500 signatures in just a week.

Argyll and Bute MP Brendan O'Hara also launched parliamentary petitions against the closure of the Inveraray, Campbeltown and Rothesay branches.

Because of the need for handwritten signatures, the parliamentary petition has been

left in shops and pubs around town.

Brendan O'Hara accused RBS of a 'shameful betrayal' of rural communities.

Mr O'Hara said: 'It is absolutely appalling that without any consultation, the RBS thinks it can simply walk away from the communities that helped bail it out to the tune of almost £50 billion just a few years ago.'

'Given that they had to go cap-in-hand to the taxpayer, I think they should better understand their social responsibility to the people of Rothesay, Campbeltown and Inveraray.'

'This is a shameful betrayal of rural Scotland and I have launched petitions, one for each town, that I shall take to the floor of the House of Commons, demanding the chancellor intervenes on behalf of



Marian Pallister, Brendan O'Hara MP and Donald Clark are urging people to sign the paper and online petitions. 06_a50RBSinveraray03

the taxpayer to halt these plans.'

He confirmed that he plans to raise the matter on Monday December 18 in the House of Commons.

After launching his petition in Inveraray, Mr O'Hara added: 'I'd like to thank Donald Clark, proprietor of the George Hotel, and Marian Pallister, journalist and author, for being the first names on the petition.'

Festive season bin collection dates

ARGYLL and Bute Council has announced changes to rubbish and recycling collection dates over Christmas and New Year.

Applying to the Mid Argyll and Tarbert areas as well as the islands of Islay and Jura, the changes are:

■ Domestic and commercial rubbish and recycling collections due on Monday December 25 will now be collected on Friday December 22.

■ Collections due on Monday January 1 will now be collected on Friday December 29.

■ The recycling and civic amenity sites at Lingerton, Lochgilphead and Gartbreck on Islay will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, and on New Year's Day and Tuesday January 2.



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Dounie fish farm plan withdrawn

A CONTROVERSIAL plan to site a fish farm at Dounie has been withdrawn by the applicant to preserve sea fans and sponges.

Kilmelford-based Kames Fish Farming Ltd submitted an application last November for a SEPA licence for 12 circular cages, each 100m in circumference, to rear a maximum of 2,500 tonnes of fish to meet demand, create six jobs and secure other positions in the business.

The plan drew strong local objection, including a petition with more than 3,000 signa-

tures, collected by the Friends of the Sound of Jura protest group.

The group stated in November: 'Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has recommended to SEPA that a fish farm at Dounie would 'significantly harm marine features of global importance'.

On Wednesday December 13, Kames Fish Farming managing director Stuart Cannon confirmed it had withdrawn its application.

Mr Cannon wrote to SEPA: 'Kames Fish Farming considers all aspects of possible impact when seeking new

sites, including this proposal for Dounie. Also if there is sound scientific evidence that suggests there would be significant or irreparable damage to the environment, it would, at that point, consider withdrawing the application.'

SNH raised three issues regarding common skate, harbour porpoise and sea fan and sponge communities.

Regarding skate and porpoise, Kames did 'not consider that farming operations would pose a detrimental impact to either

of these highly mobile species found over a wide area'.

However, following consultation with SNH and SEPA, Kames employed specialists to survey the area's northern sea fans and sponges, which live on hard substrates like a rocky reef. Kames Fish Farming said it had 'decided to take a precautionary approach and not continue with the Dounie project, thus preserving this area of established sea fan and sponge communities'.

Mark Smith of Friends of the Sound of Jura said marine spe-

cies had been 'spared being smothered in thousands of tonnes of fish faeces laced with pesticides every year' and that wild salmon and sea trout were now 'spared the catastrophic burden of sea lice associated with fish farms'.

He added: 'We will continue to promote the Sound of Jura as an important resource for use by the local community, anglers, creel fishermen, scallop-divers, sailors, tourists and all of us who value and depend on the good health of the marine environment.'

Santa's little Red Cross helpers in Lochgilphead

HOME baking and Christmas shopping bargains drew the crowds to Lochgilphead's Red Cross Hall.

Thanks to everyone who went along to the Red Cross Christmas coffee morning on Saturday December 2 which raised £400.

Organiser Linda Tighe said: 'Thanks to everyone who attended, those who supplied baking and raffle prizes and who supported the Red Cross stall. The money raised helps to keep the local transport service operational, amongst other local initiatives. As always, Lochgilphead helped to make this annual event a success.'



May Taylor, Betty McDougall and Linda Tighe, three of Santa's helpers at the Red Cross coffee morning.

Learn something new in 2018

Advertorial

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REASSURANCE

BUILT IN

Editorial

No false dawn

TARBERT folk did not miss the Scottish Water staff and hit the wall, as they say.

Locals made it clear they are not happy about having been left for years to deal with raw sewage in the streets after every rain-storm.

All the Scottish Water staff at the Templars Hall meeting could do was... well, apologise.

And let's hope the sewage upgrade does go ahead after years of weak customer service and false dawns from Scottish Water.

Off-hand RBS

THERE is something callous and off-hand about the way RBS has approached the closure of its rural branches.

By way of justification, the bank last week quoted a figure of 31 customers 'on a weekly basis' visiting its Inveraray branch. When the *Advertiser* asked for an explanation of this figure, RBS failed to give one.

There is a theory this figure relates to customers who visit the branch 52 weeks of the year – so if a week is missed, you will not be counted.

Playing with statistics?

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Proposed removal of the Road Safety Unit – an open letter to all Argyll and Bute councillors

Dear councillor,

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of Lochgilhead High School's parent council regarding one of the council's proposed budget savings for 2018/19.

Option TB16-3, which comes under the 'Economic Development – Strategic Transportation' heading, reads: 'Reduce road safety materials budget and remove the Road Safety Unit'.

This short sentence has major implications not just for every parent in Argyll and Bute but for every resident, regardless of age.

The Road Safety Unit provides a vital service to the 12,000 primary and secondary pupils spread right across the council area. It also works with our Early Years bases.

From initiatives including 'Streetfeet' pedestrian training, the Road Safety Magic Show, Streetsense2 and the 'icycle' cycle training in the primary sector to 'Your Call', 'Crash Magnets' and presentations by the Baldy Bane Theatre Company in secondary schools, the Road Safety Unit challenges all pupils to take responsibility not just for their own safety but for the safety of others in the road environment.

These are not just the young pedestrians, cyclists and passengers of today. They are Argyll and Bute's drivers of tomorrow.

The Road Safety Unit you are being asked to agree to scrap was also the first in Scotland to introduce a grant to new drivers to encourage participation in 'Pass Plus' training. Many other Scottish local authorities now do the same.

In response to the increase

in motorcyclist fatalities over the last five years, it also teamed up with North Ayrshire Council and IND-Media to contribute to a magazine aimed at bikers who ride on West of Scotland roads called *Scottish Biker Magazine*. This is available free of charge throughout Scotland.

Argyll and Bute Council's Road Safety Unit is at the forefront of road safety education in Scotland. We are shocked its existence is now hanging in the balance.

The 1988 Road Traffic Act stipulates that it is the responsibility of the local authority to 'prepare and carry out a programme of measures designed to promote road safety'. It also states that local authorities should 'take measures to prevent accidents including the dissemination of information and advice relating to the use of roads, and the giving of practical training to any class of road user'.

Removing the Road Safety Unit would render Argyll and Bute Council incapable of fulfilling these responsibilities. The apparent attempt at justifying the saving by stating 'road safety information available through other organisations' is – at best – misleading. There is NO 'other organisation' which can teach road safety to young people across Argyll and Bute. And if the inference is that the police will take up the slack, our understanding is that Police Scotland now very much concentrates on enforcement rather than education.

The Scottish Government has set ambitious road casualty reduction targets, and the Road Safety Unit liaises closely with Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue in working to achieve these targets across Argyll and Bute.

Road safety is an issue which affects everyone, regardless of age. As well as being traumatic and of-

ten tragic, accidents are very expensive. Transport Scotland's 'Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2016' report put the average cost of a fatality at £2,161,725 and of a serious injury at £245,144.

At your budget meeting, you will be asked to agree to remove Argyll and Bute's innovative and proactive Road Safety Unit for a saving of just £84,000 – a fraction of the cost of dealing with even one serious road accident.

The work this unit does is vital to the current and future safety of Argyll and Bute's population. We urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject this proposal.

**Amanda Hampton,
Lochgilhead High
School Parent Council**

Official response from Argyll and Bute Council:

'Our budget gap is estimated to be as much as £8.5m in 2018/19, and £33.9m over next three years. We therefore consult with local people so that, as far as funding allows, we can base how we change on their feedback. We have already put into action many suggestions made in previous years.

Savings proposals, including reviewing road safety information, along with public feedback to this year's consultation, will be considered at the budget-setting meeting in February 2018.

We would welcome hearing people's views and suggestions on planning our services through this year's consultation at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planninourgourfuture2017 or emailing planningourgourfuture@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

Reply from Councillor Roddy McCuish, the council's policy lead for roads and amenity services:

'Unfortunately there's no getting away from the fact that these are really tough

times for councils. Funding cuts demand difficult decisions. Next year alone our budget gap is estimated to be as much as £8.5 million. We don't know yet what exactly we're dealing with. The Scottish Government is expected to announce funding later this month.

We're using this time to ask local people for their views on changing the work of the council. Thank you to the parent council for taking the time to give us this feedback. I'd encourage everyone to get involved by answering the consultation.

In a perfect world we would love to be in position we make no cuts at all. We can only spend what we have ideally I would like to have more than a one year settlement this would allow us to plan for the future and not put our staff and constituents through this turmoil every year.'

Screen Machine in Inveraray

Sir,

I write following your article in the December 8 edition of the *Argyllshire Advertiser* on the screen machine.

Over the last year Inspire Inveraray has worked hard to invite the mobile cinema to the town.

The main requests from the Screen Machine staff was that they are near toilets, so the obvious place would be in the car park at the pier opposite Ban Duic restaurant. This area is well lit and safe, and central within the town. The cinema would also be visible to the public, encouraging attendance. The area the cinema would be no more than eight parking bays, while we are hoping for about four visits a year, mostly at a time of year when there are reduced tourist numbers and there are plenty of empty parking bays in town.

The area beside the toilets was the one the Screen Machine team felt was most

suitable, as it is manageable for the vehicle to get access the car park. The manhole covers that would be driven over belong to Scottish Water, who agreed that the vehicle would not damage the covers. Also, it was also easy to collect rubbish at night and that would be carried out by the Screen Machine staff.

The two sites suggested by council officials were the old shinty pitch and the castle car park, off the A819. This would require Inspire Inveraray to hire two mobile toilets for each visit and for this they would need to raise funds from the community. Inveraray Community Council offered money through their micro grants as a contribution towards the cost of hiring portable toilets, though this would only cover one visit for the cinema.

After submitting our case to our three Argyll and Bute councillors, it was agreed to put the matter to the area committee meeting to vote on the issue.

Now the council has passed the matter on to the policy and resources committee for approval.

We know the site we have asked for is the best because the Screen Machine would be visible to the public and encourage them to come and enjoy the films in a safe, well-lit place and managed area.

We intend to keep the pressure on the council to allow the cinema to go ahead.

**Derrick Anstee,
Inspire Inveraray
(Inveraray Community
Company)**



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Press policy

At The Argyllshire Advertiser, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk; telephoning the

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

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



THE EDITOR welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Please write to: Letters, The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilhead, Argyll, PA31 8NB. Fax: (01546) 602661. Email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk. Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

Staff help for the food bank

AN UNWANTED booming business in Argyll and Bute is, sadly, the food bank initiative.

The impact of a lengthy recession and resultant austerity measures have left many people needing a bit of help, and employees at our local authority have stepped up to do their bit.

The Social Impact Pledge asks public sector organisations across Scotland to commit to doing something new to help their local and wider communities.

One of the ways in which Argyll and Bute Council workers help is by supporting the great work of food banks in Argyll and Bute.

A central food bank collection point at reception in the council's Kilmory headquarters, Lochgilphead, allows staff to make donations.

Links have been established with food banks across the area who are happy for donations to be passed to them, and a number of staff have volunteered

to deliver donations to the food banks.

A generous donation is delivered to Kilmory by Andrew at the Riverside Filling Station in Lochgilphead.



MACPool makes a splash in youth employment

YOUNG people in Mid Argyll are set to benefit from new part-time jobs thanks to a £24,600 boost from the Infinis A'Chruach Community Fund.

Administered by Foundation Scotland, the fund works in partnership with Mid Argyll Community Pool (MACPool) to support the recruitment and training of young people aged 16-25 during 2018.

Valuable

The pool is offering jobs with training for young people who wish to remain in the area after leaving school or for those who want to gain valuable work experience during full-time education.

MACPool plans to use the funding to recruit, train and retain young people from local communities across the area such as Lochgilphead, Dunadd and West Loch Fyne.

Roles on offer include modern apprenticeship positions and part-time lifeguards and swim teachers.

Mid Argyll Community Enterprises chair Kim Ritchie said: 'The funding announcement could not come at a better time and we are extremely grateful to the A'Chruach fund for giving us this opportunity.'

'We are currently very short-staffed and MACPool will be actively recruiting from the

wind-farm area. Unfortunately, we will need to reduce our hours of operation in the new year while recruitment and training of new lifeguards takes place and I would like to apologise to any of our customers who are inconvenienced by this. Rest assured that we plan to reinstate a full timetable as soon as possible.'

Qualifications

MACPool offers young people the opportunity to gain international lifeguarding and teaching qualifications through the Swim Teachers' Association. Modern apprentices are supported to attain SVQ Level 3 in leisure management.



Let us help you prepare for winter

To help you through winter, we suggest you:

- Note down the national power cut number, 105
- Download our free Power Track app

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The gift of trees at Christmas



Office administrators Alice Blackman and Linda Howden of RDS Forestry helped decorate the Tarbert tree. 06_a50ChristmasTrees03

Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

AN ARGYLL forestry management firm has donated Christmas trees to the region's towns and villages – saving the council thousands of pounds.

RDS Forestry, with roots in Tarbert, decided to brighten up Christmas by supplying trees to Campbeltown, Tarbert, Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead plus one for Lochgilphead's Dochas carers' centre.

Trafalgar Square may have its 65ft Christmas tree shipped across the North Sea from Norway, but the forests of south Kintyre supplied the handsome 30ft tall Sitka spruce specimens, with haulage costs by Peter McKerral and Company also covered by RDS. 'This idea came about partly to raise the profile of RDS Forest-



The twinkling Christmas tree donated by RDS Forestry lights up Ardrishaig. 06_a50ChristmasTrees05

ry, but it also fits very well with our ethos of putting something back,' explained Robin Dixon, who founded the business in 2001.

RDS specialises in forest management and consultancy, looking after everything from planting and fell-

ing to grant applications and estate management. Around half of the company's work is in Argyll, with the remainder in the Stirling area, from where Mr Dixon's son now runs the business.

A spokesman for Argyll and Bute Coun-

cil said: 'We were approached by RDS Forestry, which kindly offered to supply the Christmas trees for Campbeltown, Tarbert, Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead. This would normally cost the council around £2,000. 'The Christmas trees

and lights across Argyll and Bute look great and we greatly appreciate the extremely generous gesture from RDS Forestry. We hope to build on in this, which could see trees being supplied to other areas across Argyll and Bute.'


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 festive gifts to ensure your festive season is full of cheer.



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Start on Alpha this January

IF YOU have ever wondered what Christianity is all about, or what the Bible really says, now is your opportunity to explore in a non-threatening environment.

There will be a free-of-charge Alpha course running at Lochgilphead Baptist Church in the new year, starting on Thursday January 11.

Alpha will run for 12 weeks on Thursday evenings, but you don't need to commit to every night – just come along to the first one and see what you think.

Each evening will begin with a meal, followed by a talk and group discussion.

If you would like to come along, email Derek Gibson at d.gibson2011@btinternet.com or contact the church office on 01546 603339.



DON'T FORGET
Self-assessment tax returns deadline January 31, 2018

WHILE it is easy to focus on the obvious financial tasks looming towards the end of the year – tax and VAT returns – the new year will bring a significant change in data protection law which could have financial implications if not implemented properly.

On May 25, 2018, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into being and will operate alongside the UK's own data protection laws.

Although in the process of extracting itself from

the EU, the UK is likely to transfer GDPR into domestic law post-Brexit.

And now is the time to start looking at how the new law will affect your business.

GDPR has been introduced to give individuals more rights over information held about them, including the right to be forgotten, to access their data and to ask questions as required – with a few exceptions.

Businesses of any size that process data, even on paper, will need to keep stringent records of how that data is handled, where it is stored, whether it is shared with a third party and whether it is actually needed – and if they don't the fines can be up to a maximum of £20million or four per cent of global turnover.

When gathering personal data, businesses are required to tell people who they are and what they are going to use that information for but under the new law this privacy notice will include further requirements.

A recommended first step is for a business to map all the personal data that it holds.

What constitutes personal data can be something of a grey area but in its simplest form refers to anything that could lead to the identification of a person – not just names, addresses and phone numbers but photos, IP addresses and email addresses.

For example, while many people may not know the names of their neighbours, they would be able to identify them.

The advice is to err on the side of caution by making sure any data stored is secure, using data encryption and cyber security where it is digitally stored and under lock and key when on paper; it is not stored for longer than it is needed; and steps are taken to reduce the amount of data stored.

Any security breach, which the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO*) defines as anything that leads to the destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data must be notified to the ICO within 72 hours of a business being aware of it.

While companies employing more than 250 people must appoint a data protection officer, it is worth electing someone to be responsible to oversee how data is handled and processed, who keeps up-to-date with GDPR developments, handles any breach and acts as a point of contact for employees.

* The ICO has a 12-step guide to preparing for the new regulations available at its website <https://ico.org.uk/media/1624219/preparing-for-the-gdpr-12-steps.pdf>



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Argyll & Bute Consultants was formed in 2003 by Iain Reid to offer Independent Financial Advice mainly in Argyll & Bute. The business offers the full range of financial services and is a small practice that focuses on service and personal relationship building generally delivered in a face to face manner.

The core area of expertise is in relation to retirement and investment planning and more details can be found by contacting us or on our website. www.a-bconsultants.co.uk Introductory meetings at our offices in Campbeltown are conducted at no cost to potential clients.



Alison Hay and Caroline Wood wrapped up warm during Social Bite's Sleep in the Park event in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens.

Braving the cold in bid to end homelessness

TWO SESSION clerks from Inveraray and Lochgair churches braved sub-zero temperatures on Saturday December 9 in a bid to combat homelessness in Scotland.

Alison Hay and Caroline Wood took part in Social Bite's Sleep in the Park event, where more than 7,000 people camped out overnight without shelter in Edinburgh's Princes Street Gardens.

Alison and Caroline raised £1,600, with donations topping £3.6 million on the night.

Participants were treated to performances from Liam Gallagher, Deacon Blue, Amy Macdonald and Frightened Rabbit.

Fawlty Towers star John Cleese treated everyone to a bedtime story, with Sir Bob Geldof and Sir Chris Hoy also addressing

the audience. Deputy First Minister John Swinney also put his parliament duties aside to brave the -7°C temperatures overnight.

Freeze

Alison said: 'We were given survival bags, which kept us reasonably warm. However, it was so cold the bags

began to freeze because of the condensation.'

'We braved the cold weather overnight and received a free breakfast in the morning from the Premier Inn at Newgate, so we would like to say a big thank you to them for their generosity.'

Alison also wants to thank everyone who has donated so far.

Donate

Anyone who wishes to donate but hasn't yet can do so by going to virginmoneygiving.com/alisonhay or virginmoneygiving.com/caroline-wood.

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Members dance the night away



The Mid Argyll branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society enjoyed their Christmas dance on Monday December 11.
06_a50CountryDance07

THE MID Argyll branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) held its Christmas party on Monday December 11 in Ardrishaig Hall.

Almost 40 dancers braved the icy conditions to dance the night away to the fabulous music of Ian Muir and to enjoy a buffet supper.

Santa and an elf helper made their customary appearance, much to the delight of the youngest guest, one-year-old Erica McKee.

Many of this year's beginners enjoyed themselves at the dance, demonstrating impressive progress since they joined in September.

The dancers meet every Monday evening in Ardrishaig Hall, with new faces always welcome.



Erica McKee with mum Phillipa enjoy the dance.
06_a50CountryDance09

Our offices will be closed on Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th December and Monday 1st December and Tuesday 2nd January 2017

ADVERTISING DEADLINES:

For the issue dated Friday 29th December noon, Friday 22nd December

For the issue dated Friday 5th January noon, Friday 29th December

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JENNIFER WILSON

recently graduated from The Open University with a BSc (Hons) in Mental Health Nursing. Jennifer is the daughter of Andrew and Gail Wilson, Kilmichael Glassary.

WEDDING



ANDERSON - TURNBULL

Both families are delighted to announce the marriage of Emma, daughter of Heather Williams, Tayvallich and Russell Anderson, Lochgilphead to Andrew, son of Shelley and Geoff Turnbull, North Berwick, at Rosslea Hall, Helensburgh on July 22, 2017.

A fabulous day shared with family and friends.

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Barcaldine winner at Oban Christmas show

THE ANNUAL Christmas show and sale of cattle was held by United Auctions at Oban Livestock Centre, when 808 head were sold.

The sale attracted what United Auctions described as 'the largest ever following of buyers representing all corners of the country' at the market.

The show, on Tuesday December 5, was judged by James Nisbet, Sorn Mains Farm, who made the following awards:

Mainland bullock calf: 1 Messrs MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm – Limousin Cross, 332k £1,350 to Mr Nisbet; 2 Mr D MacDonald, Tyree – Limousin Cross – 334k £1,300 to Messrs Morton, Lochend; 3 R Currie, Low Dunashery.

Mainland heifer calf: 1 Mr R Currie; 2 and 3 Messrs Semple, Dippen.

Island bullock calf: 1 Mr R Cuninghame, Neriby; 2 Mr C MacKinnon, Braeside. 3 Messrs MacInnes, Ruaig.

Island heifer calf: 1, 2 and 3 Mr C MacKinnon.

Native bullock: 1 SRUC, Kirkton; 2 Messrs Carmichael, Fiart; 3 Mr R Wainwright, Cliad.

Pens of four: 1 and 2 Mr Cuninghame.

Overall Champion: Messrs MacGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm.

Reserve Overall: Mr D MacDonald, Tyree.

The sale averages for the bullocks levelled out at 237.96p per kilo and £662.29 per head whilst the heifers averaged 214.29p per kilo and £599.87 per head.

Principal lots and prices
Top prices per head
Bullocks:
AAx: £950 – Ballochgar.

BRBx: £1,000 – Tyree
£990 (2) – Rhoin: £960(2) – Barcaldine HF: £920 – Tyree.

CHARx: £980 (2) – Dippen: £950 (4) – Ballochgar: £950 (3) – Saddle HF: £900 – Aoradh, Islay.

GALx: £880 – Inverglan.

LIMx: £1,350 – Barcaldine HF: £1,300 – Tyree: £1,060(5) – Neriby: £1,050 – Barcaldine HF: £1,040 – Tyree: £1,020 – Balligarve: £1,010 – Kilwhipn-ach: £990 – Achnacree Bay: £970 – Low Dunashery and Achnaba: £960 – Braeside, Tيرة and Barcaldine HF: £950 – Achnacree Bay and Low Dunashery: £940 – Strongorm: £910 – Achnaba and Low Dunashery: £900 – Achnacree Bay.

LUING: £890 – Camoquholm.

SALx: £920 – Feall, Coll: £860 – 19 East Hynish, Tيرة: £810 – Feall, Coll.

SHx: £840 – Turnault.

SIMx: £940 and £810 (4) – Ballard, Coll.

Heifers:
BSHx: £760 – Tayvallich Estates.

BRBx: £1,380 – Creagan: £1,060 – Tyree: £890 – Pairc A Chlassan, Islay.

CHARx: £1,280 – 4 Kilkenneth, Tيرة: £1,220 – Braeside, Tيرة: £1,010 – Dippen: £920 – 4 Kilkenneth and Braeside: £890 – Dippen.

LIMx: £1,220 – Low Dunashery: £1,000 – Neriby: £940 and £890 – 3 Balligrundle: £850 – Ruaig, Tيرة.

LRx: £1,010, £980 and £910 – Sithean, Tobermory.

SALx: £850 – Feall, Coll.

SHx: £740 (6) – Camoquholm.

SIMx: £850(3) – Feall, Coll.



The Christmas show champion Limousin cross calf from the MacGillivray family, Barcaldine Home Farm. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

SHx: £840 – Turnault.

SIMx: £940 and £810 (4) – Ballard, Coll.

Heifers:
BSHx: £760 – Tayvallich Estates.

BRBx: £1,380 – Creagan: £1,060 – Tyree: £890 – Pairc A Chlassan, Islay.

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LRx: £1,010, £980 and £910 – Sithean, Tobermory.

SALx: £850 – Feall, Coll.

SHx: £740 (6) – Camoquholm.

SIMx: £850(3) – Feall, Coll.

Top prices per kilo

Bullocks:
AAx: 275p (5) – Dalrannoch: 255p (3) – Blarchasaig: 253p – Tayvallich Estates.

BSHx: 248p – Tayvallich Estates.

BRBx: 282p (2) – Tyree: 274p – Low Dunashery: 271p (6), 264p (2) – Neriby: 259p (2) – Barcaldine HF: 257p (2) – Kilwhipn-ach: 257p and 253p – Tyree: 252p (4) – Neriby: 252p (2) – 13 Moss, Tيرة.

CHARx: 319p – Aoradh, Islay: 309p (4) – Ballochgar: 301p (2) – Dippen: 280p (2) and 267p (3) – Saddle HF: 257p(2) – Ballochgar: 256p – Aoradh, Islay: 253p – Shenavallie.

LIMx: 407p – Barcaldine HF: 389p – Tyree: 328p – Achuaran: 324p (4) – Ardachy: 308p – Low Dunashery: 308p (2) – Ruaig, Tيرة: 301p – Low Dunashery: 298p

– Ruaig, Tيرة: 293p – Kilwhipn-ach: 291p – Tyree: 290p (5) – Neriby: 287p – Braeside: 287p (2) and 286p – Ardachy: 274p – Low Dunashery: 273p – Balligarve: 271p – Neriby and Pottalloch.

LUING: 257p (4) – Cliad, Coll.

SALx: 267p (3) – Neriby: 260p (3) – Feall, Coll: 251p – 13 Moss, Tيرة.

SHx: 251p – Turnault.

SIMx: 273p (10) – Cliad, Coll: 273p (3) – Tor-

loisk: 260p (4) – Feall, Coll.

SDx: 262p (2) – Achnacloch, Islay.

Heifers:
BSHx: 254p – Turnault: 250p – Tayvallich Estates.

BRBx: 351p and 297p – Tyree: 264p (8) – Neriby: 262p – Barcaldine HF: 261p and 256p – 19 East Hynish, Tيرة: 252p(3) – Neriby.

CHARx: 347p – Braeside, Tيرة: 335p and 279p – 4 Kilkenneth, Tيرة: 277p (5) – Ballochgar: 275p – Braeside, Tيرة: 272p – Dippen: 271p and 266p – Saddle HF: 263p – Aoradh, Islay: 263p (3) – Dippen.

LIMx: 377p – Low Dunashery: 304p – Ruaig, Tيرة: 293p – Ar-

dachy: 277p – Ruaig, Tيرة: 273p (2) and 272p (3) – Ardachy: 272p – Balnagown: 270p (3) – Neriby: 270p – Ruaig: 264p – Neriby: 262p (2) – Low Dunashery.

LUING: 309p (3) – Cliad, Coll.

SALx: 279p – Feall, Coll: 271p and 270p (2) – Neriby.

SHx: 254p – Turnault.

SIMx: 322p (3), 300p (2) and 292p (2) – Cliad, Coll: 290p (4) – Tayvallich Estates: 282p (2) – Cliad, Coll: 279p (3) – Feall, Coll: 262p – Cliad, Coll.

Breeding cattle:
Cows with calves: £1,050 – Laggan, Taynuilt.

In-calf cows: £1,040 – Ballard, Coll: £1,020 (2) and £1,010 – Keilator.

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Time to vote for your FINALISTS!

014

Angus Cat
Dunstaffnage, Oban

029

Marni Jack Russell Terrier
Caol, Fort William

037

Max Cat
Lochgilphead

038

Scooby-Doo Dog
Inveraray

068

Mr Bigglez Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Bowmore, Isle of Islay

072

Daniel Goldfish
Lochgilphead

073

Ozzy Dog
Oban

111

Meg Dog
Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead

125

Cooper Cavachon
Oban

127

Bracken Boxer
Fort William

207

Max Cheviot tup lamb
Oban

220

Archie Lhasa Apso
Oban

270



Grayson
Siberian kitten
Lochgilphead

277



Bear
Dog
North Connel

280



Hamish
Cockapoo
Tarbert

282



Keira
Boxer/Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross
Oban

328



Isla
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329



Daisy
Jack Russell/Bichon Frise cross
Campbeltown

332



Blue
Dog
Oban

348



Finn
Cockapoo
Campbeltown

Time to vote for your **TOP TEN!**

The votes just keep pouring in... We have been completely overwhelmed by the sheer volume of votes since we launched Pet Idol. Our readers truly love their pets. We have now reached the top 20 and voting is now open for our final ten. Because of the Christmas festivities and the pressure on the postal service we will allow votes to be cast into the new year. The closing date for entries is 10am on Monday 8th January and a voting coupon will appear in every issue between now and then.

VOTING COUPON
Round 4

I would like to vote for:

Pet number*.....

Pet's name:

Please post to Wyvex Media, Pet Idol VOTE, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or votes can also be handed in to our offices in Oban, Fort William, Lochgilphead and Campbeltown.

*Pet number must be supplied. This can be found at the top left of each pet photograph.

Photocopied voting coupons will not be accepted and will not count as one vote.

You may send in multiple voting coupons in one envelope.

Votes must be received by 10am, Monday 8th January.

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

LOCHABER TIMES
& Oban Times

argyllshire
advertiser

campbeltown
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Votes must be received by 10am, Monday 8th January.

You can vote for as many pets as many times as you like. Only one pet can be voted for on each voting form. Just make sure you use the number quoted on the pet's photograph when voting. Photocopied coupons will not be accepted. One coupon counts as one vote. We will also accept multiple vote coupons in one envelope. Good luck to the 20 hopefuls.

Tarbert digs deep for worthy causes

TARBERT residents showed their generous side once again, donating £3,122 Parkinson's UK and Myaware at the Corner House annual race night fundraiser on Saturday December 9.

Organiser Margaret MacNeil thanked the 'amazing, generous and thoughtful people of Tarbert' for their donations in the run up to Christmas.

Margaret and the Corner House are regular fundraisers for both charities, hosting a coffee morning before Kenny MacNab set off on his Kintyre way walk, in which he raised more than £5,000 for Parkinson's UK.

The Corner House would like to thank all who attended and supported the event.

MS Centre brave chilli conditions

THE MULTIPLE Sclerosis centre in Lochgilhead hosted a chilli walk on Sunday December 10. Fundraisers braved the ice and sub-zero temperatures, completing a one-mile walk and a three-mile jog raising £230 for the centre, with more funds coming in.

Following the walk, revellers were treated to a warm bowl of chilli and macaroni.

The centre would like to thank all those who came along.



A few smiling faces enjoying a warm meal after the chilli walk in Lochgilhead.



The cast of *Cinderella* who helped to raise funds for this year's pantomime production.

Acting Up Argyll raise funds

ACTING Up Argyll has raised £403.07 following a bag pack at Lochgilhead Co-op on Saturday December 2.

The bag pack has raised important production funds prior to the group's produc-

tion of *Cinderella* at Ardrishaig public hall.

Money

Organisers are hoping the money will also be of use for next year's show.

The group will perform *Cin-*

derella today (Friday December 15) at 7pm and tomorrow (Saturday) at 2pm and 7pm.

Tickets are available from KC Fashion in Lochgilhead and McColls on Ardrishaig and also at the door on the night.

Ardrishaig to see festive carol performance

DALRIADA Singers will host A Christmas Contrast at Ardrishaig Parish Church on Saturday December 16.

The festive concert will begin at 7.30pm, and will include extracts from A Ceremony of Carols, Fanta-

sia of Christmas Carols and Night of Miracles. Admission is £5 per person.

A collection will also

be made on the night in aid of the Butterfly Trust, a charity for people suffering from cystic fibrosis.

OFFERS & competitions

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 January 2018. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize draw to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve whisky.**

WIN

A PAIR OF FAIRFAX AND FAVOR REGINA BOOTS WORTH £329

A Hume Country Clothing, a lifestyle country clothing retailer based in Kelso in the heart of the Scottish Borders, are offering one lucky reader the opportunity to win a pair of Fairfax and Favor Regina Boots.



Fairfax and Favor were founded in 2013 with the aim of bridging the gap between smart and casual. Whether you are required to dress up for an occasion – or down, Fairfax and Favor can provide you with the perfect blend of traditional British style and modern contemporary elegance.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: **In what year was Fairfax and Favor established?**

WIN

AN EPICUREAN INDULGENCE AND STAY FOR TWO AT THE PEAT INN BY ST ANDREWS



Relax in your suite before a beautifully crafted six course tasting menu. In the morning, indulge in breakfast in your suite. The Peat Inn, by St Andrews is a luxury 5-star Restaurant with Rooms in peaceful surroundings. Michelin Star Chef Proprietor, Geoffrey Smeddle, uses the finest Scottish ingredients to create delicious and contemporary cuisine. The Residence provides eight luxurious suites with views over the countryside – heavenly for a quiet getaway.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: **How many suites does The Peat Inn have?**

Valid Tuesday – Thursday, subject to availability, based on two people sharing a twin or double room for one night. Drinks are not included. Must be taken by 31 May 2018.

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. Information will be shared with promoters and sponsors.

A CRACKING CHRISTMAS WITH CADENHEAD!

Clothing, Hand-crafted items, Springbank Whisky Tablet, Cake & Chocolates, Gift Vouchers, Distillery Tour & Tasting Vouchers.

Not forgetting our whisky tasting at 2.30pm on Sat 30th December

All bottles can be personalized for that extra special touch!

CONFECTIONERY & GIFT HAMPERS

Choose items to make up your wicker gift hamper to fit your own budget. **LAST MINUTE XMAS SHOPPING**

W CADENHEAD'S WHISKY SHOP CAMPBELTOWN

Ladies tickled pink in Inveraray

A PAMPERING day for women who have suffered the effects of breast cancer has been hailed a success.

The Pink Ladies Day, which was held at Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray on Friday December 8, was organised by Nicky Murphy, diagnosed with the disease four years ago.

More than 30 women who have been affected by breast cancer attended the event with their 'plus ones'.

The pampering day includes a choice of treatments, including hair, makeup, nails, massages, facials and yoga.

The ladies are also treated to morning and afternoon tea and coffee and a three-course lunch.

Organiser Nicky said: 'Having been diagnosed with breast cancer four years ago,

I wanted to create something really special for other women who have been through the same thing.

'Things get a bit crazy during treatment and it can be an extremely challenging time; all of life's pressures are still there on top of dealing with a life-threatening illness that requires an extreme programme of treatment.

'Living in a rural area, there is also extensive travel involved which is incredibly tiring. Add that to the physical and emotional impact which hits often after treatment and it all equates to really needing, deserving and craving a day of complete self-indulgence and relaxation, where the vibe is very positive, fun and supportive.'

Beauty therapists



The ladies enjoyed a day of pampering at the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray.

and makeup artists across the area give up their free time to attend the event to preen and pamper the ladies.

A specialist nurse and representative from Macmillan also attended to listen and

offer friendly advice. Pink Ladies Day is a free event for women who have been affected by cancer who are in need of some pampering.

Nicky raised more than £4,500 to pay for the day, raising money

through afternoon tea events, raffle ticket sales and a 16km sponsored walk.

Local businesses also helped fund the event, including D&A Munn, who provided a chauffeur-driven luxury car to transport five ladies from Oban to Inveraray.

Kirsty Lauder, a beauty therapist based in Dunoon, said: 'Another fantastic day for the Pink Ladies at Loch Fyne.

'This is organised for women who have breast cancer, and for those who are living fully once the treatments are finished.

'A day of pampering from top to toe, all brought together by the amazing Nicky Murphy.'

Ho, ho, hold on to your hat – Santa's coming

IT'S THAT time of year again.

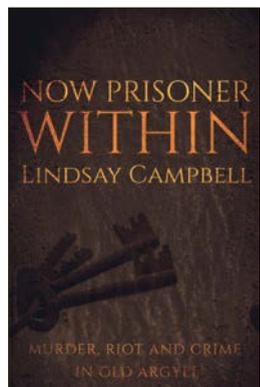
Mid Argyll Round Table is hosting a very special guest once again this festive season, as a VIP comes to the region.

Santa's sleigh visited Tarbert yesterday (Thursday December 14) and will delight children of all ages in towns and villages across Mid Argyll until Sunday December 17.

Santa is expected in Ardrishaig today (Friday December 15) between 6pm and 9pm; tomorrow (Saturday) in Lochgilphead from 3pm until 9pm, then, on Sunday, he will start at Kilmartin at around 2pm before travelling to Inveraray before 9pm.

The big jolly fellow in the red suit asked Round Table volunteers to pass on a request for a couple of extra helpers for Saturday and Sunday, if anyone wishes to help spread Christmas cheer.

Murder, riot and crime in Argyll



Front cover of *Now Prisoner Within*.

TRUE tales of axe and alcohol, pistol and poison are told in vivid detail in the new book by Lindsay Campbell.

Examining some of old Argyll's true criminal history and the family tragedies, secret dealings and personality clashes behind cases of murder, theft, riot and protest, the book covers true tales from Campbeltown to Keil and Tobermory to Dalmally dating from the early 18th century.

Now Prisoner Within is replete with tales of poisoning, fraud,

psychopathy and vengeance – and at least one fraudster skipping the embrace of a rope on Loch Fyne-side.

Sign

Lindsay will be at Argyll Book Centre in Lochgilphead this weekend to sign your copies of *Now Prisoner Within*.

It all happens between 2pm and 4pm on Saturday December 16, and there might even be home baking and refreshments for anyone coming along to the Lorne Street shop.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

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

ARGYLL BOOK CENTRE
Lorne St, Lochgilphead
Meet The Author
Book signing by Argyll author
Lindsay Campbell
Saturday 16th December
2pm - 4pm
Teas, coffee & cakes
All welcome

A CHRISTMAS CONTRAST
Choral Music by Britten, Vaughan Williams and John W. Peterson
Performed by the **Dalriada Singers**
Saturday 16th December
7.30pm
Ardrishaig Parish Church
Admission by programme £5
Retiral collection in aid of the Butterfly Trust

Got questions about life, faith, meaning?
TRY ALPHA
Alpha Course at Lochgilphead Baptist Church starts Thursday 11th January 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Come and explore Christianity and the Bible in a non-threatening environment.
There will be a meal, short talk and small group discussion.
If you would like to come along, please email Derek Gibson: d.gibson2011@btinternet.com or contact the church office: 01546 603339
All welcome!

CHOIR CONCERT
Sunday 17th December
An afternoon of seasonal songs!
Performed by the ENSEMBLE choirs in the Town Hall at 2.00pm
Doors open 1.30pm
Pay at the door: £5, Under 12s Free
Raffle
A donation will go to MacMillan Nurses in Kintyre.

Skipness Village Hall
Traditional Festive Ceilidh Dance
Friday 29th December
at 8.30pm with the one and only
Gunna Sound
Admission - Adults: £8,
under 18's: £3,
under 12's: FREE!

TARBERT GUN CLUB
XMAS SHOOT
at Barmore
Sunday
17th December
at 11am
Bring a Prize

Rotary Club of Campbeltown
Christmas Postal Service
REMINDER
Posting boxes will be removed from shops on the afternoon of Saturday 16th December.
25p per card

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Incorporating Campbeltown Courier
Now delivering news 7 DAYS A WEEK online
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
INCLUDES FULL website access and a DIGITAL EDITION of the newspaper

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 2017

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Gordon Caskie, Muasdale.

NEIL & JEAN MCEACHRAN

would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

MADGE & FRANCIS MCWHIRTER

would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

Phyllis & Tommy Angus, Lochgilphead

would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Donald, Margaret & Donald Anderson, Campbeltown.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Sheena & Alastair Ward, Castlepark.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Anne & Angus, Rockfield.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Emily McDonald, 15 Lochend Street.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to friends & neighbours from Maggie Dodd.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my friends from John MacVean, Dalmally.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Cathie & Alasdair, 8 Glenside xxxxx.

JAN ROBERTSON

would like to wish relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

MRS PEGGY MCCALLUM (SOUTHEND)

would like to wish family, friends & neighbours Merry Christmas & Prosperous New Year.

CATHERINE & JOHN KIRKBY, FORD

would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

HUGH COLVILLE

would like to wish all his relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Colin Lang, Castleacres.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Margaret, Heath Cottage.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our friends & neighbours from Ian & Margaret Robertson.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Renee Davidon.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Isabel Conley, 7 Meadow Park.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Betty Scally.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Elizabeth McGuire, 2 Ralston Road.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Denis Meenan.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Mrs Barbara Lang.

MARY & WILLIE MACBRAYNE, LONRE CAMPBELL COURT

would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

DAVE & ISOBEL DAVIS, PERTH

wish all their family & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy & Healthy New Year.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our relatives, friends & staff at Auchinlee from Flora Anderson & Ella Johnston.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Janet Ferguson, Southend.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Jenny, 24 Meadow Park.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Isobel Dott, 1 Park Terrace.

Hughie & Kate McNair

wish all relatives & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy & Prosperous New Year.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Helen Wardrop.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Florence & David McEwan.

Marjorie & Arthur

wish their friends & relatives a Merry Christmas & all the best for 2018.

'Jesus - He's the reason for the Season'



MID ARGYLL

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY

Church of Scotland
Sunday 24th December 2017
 Fourth Sunday in Advent
 Christmas Eve Services
 Skipness Service 10am
 Mr Tom McKay
 Skipness Evening Service 7pm
 Congregation Led
 Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Mr Tom McKay
 Kilberry Evening Service 6.30pm
 Congregation Led
Sunday 31st December 2017
 New Years Eve Services
 Skipness Service 10am
 Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Mr James McLellan
 For all church enquiries
 and pastoral care
 Contact Rev. Hilda Smith,
 Interim Moderator
 on 07826 235735
 Everyone very welcome
 Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622
 Skipness SCO04280

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

24th December 2017
 Fourth Sunday in Advent
 Kilmartin 11.45am
 Rev. C. Acklam
 Carols & Readings
 to welcome Christmas
 Kilmartin 11.30pm
31st December 2017
 Sunday Worship
 Ford 11.45am
 Rev. C. Acklam
 All welcome
 SC0 02121

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Christmas starts with Christ
 We invite you to join in our
 celebrations this year.
Sunday 24 December
 Inverlussa Church 10 am
 Advent Worship
 Rev C Acklam
 Jubilee Green Tayvallich 4pm
 Carols on the Green
 Tayvallich church 11.15pm
 Watchnight Service
 Rev C Acklam
Monday 25th December
 Joy to the World, the Lord is Come
 Bellanoch Church 11am
 Christmas Celebration
 Retiring Offering for
 EMBRACE the Middle East
 Rev C Acklam
 Emmanuel, God with Us

Sunday 31 December
 Tayvallich Church 10 am
 Morning Worship
 Rev C Acklam
 Café Connect resumes
13th January 2018
 All welcome
 Enquiries 01546 606926
 www.northknappdale.org

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE

11.15 pm
WATCHNIGHT SERVICE
 Carol singing, warm mince pies and
 hot drinks from 10.45 pm
CHRISTMAS DAY
 11.00 am
 A SHORT FAMILY SERVICE
31 DECEMBER 2017
 11.00 am
 WORSHIP SERVICE
 Rev. Hilda Smith
 All welcome
 More info. at www.lpchurch.co.uk
 Lochgilphead
 (Church of Scotland) SC016311

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES Christmas Eve Advent 4

Angelic Messages
 (Luke 2)
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 (No 12:30pm Service at Achahoish)
 Carol Service
 Achahoish at 7:00pm
 Watchnight Service
 Ardrishaig at 11:30pm
 (Carol Singing from 11:15pm)
Sunday 31st December 2017
 "The End of an Era"
 Another Angelic Message
 (Matthew 2)
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

Christ Church
 Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead
 (SC013787)
Saturday 23rd December
 Advent IV Eucharist 4pm
 N.B. Nothing on Sunday morning
CHRISTMAS EVE
 CHRIST CHURCH
 MIDNIGHT MASS
 11.30pm
CHRISTMAS DAY
 St Columba's, Poltalloch
 Holy Communion 9am
 Christ Church, Lochgilphead
 A STAR WARS NATIVITY
 11am
 All-Age Eucharist with Carols
 Come in Costume!
 Father Simon Mackenzie
 01546 602315

KINTYRE

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 17th December
 11.15am Worship Service
 Rev Rodger Crooks
 5.00pm Carols by Candlelight
 Christmas refreshments will be served
Wednesday 20th December
 2.00pm Christmas at the
 Water of Life Café
Sunday 24th December
 11.15am Christmas Service
 Rev Rodger Crooks
 All welcome
 www.campbeltownfreechurch.com
 Scottish Charity Number:
 SCO09980

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 17th December
 Christmas Family Service
 A presentation by the Sunday
 school children
 with Campbeltown Brass Ensemble
 followed by coffee & mince pies
Sunday 24th December
 Christmas Eve All Age Service
Sunday 31st December
 New Year's Eve All Age Service
 All our services start at 11.00am
 and are held at Kinloch Hall,
 Kinloch Road
 www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
 SC043322

LORNE & LOWLAND CHURCH

Sunday 17th December
 Morning Worship 11.15am
 Creche, Triple C, Gen 1
 Rev P Wallace
Sunday 24th December
 All Age Service 11.15am
 Choir items, Nativity Play with
 Triple C and Gen 1
 Creche
 Joint Watchnight Service with
 The Highland Parish Church
Monday 25th December
 "O come let us adore Him"
 All Age Service 10.30am
 Everyone most welcome
Sunday 31st December
 Morning Worship 11.15am

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Sunday 17th December
 11.00am Family service with
 communion
Sunday 24th December
 11.00am Family service
 with communion
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
 Christmas refreshments
 will be served
 All are welcome
 Pastor Steve Davies

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN WEST KINTYRE AND GIGHA

(Interim Moderator: Rev Catriona Hood)
GIGHA CHURCH
Sunday 24th December
 Morning worship at 11.00am
 Dr John Fryer
Sunday 24th December
 Watchnight Service at 11.30pm
 Mr Alasdair MacNeill

KILCALMONELL PARISH CHURCH (CLACHAN)

Friday 22nd December
 Clachan Primary School
 End of Term Service at 11.30am
 (All welcome to join the school
 community at this service)
 Mrs Elizabeth Ball
Sunday 24th December
 Morning worship at 10.00am
 Rev Catriona Hood
Sunday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Service at 7.00pm
 (followed by Christmas
 refreshments)
 Mrs Elizabeth Ball

KILLEAN & KILCHENZIE PARISH CHURCH (A'CHLEIT)

Sunday 24th December
 Morning worship at 11.30am
 Ms Marilyn Shedden
Sunday 24th December
 Watchnight Candlelit Service at 11.30pm
 Ms Marilyn Shedden
 All welcome at any of our services!



PARISHES OF SOUTHEND, SADDLE & CARRADALE

Friday 15th December
 6.00pm Carol singing in Southend village
 7.00pm Nativity story with Carols
 at Argyll Arms Hotel, Southend
Sunday 17th December
 10.00am Crib Service for all ages at
 Carradale Church
 11.45am Morning Worship at
 Southend Church
Christmas Eve
 10.00am Morning Worship at
 Carradale Church
 11.45am Morning Worship at
 Southend Church
 7.30pm Carol service at Carradale
 Church
 11.30pm Watchnight service at
 Southend Church
Christmas Day
 10.30am United Service at Lorne
 and Lowland Church
Sunday 31st December
 10.00am Morning Worship at
 Carradale Church
 11.45am Morning Worship at
 Southend Church

ST. KIERAN'S, CATHOLIC CHURCH

Advent 3,
Saturday 16th December
 Vigil Mass 6.00pm
Sunday 17th December
 Blessing of the Christmas Tree and
 Holy Mass 10.00am
Advent 4,
Saturday 23rd December
 Rorate Mass 6.00pm
Sunday 24th December
 Blessing of the Nativity Scene and
 Holy Mass 10.00am
 Nativity of the Lord
Sunday 24th December
 10.00pm - Mass of Christmas
 during the Night
Monday 25th December
 10.00am - Mass of Christmas Day
 Fr. Tony Wood
 01586552160
 (SCO02876)

TAYINLOAN CAROL SERVICE

Saturday 23rd December
 at 7.30pm
 in Tayinloan Village Hall
 Speaker: Mr Kelvin Moller
 Christmas Supper
 Come & share in the true spirit of
 Christmas
 Everyone welcome

West Coast **MOTORING TIMES**

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First reg (65 plate), 198,000 mls, MoT Feb 18, fully converted motor caravan. Sleeps 2-4, 3 seats front, toilet /wash basin, gas cooker, grill & hob, sink with hot/cold water, tv, dvd & extras. Vg cond, well worth viewing.

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£12,500_{ONO}

ISUZU RODEO PICKUP 60 PLATE



This truck is in immaculate cond inside/out. 122,000 mls, MOT Jan 2018, drives very well, ffor Williams canopy, alloy wheels, good tyres, delivery can be arranged, trade in welcome.

£7,495

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john.stoddarts@btconnect.com

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All New SCENIC

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Dacia Stepway SUV style. Supermini Costs.

USED CARS

17 Dacia Duster, Prestige, 4x4 TCe, Blue, 80 Miles.....	£15,250
17 Renault Captur, 1.5 Ci DYN, Oyster grey over black, 1500 Miles.....	£13,850
66 Renault Clio, DYN NAV TCe, Silver, 7000 Miles.....	£10,550
66 Renault Clio, 1.2 Dynamic, NAV, White, 11,000 miles.....	£9650
65 Renault Twingo, SCE, DYN, Red, 3500 Miles.....	£7,200
15 Renault Scenic XMod DCi, White, 26,000 Miles.....	£11,450
15 Renault Clio Dyn 1.2 Nav. Grey, 18,000 Miles.....	£7,950
14 Renault Scenic DYN, 1.5 DCi, T/T, Black, 16,500 Miles.....	£10,950
14 Renault Captur, Dyn, TCE, Orange /Black, 9,000 Miles.....	£9500
14 Dacia Duster Laureate 4x4, Blue, 68,000 Miles.....	£7,250
14 Nissan Note 1.2 Accenta Premium, 5Dr, Blue, 9,000 Miles.....	£8,950
14 Nissan Micra 1.2 Visia, White, 16,000 Miles.....	£5,950
64 Nissan Qashqui, Teken DCi, 21,000 Miles.....	£14,950
64 Nissan Pulsar, Accenta Red, 5Dr, H/B, 13,000 Miles.....	£8550
63 Dacia Logan Est, DCi Lau, Red, 15,000 Miles.....	£6,250
11 Ford Kuga, TDCi, 4x4, White 58,000m Miles.....	£8,950

COMMERCIALS

66 Renault Kangoo, White, LWB, 11,000 Miles.....	£8,500+VAT
14 Renault Kangoo Van 67,000 miles. White.....	£5,500 inc VAT
63 Renault traffic, LL29, DCi, White, 10200 Miles.....	£8,500+VAT

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60 Peugeot 207 HDi 1.4	10 Peugeot 207 Verve 1.4	09 Fiat Panda
08 Peugeot 206S 1.2	07 Vauxhall Astra 1.4	07 Ford Fiesta
06 Toyota Yaris T3		

Low deposit and finance options available

WANTED

All types of good quality 4 x 4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4 x 4 pickups, must be good condition and reasonable mileage. Older 4 x 4's and non runners/MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

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All types of motor homes and caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards.

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E: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk

WANTED

All 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.

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15 ISUZU D-MAX TD BLADE DCB 2.5l Diesel, Manual, White, 28,000 Miles	£18,995+VAT
15 ISUZU D-MAX TD UTAH DCB 2.5l Diesel, Manual, Black, 19,455 Miles	£18,250+VAT
15 ISUZU D-MAX TD FURY DCB 2.5l Diesel, Manual, Red, 24,000 Miles	£16,500+VAT
14 ISUZU D-MAX HUNTER 2.5l Diesel, Manual, Green, 86,000 Miles	£15,495+VAT
14 ISUZU D-MAX TD YUKON DCB 2.5l Diesel, Manual, Silver, 64,698 Miles	£13,750+VAT

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NEW CAR INDEX



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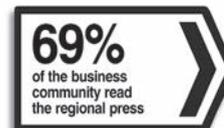
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**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010
CONSTRUCTION WORKS
ARDRISHAIG PIER, ARDRISHAIG,
ARGYLL & BUTE**

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Canals has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of constructions works at:

Cost	£1,300,000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
ArdriSHAIG Pier, Ardrishaig, Argyll & Bute	56° 00.808 'N	005° 26.714' W
	56° 00.801 'N	004° 26.707' W
	56° 00.801 'N	004° 26.669' W
	56° 00.798 'N	004° 26.662' W
	56° 00.799 'N	004° 26.650' W
	56° 00.800 'N	004° 26.635' W
	56° 00.791 'N	004° 26.633' W
	56° 00.790 'N	004° 26.646' W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Scottish Canals Office, Crinan Canal, Pier Square, Ardrishaig, PA30 8DZ

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to: MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot, quoting reference:

MCMS Number: 06589

Applicant: Scottish Canals

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/03053/PPP	Site for erection of dwellinghouse	Land South West Of Mill Cottage Slockavullin Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
17/02948/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land 700M South West Of Camus Na Gaul Clachan Tarbert Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Tayinloan
17/02964/PP	Erection of residential annexe	Achnacolain Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6YF	Sub Post Office Harbour Street Tarbert
17/03042/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land South East Of Homeston Farm Campbeltown Argyll And Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
17/03033/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached outbuilding	Land Adjacent To Benvue Gallowhill Road Campbeltown Argyll And Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
17/02717/PP	Erection of 2 self catering units	Leim Farm Isle Of Gigha Argyll And Bute PA41 7AD	Sub Post Office Gigha
17/02947/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land 650M South West Of Camus Na Gaul Clachan Tarbert Argyll And Bute	Sub Post Office Tayinloan
17/02693/LIB	Installation of rock protection revetment to the north side of the existing pier, widening at the base of the pier and extending the pier by 15 metres using sheet piling construction	Ardrishaig Pier Pier Square Ardrishaig Argyll And Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office

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

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

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Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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 Municipal Buildings Albany Street Oban PA34 4AW, 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

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Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/02922/PP	Erection of servery/storeroom building with extension to existing outdoor seating area above	Land Adjacent To Jura Hotel Craighouse Isle Of Jura Argyll And Bute PA60 7XU	Sub Post Office Craighouse Isle of Jura
17/02939/LIB	Temporary removal with future re-instatement of section of stone dyke for duration of Iona Abbey works to allow site access to temporary compound	Iona Abbey Isle Of Iona Argyll And Bute PA76 6SQ	Sub Post Office Isle of Iona
17/02853/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 12 metre high pole and associated works	Land North East Of Coillabus Farm The Oa Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA42 7AX	Sub Post Office Port Ellen
17/02910/PP	Erection of single storey extensions to form entrance porch and outhouse to facilitate boiler and water tank.	Showroom Pier Road Scarinish Isle Of Tiree Argyll And Bute PA77 6TN	Tiree Area Office
17/02582/PP	Siting of 4 camping pods, installation of septic tank and formation of vehicular access	Land South Of Clachaig Gruline Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA71 6HR	Sub Post Office Aros Isle of Mull

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

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Recruitment



Due to continued success in securing several long term contracts we require the following full time personnel to join our Facilities management and Contracting departments.

Electrical Project Manager

Previous experience is preferred for this key role, applicants wishing to progress to this role may be considered - SMSTS, 17th Edition amendment 3 certification, minimum requirements would be a full electrical apprenticeship and currently working as an approved electrician at foreman level. Salary negotiable with attractive benefits package.

Electrical Contracts Surveyor

Previous experience is preferred for this key role - Experience with preparing valuations, in-contract estimating, providing budget/cash flow information & margin projections to senior management. Salary negotiable with attractive benefits package.

FM - Help Desk Co-ordinator

Full training will be given for this role - Good admin skills are required with the ability to manage our bespoke Help desk system, familiarity with Microsoft office applications and attention to detail is key to the success of this position. Salary negotiable.

FM - Multi skilled Operative

Operatives with a strong trade background are required - Roofer's - joiner's- plasterer's etc, to work along side our existing team on long term housing/commercial FM contracts, both reactive and planned maintenance tasks. The ability to work to a planned schedule and use initiative to complete tasks as required,. Training will be given to the right candidates to continue their development within the role. Competitive hourly rate

FM - Trainee Building Services Engineer

Great opportunity to join our existing team to work on long term FM contracts throughout Argyll. Full on site training will be given and the opportunity to join our Modern Apprenticeship Program at Forth Valley college. A wide variety of skills will be gained including electrical, mechanical, plumbing & air-conditioning. Hourly rate increasing through apprenticeship.

FM - Maintenance Electricians

Operatives with a strong electrical background are required to work along side our existing team on long term housing/commercial FM contracts, both reactive and planned maintenance tasks. The ability to work to a planned schedule and use initiative to complete tasks as required. Training will be given to the right candidates to continue their development within the role. Competitive hourly rate

Contracting - Approved Electricians

17th Edition Electricians & Approved Electricians are required for a variety of projects, commercial/ industrial experience preferred. We require experienced operatives due to a full order book for 2018. SJIB rates paid.

Apprentice electricians

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 • Registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)
For more information, please contact Brian Murphy on 01546 605932 or email brian.murphy@acha.co.uk
Interviews will be held on 24th January 2018 in Oban.

Customer Services Assistant **Oban**
£16,574 - £19,498 pro rata **21 hours**
 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 09:00 – 17:00
 12 month fixed term contract. This post requires basic Disclosure Scotland check.

For more information, please contact Amanda MacKenzie on 01546 605931 or email amanda.mackenzie@acha.co.uk
Interviews will be held on 19th January 2018 in Oban

AHFA Contract Administrator **Oban**
£19,717 - £23,197 **35 hours per week**
 Mon – Fri 09:00 – 17:00
 Permanent

For more information please contact Lee Holness on 01546 605 815 or email lee.holness@ahfa.co.uk
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 • Basic Disclosure Scotland check
Interviews will be held on 16th January 2018 in Oban.

AHFA 2 x Electricians **1 x Argyll-wide, 1 x Cowal and Bute**
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For more information please contact Gary Breeden on 01546 605 856 or email gary.breeden@ahfa.co.uk

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MOTHER OF PEARL GLOBE hand crafted with compass at base. Lovely Christmas present, £80 Tel 01546 600045.

WATER FEATURE bronze effect, mermaid on a shell pool with 3 glass lights, photo available. Cost £350, sell for, £99.99 Tel 01631 562750².

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MINI MOTO Miniature motor-bike, 49cc rev and go. Black. Good condition/runner. Kentallen area. Buyer collects. Ideal Christmas present, £75 Tel 07585 184642.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

CASIO CTK4400 KEYBOARD as new, unused, purchased

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STAG KTC custom made hard case with wheels, to fit Casio CTK4400 Keyboard. Purchased October 2017. Lochgilphead area, £85.00 Telephone 01546 321050 or 07768 390306.

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Call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

CAMPBELTOWN CAT RESCUE

Would like to thank everyone for their support at the annual coffee morning. The event raised £1,336. Thanks also to all who have donated cat food via our drop off boxes in the Coop and Tesco Stores. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

Raise a few extra pennies for Xmas!

UNDER £100 NOW FREE

Sell your unwanted items under £100 for FREE in our west coast classifieds. It couldn't be easier!

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BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL TRADE LOCAL SWAP LOCAL

BUTE

Pavilion contract awarded

A £10.6M contract to restore Rothesay Pavilion has been awarded to contractor CBC.

Work on renovating the International Modernist building started on Wednesday November 29.

The Grade A listed building will be transformed into a hub for cultural and communi-

ty use and is expected to employ more than 30 people and attract more than 70,000 visitors a year.

The restored pavilion will house an exhibition area, shops selling local produce, café and a hall to accommodate a range of events including music, theatre, dance and sports.

HELENSBURGH

Former academy site sold

ARGYLL and Bute Council has completed the sale of the former Hermitage Academy site in Helensburgh to a housing developer.

Taylor Wimpey West Scotland has been granted planning permission to build a range of two, three and four bedroom family homes on the site and work is expect-

ed to start on the houses within the next few weeks.

Stephen Andrew, technical director for Taylor Wimpey West Scotland, said: 'We hope to begin pre-construction works within the next few weeks and will keep the local community informed of our progress on this exciting development.'

COLINTRAIVE

Festive carol service

THERE will be a festive carol service at Colintraive Village Hall on Thursday December 21.

There will be mulled wine and mince pies on offer, with all funds raised going to the Salvation Army.

Advertiser newsdesk 01546 602345

CAMPBELTOWN



Brave PC McFarland entered the burning building and made sure all the residents were brought to safety.

A POLICE constable has been commended for saving elderly care home residents from a fire in August 2015.

PC McFarland was on his way home when he saw the fire at the care home and immediately ran into

the main building. With no hesitation, PC McFarland made his way upstairs to the corridor, which by this time was filling with black smoke.

He then alerted all the elderly residents and got them to safety.

LOCH AWE

Christmas tree festival at St Conan's Kirk

ST CONAN'S Kirk at Loch Awe marked the start of the festive season with a weekend-long Christmas tree festival.

Schools, businesses, youth groups and organisations took trees of all shapes and sizes

along to the kirk for the festival, which ran from Friday December 1 to Sunday December 3.

Tarbert Ladies Choir members travelled from across Argyll to perform twice during the afternoon.

This was the third year the festival has been held and there were more than 40 trees.

The Christmas carol service at St Conan's will be on Christmas Eve at 6pm. Everyone welcome.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



I'VE WRITTEN about Blue Planet previously, but it is so wonderful I feel compelled to mention this amazing programme again.

We seem poised on the edge of an abyss which could result in the potential destruction of marine life on this planet.

Who could have watched this series and not wept for the devastation in our oceans?

Who could have watched this series and not felt guilty about our part in it?

I know of the wonderful variety of life beneath the seas, but I never imagined the intelligence of so many of its creatures.

Like many, I know of the wisdom and communication expertise of dolphins and whales, but I didn't realise humble clownfish have their own language.

And how poignant was it to learn that the oceans have become so noisy with our human machines polluting the air waves, that the clownfish can't hear each other above our noise.

Their means of communication is in jeopardy and these funny, lovable creatures are under threat.

Their love song is lost in the noise and we don't even notice.

Much more is being lost in the noise in our world today as peace is sacrificed across our globe.

A Christmas hymn has words which echo true as it talks of the message of joy the angels brought to earth on that first Christmas, yet after 2000 years 'warring humankind hears not the love song which they bring, Oh hush the noise and still the strife to hear the angels sing'.

Let our Christmas prayer be that the message of love resonates from the highest heavens to the deepest oceans to bring hope and peace.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

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

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name ...' (Isaiah 12:4).

BIRTHS



DRAPER

Derek and Mairi (Paterson) are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful daughter, Maisie Jean, on November 16, 2017. A wee sister for Finley. Fourth grandchild for Derek and Marlene, and first grandchild for Lachie and Jean. Sincere thanks to the midwives and staff at Campbeltown and Queen Elizabeth University hospitals.

MARRIAGES



PATERSON - BRODIE

On October 14, 2017, at beautiful Carradale Bay, Joanne, eldest daughter of Lachie and Jean, to James-Lee, younger son of Neil and Lisa. A magical day.

DEATHS

BYRNE - Suddenly, in Glasgow, on December 6, 2017, James Oliver Byrne (Jim), in his 76th year, 19 Longrow, Campbeltown, much loved father of Lorna, Susan and Gill and a loving Papa-Jim of Jay, Suso, Louie, Flora, Eilidh, Ruby and Tunni. A graveside service will be held in Kilkerran Cemetery, today Friday, December 15, 2017 at 1.00pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Anyone attending the service please meet outside Kilkerran Cemetery at 12.50pm.

MACNICOL - Peacefully, at the Lynn of Lorne Nursing Home, Benderloch, on December 8, 2017, Mr Jimmy MacNicol, formerly of Barmor View, Kilmartin and of Kilbride Farm, beloved husband of the late Anne Carson, much loved father of Janet, Linda and Anne, a devoted searair of Julie, Caroline, James, Douglas, Neil, Kirsty and Emma and adored great grandfather. A dear brother, uncle and cousin to all the family, and a good neighbour and very dear friend to many. Funeral service was held in Kilmartin Parish Church, on Thursday, December 14, 2017, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

MAXWELL - Peacefully, at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll, on December 7, 2017, Irene Adams Maxwell, aged 74 years, of 16 Argyll Court, Lochgilphead, beloved and loving wife of George, much loved mother of Andrew and Sylvia, loving mother-in-law of Angela and Arthur and adored grandmother of Ruth, Rachel and Laura. Dear sister of May and great aunt of Debbie. A good friend and neighbour to many. Funeral service will be held at Lochgilphead Baptist Church, today Friday, December 15, 2017 at 10.30am, thereafter to Cardross Crematorium, at 2.15pm.

Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, to The Dunadd Room, Mid Argyll Hospital.

MCAULAY - Peacefully at home, on December 9, 2017, Neil McAulay, in his 87th year, 18F Saddell Street, Campbeltown, a much loved son of the late James and Hannah McAulay, a loving brother of the late James, Duncan, John, Sissy, Malcolm and Jenny and a much loved uncle and great uncle.

MCCUMMISKEY - Suddenly, at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, on December 8, 2017, Henry (Harry) McCummiskey, aged 71 years, of 6 Columba Court, Ardrishaig, beloved and loving husband of Mary McCummiskey, adored dad of Lorna, John and Diane, a much respected father-in-law of Graham and Kasse and dearly loved and cherished grandpa of Shannon, Amanda, David, Harry and Jack. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held at Cardross Crematorium, on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 11.15am. All friends are respectfully invited to attend. Family flowers only please.

MCLEAN - It is with sadness that the family announce the passing of May, aged 95 years, at McKellar House, Erskine Home. They wish to thank "The Erskine Family", particularly McKellar House for the care, dignity and kindness shown to May since 2010. Funeral private.

MCMILLAN - On December 12, 2017, suddenly but peacefully, with her family by her side, at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, Mary Morrison McMillan, née MacAlpine, in her 67th year, beloved wife of James McMillan, much loved mother of Jamie Duncan and Andrew, and dearly loved sister of Kenneth and Fiona. Funeral service at Tarbert Parish Church, on Tuesday, December 19 at 12.00 noon, interment thereafter at Carrick Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Flowers welcome, donations if desired to Cancer Research UK and Fishermen's Mission.

MORRISON - Peacefully, at Islay Hospital, on November 30, 2017, Charlie Morrison, aged 75, beloved husband of the late Margaret Morrison, father to Tracey and Fraser (Islay), and loving brother to John and the late Margaret and Alec (Campbeltown). Loved and very sadly missed.

PAUL - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, with her daughter by her side, on December 11, 2017, Jean Paul, née Nelson, in her 89th year, of 2 Dail Charnaig, Kilmartin, and formerly of Ardrishaig, beloved wife of the late Alex Paul and much loved mother of Ann. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service private by request.

RALSTON - Peacefully at home, in Lundin Links, on December 11, 2017, Thomas Ralston, aged 81 years, much loved and sadly missed by his wife, Ina, daughters, Caroline and Gillian, his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

SHUTTLEWORTH - Suddenly, at Oban Hospital, on December 9, 2017, Donald

Shuttleworth, aged 83 years, of An Airigh, Lochgair, beloved husband of the late Rosemary, much loved father of Donald Kenneth, Mhairi, Ruairidh and Kirsten and adored grandfather and great grandfather. A dear neighbour and good friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Tarbert Free Church, at a date to be announced.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DURNAN - Isa's family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their love and support at this sad time. Thanks to Father Tony Wood and Father David Connor for their spiritual guidance and comforting and fitting service. Also thanks to Kenny, Rhys and David for their professional services and the Ardshiel Hotel for excellent purvey. We would also like to thank the doctors and nurses for the care shown to Mum over the years, and more recently, to the home care team and Kintyre Care Home for all their kindness. The retiral collection for the Residents Association at Kintyre Care Home raised £400.

HOLLAND - The family of the late Margaret Holland would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy and support received in their recent bereavement. Special thanks to all medical staff at Tarbert Surgery, the support workers, carers, Reezalee and Ellie, the MacKinnon, McCallum, Rennie and Currie families, for all their wonderful care and support over the years. Special thanks also to Matthew Ramsay for a comforting service, Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services, West Loch Hotel for excellent catering and to all who paid their last respects at church and graveside. Donations raised £200 for Cancer Research UK.

HONEYMAN - The family of the late Winifred (Winnie) Honeyman would like to thank everyone for cards, messages and expressions of sympathy for their recent loss. Many thanks to the wonderful staff at Kintyre Care Home who looked after Winnie so well for more than five years. Thanks also to Rev Philip Wallace for his comforting service, David Gardiner for music, Kenneth and Rhys Blair for their efficient professional services, and the Ardshiel Hotel for excellent catering. Thanks to all who attended the church and graveside. The retiral collection raised £96.10 for the Kintyre Care Home Residents' Fund.

MACKENZIE - Christine, Norma and their families would like to thank everyone for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following the death of Agnes. Sincere thanks to doctors and district nurses at Tarbert Medical Practice, staff at Mid Argyll Hospital, Glenaray Ward and to her carers at home. Thanks also to Matthew Ramsay for a comforting service, Marjorie Kelly for playing the organ so beautifully, Stan Lupton for his professional service, help and guidance, and to the Islay Frigate Hotel for

catering. Finally, to those who paid last respects at the church and graveside, we appreciate and thank you all. The retiral collection raised £735 for Tarbert Parish Church.

MACLEOD - Kenny, Jane and their families would like to thank sincerely all of Murdo's relatives, friends and colleagues who have sent so many messages of support, flowers and baking. Thank you to all of those who attended Murdo's funeral. Special thanks are due to Rev Dr Roderick Campbell for his comforting and uplifting service in celebration of Murdo's life. Grateful thanks to Dr Philips, Dr Romans and the ambulance crew who attended on the night. Thanks also to the Stag Hotel in Lochgilphead for lunch arrangements, and finally to Fiona McLeod and Roddy MacDonald of Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their efficient and professional services. The retiring collection raised over £1,800 for Lochgilphead Parish Church, Mid Argyll Hospital and WestLochfyneside Parish Churches.

IN MEMORIAMs

ADCOCK - Keira, August 11, 2000 - December 19, 2003. You left us beautiful memories, Your love is still our guide, And though we cannot see you, You're always by our side. Loving you forever! - Mum, Dad, Cassie and Annie xxxx.

Years go by, but memories never fade! - Love from Nana, Papa, Uncle Colin and Uncle Stuart xxxx. **CAMPBELL** - Treasured memories of Marion McKenzie, who died December 19, 2009. A much loved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. A sadness still comes over us, Tears in silence often flow. Memory keeps you ever near us, Though you died eight years ago.

- Her loving husband Archie, Moira, Fionnaigh, Christine and families. **COFFIELD** - In loving memory of Ian, passed away December 13, 2014. A dearly loved husband, dad and granda. Feels like only yesterday. Sorely missed. - Vivian and all your wee family xx.

COFFIELD - Ian McKenzie Coffield, December 13, 2014. Always remembered. - Martin and family. **MACBRAYNE** - Treasured memories of a dear nephew and cousin, Colin, who died December 15, 2016. Sadly missed. - Auntie Margaret and family xx.

MACBRAYNE - In loving memory of a dear nephew, Colin, who died December 15, 2016. Remembered always. - Auntie Mary and Uncle Willie. **MACIVER** - Billy. Ten years now my Daddy, since you went away, Yet the sadness feels as though it was yesterday, I know you are around me, you live on in my soul And when we re-unite, only then will I feel whole. - Love you my Daddy, your 'Thina.

WATSON - In loving memory of our dear dad and papa (Dunnie), who died December 13, 2016. Also our dear mum and granny (June), who died December 24, 2006.

Deep in our hearts you both will always stay, Loved and remembered every day. - Joanne, Duncan and Morag and families. **WILKIN** - Treasured memories of John Alan Wilkin, who left us bereft on December 20, 2010. A dearly loved husband, dad, granda and papa tin. Always in our thoughts, Forever in our hearts. - Nancy and family.

CHURCH NOTICES

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday 17th December
 Christmas Family Service
 A presentation by the Sunday school children with Campbeltown Brass Ensemble followed by coffee & mince pies
Youth Fellowship
 Check our Facebook page for regular updates
 Pastor Chris Holden
 We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
 www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
 SC043322

ST. KIERAN R.C. ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN
01586 552160
 Rev Tony Wood
 Advent 3,
Saturday 16th December
 Vigil Mass 6.00 pm
Sunday 17th December
 Blessing of the Christmas Tree and Holy Mass 10.00 am
 All Welcome (SCO02876)

Highland Parish Church

 SCO02493
Sunday 17th December
 The service will be conducted by Rev William Crossan and will be held in the church at 11.15am
 Christmas nativity with the children
 Come and join us and share worship on this third Sunday in advent.
 All welcome.

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
 Scottish Charity Number SCO11686
Sunday 17th December
 11.15am Morning Worship
 Creche Triple C Gen 1
 Rev P Wallace

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 17th December
 Family Communion Service 11.00am
 Pastor Steve Davies
 All welcome
Wednesday 20th December
 Bible Study and Prayer 12.30pm at the Free Church and 7.30pm at Springbank
 Enquiries 01586 551200
 www.springbankchurch.co.uk
 SCO14646

CHURCH NOTICES

Campbeltown Corps
 Church and Community Centre
 Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009159
 Burnside Street, Campbeltown
 01586 552046
Sunday 17th December
 10.30am No meeting
 2.30pm Family Carol Service (followed by refreshments)
 6.30pm No meeting
 Majors Ben & Ruth Russell
All welcome

George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 17th December
 11.15am Worship Service
 Rev Rodger Crooks
 5.00pm Carols by Candlelight
Wednesday 20th December
 12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
 2.00pm Water of Life Café
Sunday 17th December
 5.00pm Carols by Candlelight
All Welcome
 www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
 Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

Argyll Street, Campbeltown
 St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
 Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 17th December
 Advent 3
 Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
01546 602380
 The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNESIDE AND KILBERRY
 CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 17th December
 Third Sunday in Advent
Skipness Service 10am
 Mr John Morrison
Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Featuring Sunday School Nativity
 Mrs Angela Stather
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
 Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735
 Everyone very welcome
 Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622
 Skipness SCO04280

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 17th December 2017
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
 Charity No. SC016097
 Morning Service in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
 Annual Carol Service Lochgair Church at 6pm
Glenaray and Inveraray
 Charity No. SC016665
Morning service
 in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
 Minister:
 Rev. Dr. Roderick Campbell
ALL WELCOME

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
 (The Church of Scotland)
Sunday 17th December
 Advent 3
 Angelic Messages (Matthew 1)
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm
Christmas Eve
 Advent 4
Angelic Messages (Luke 2)
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 (No 12:30pm Service at Achahoish)
Carol Service
 Achahoish at 7:00pm
Watchnight Service
 Ardrishaig at 11:30pm
 (Carol Singing from 11:15pm)
Feel free to come and go, as you are able

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES
Christ Church
 Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Friday 15th December
ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY
 Ecumenical Carol Service 6pm
Sunday 17th December
 Service at 11.00am
 Eucharist & Coffee
St Columba's, Poltalloch (SC031391)
 Carol Service 3.30pm
 Father Simon Mackenzie
 01546 602315

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 (SCO002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
17th December 2017
Third Sunday in Advent
 Glassary 11.45am
 Rev. C Acklam
 All welcome
 SC0 02121

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
 Charity Number SC001002
 Christmas starts with Christ
 Celebrate with us this year.
Sunday 17th December
 Tayvallich Church 10am
 Advent Worship
 Rev C Acklam
Saturday 16 December
 Achnamara Hall 10.30am
 Café Connect (last of 2017)
Monday 18 December
 Tayvallich Church 10.30am
 Prayer Time
Thursday 21st December
 Achnamara Hall 6.30pm
 Carols, mulled wine & mince pies
 All welcome
 Enquiries 01546 606926
 www.northknapdale.org

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 17th December
 Service at 11 a.m
 Speaker: Graham McLean
'Bring forth the Son'
 Followed by a light lunch
ALL WELCOME

Disused Ardrishaig depot to be brought back to life

THE former Gleaner Oils site in Ardrishaig is one step closer to being brought back to life as a waterfront community and business hub.

Argyll and Bute Council has agreed a payment from its Tarrbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund for the scheme.

At its meeting on Friday December 8, members of the council's policy and resources committee agreed

to contribute up to £250,000 to help deliver the first phase of the ambitious project to redevelop the derelict oil site, in partnership with Scottish Canals.

Councillor Aileen Morton, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'The council is determined to work in partnership with Scottish Canals and the community to deliver projects that will create jobs and help to grow the popula-

tion of the area, which will help boost our local economy. The re-development of the redundant and derelict Gleaner site has been championed by local people and is designed to provide a focus for the community and attract more visitors to the area. There is no doubt it will contribute to the wider regeneration of Mid Argyll as well as providing economic opportunities for the local commu-

nity. I look forward to seeing it being realised and making a real difference.'

The first phase of the project will see the re-development of the 'Egg Shed' building, including a new extension, and the former garage. It is intended these buildings will be available for a range of uses, including exhibition space focusing on the heritage of the area and the canal. There will also be new parking and improved walking and cycling links.



Plans are afoot to redevelop the disused Gleaner site in Ardrishaig.



An architect's impression of the redeveloped site.

New Lochgilphead inpatient mental health ward opened

A NEW inpatient mental health ward has been officially opened in Mid Argyll Hospital. The new Succoth Ward marks the culmination of refurbishment work over the summer on an empty ward to relocate inpatient mental health services from Argyll and Bute Hospital.

The new facility was officially opened on Friday December 8 by Christina West, chief officer of Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.

Mrs West said: 'I would like to thank everyone involved in this project for making this a reality. Inpatient mental health services were previously provided from Argyll and Bute Hospital and while the staff and the care provided were of an excellent standard, we knew we had to find a more suitable

environment for the service. When the wards within Mid Argyll Hospital were recently reconfigured, it gave us an opportunity to develop an empty ward and refurbish it to create an environment that we could specially adapt for the provision of inpatient mental health services.

'I would also like to thank the staff for their continuing hard work and dedication and we all look forward to continuing to provide a high standard of mental health services for patients.'



Christina West opens the new Succoth Ward.



The bright new ward interior at Mid Argyll Hospital.

Big support for Fyne-side schools' Christmas fair

THE COMMUNITIES of Minard and Furnace joined forces with the village schools for a spectacular Christmas fair.

The weather in Furnace on Saturday December 9 was cold, but locals and pupils turned out amid the festive snow and ice to support their school.

The children and staff displayed a wide and varied range of Christmas gifts alongside regular stall holders who support the schools and their enterprises.

The pupils were en-

thusiastic fundraisers, particularly on the tombola, and even Elsa – an amazing creation made by Paul Honey – turned up for the raffle.

More than £300 was raised on the day, with some donations coming in afterwards. The funds raised are going towards the funds for both schools and SMILE UK which is Furnace Primary School's charity chosen by the pupils.

The schools thank everyone who contributed time and effort to help arrange and attend the event.



Tinsel hats came out to celebrate the Christmas fair.



Paul Honey with Elsa on a frozen day in Furnace.



Pupils had an incredible array of goods on sale.



Inveraray to face Kyles in Macaulay

INVERARAY will face local rivals and cup-holders Kyles Athletic at Tighnabruach in the first round of shinty's Artemis Macaulay Cup.

In the northern half of the draw, newly-crowned premier league champions Kinlochshiel will relish the task of overcoming the mighty Newtonmore in their first round tie.

The competition, run by the Oban-based Macaulay Association, features just the top teams from the premier league and national division, split between north and south.

The draw for the 2018 competition was made on Saturday December 9 – live on Oban FM – by Oban Celtic manager Kenny Wotherpoon and Ian Hay, Oban Camanachd manager.

The Artemis Macaulay Cup final will take place at Mossfield Park, Oban, on Saturday August 18, 2018.



Kyles Athletic, last year's winners of the Macaulay Cup.

Round one – May 5

South: Oban Celtic v Bute.
Kyles Athletic v Inveraray.
Ballachulish v Aberdour.
Oban Camanachd v Glasgow MA
North: Kinlochshiel v Newtonmore.
Lovat v Lochaber.
Glenurquhart v Caberfeidh.
Kingussie v Skye.

Round two – June 16 and 30

South: Oban Camanachd / Glasgow MA v Ballachulish / Aberdour.
Oban Celtic / Bute v Kyles Athletic / Inveraray.
North: Lovat / Lochaber v Glenurquhart / Caberfeidh.
Kinlochshiel / Newtonmore v Kingussie / Skye.

Semi-finals – July 21

South: Oban Camanachd / Glasgow Mid Argyll / Ballachulish / Aberdour v Oban Celtic / Bute / Kyles Athletic / Inveraray.
North: Lovat / Lochaber v Glenurquhart / Caberfeidh v Kinlochshiel / Newtonmore v Kingussie / Skye.

Riders compete in Tarbert winter points dressage

ARGYLL South Pony Club held its first dressage winter points event at Tarbert Arena on Sunday December 3. Many of the club's events had been postponed due to recent bad weather, so competitors enjoyed a competition on a dry crisp winter's day.

The arena was in perfect order as 16 riders demonstrated their equestrian skills for judge Debbie Hay Thorburn. In the morning session, there had been some tuition from Sheila MacCallum as the riders worked on their control of paces and transitions.

New member Jake Rowan rode his first test to win the lead rein class and Josephine Boase riding Valerie had the highest score of the day at 69 per cent.

Many Argyll Riding Club members joined in the competition and

demand for entry was so high that there was a waiting list. Catriona Ryan and Dony were the winners in the riding club section and the day ended perfectly on time as the last competitor entered the arena at 3.30pm just as dusk fell.

The next winter points will be early February with competitors encouraged to keep an eye on the club website updates on events. Argyll South Pony Club would like to wish all members and friends a Merry Christmas.

Results: Lead Rein - 1 Jake Rowan - Alice.
Novalegro Pony Club - 1 Zoe Prentice - Cowal; 2 Rebecca Baillie - Brooklyn; 3 Willow Ryan - Minstrel; 4 Isla McShannon - Coley; 5 Michelle McAloon - Eclipse.
Novalegro Riding Club: 1 Catriona Ryan - Donie; 2 Julie Sloan - Jack; 3 Dianne Smith - Fergus; 4 Kirsten Rennie - Brie.
Intuthopia Pony Club and Riding Club: 1 Josephine Boase - Valerie; 2 Jadie Baillie - Cruise; 3 Toni Stewart - Lily; 4 Jenny Blackwell - Sparky; 5 Shelagh Oakes - Pery.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1450

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

W Gillespie
Shore Street
Campbeltown

J MacPherson
Ralston Road
Campbeltown

All you have to do

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

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

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

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

Easy to enter

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

Competition Rules

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

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

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

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

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



Name

Address

Tel No.

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

Please
tape your
£1 coin here
(if posting)

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Inveraray to face
Kyles in Macaulay

Anglers hook the prizes at Stag presentation

LOCHGILPHEAD and District Angling Club held its annual dinner and presentation of prizes at the Stag Hotel on December 1.

Dugald MacGilp – who has won the award 25 times since 1973 – came out on top again as he was announced this year's club champion and was present-

ed with the Roy Clarke Cup.

The Ronnie Reid Cup was awarded to Neil Ward for his efforts as he secured second place for the season's competition.

James Montgomery, who finished in third place, also won the Coillebhar Cup as a result of catching the heaviest trout in the

competition this season, weighing an impressive three pounds and six ounces. The club is still trying to get it out of him which loch he caught the trout in.

It wasn't just individual awards members of the club received, however, as the Lochgilphead club secured this year's inter-club trophies after coming out on top over opponents Oban and Campbeltown in both home and away legs.

The club also held a charity competition, which raised £200 in aid of mental health. James Livingstone won the competition, and the club would like to thank all who participated or donated prizes.

2017 results:
April – Stronachulin competition: 1 James



The end of season competition at Cairnbaan Lochs no 7 for the William Johnston Trophy.

Montgomery; 2 David Philips; 3 Donald Blair.

May – Cairnbaan Lochs no 2, Peter White Memorial Cup: 1 Dugald MacGilp; 2 Neil Ward; 3 David Cameron.

June – Cairnbaan Lochs no 4 (pairs), Stances Tankards: 1 Dugald MacGilp and Donald Blair; 2 Sandy McDonald and Neil Ward; 3 David Wisely and David Philips.

Ormsary competition: 1 James Montgomery; 2 Dugald MacGilp; 3 Neil Ward.

June Tankard competition: 1 Dugald MacGilp; 2 David Welch; 3 Murdo McDonald.

July – Cairnbaan Lochs no 5, Clydesdale Bank Shield: 1 George Mitchell; 2 Dugald MacGilp; 3 Murdo McDonald.

August – Cairnbaan Lochs no 6, McArthur Sports Shield: 1 Dugald MacGilp; 2 George MacGilp/Murdo McDonald; 3 David Philips.

Cairnbaan Lochs no 7, William Johnston Trophy: 1 Dugald MacGilp; 2 James Montgomery; 3 George Mitchell.

Lake of Mentieth competition, Eddie Teasdale Trophy: 1 Archie MacGilp; 2 Dugald MacGilp; 3 Dave Paterson.

October – Loch Awe/Avich competition, Macleod Homes Cup: 1 David Philips; 2 Kerr Mitchell; 3 George Mitchell.



Dugald MacGilp with his 2017 haul of trophies.

Red Star youths' winning run continues

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star 2004's unbeaten start to the season in the Dunbartonshire Football Development 2003/04 league has continued with a win away against Greenock United.

Following on from three wins in August and September, the youngsters have secured a further three wins to give them all 18 points out of a possible 18.

This season the team have scored 28 goals and conceded 11 in six games.

The team triumphed at home to Oban and also scored an important away win against Greenock United, while an excellent home performance saw them score six without reply against Arden-cle.

The team were delighted with their new tracksuits, kindly sponsored by Jewson.



Lochgilphead 2004s warm up before securing a win against Greenock United.

Sports club lotteries

DRAWN on Monday December 11, the Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery draw numbers were 6, 9 and 16. There were no winners so next week's jackpot will be £400.

In the Inveraray Shinty Club lottery, the numbers were 7, 11 and 12. There were no winners this week so next week's jackpot will be £900.

Tarbert Football Club's lottery numbers for this week were 1, 3 and 10. There were no winners, so a lucky person could have an extra £1,000 for Christmas next week.

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Published by Wyvex Media, Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown PA28 6AE. Tel: 01586 554646, Email: editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk and



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