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YOUR FREE 2015 CALENDAR

INSIDE



Pupils sparkle at Christmas

GLAMOROUS: Lochgilphead Joint Campus hosted its annual Christmas Snowball event on Tuesday night and the *Advertiser* was there to capture the excitement. See next week's edition for more photographs.

Canal group sails on with lighthouse plan

High hopes Ardrishaig attraction will be back shining bright in the future

AN APPLICATION to restore Ardrishaig lighthouse will be reviewed this week.

As part of a long-term plan to refurbish the building, Scottish Canals has submitted an application to Argyll and Bute Council for Listed Building Consent to undertake remedial works on the lighthouse.

The £15,000 project will help to protect the integrity of the building by way of the installation of new access infrastructure and the replacement of the lighthouse's beacon with a new energy-efficient LED-based system.

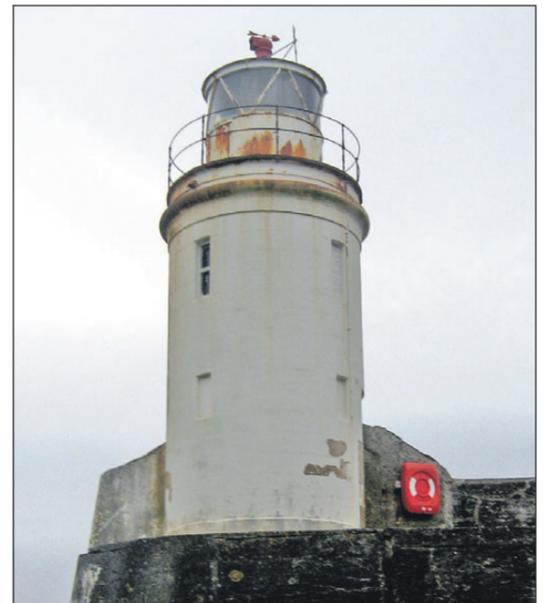
Mark Smith, head of projects at Scottish Canals, said: 'Ardrishaig Lighthouse is a vital part of the rich history of the Crinan Canal and we're committed to safeguarding it for future generations to enjoy.'

'The lighthouse is one of the waterway's most iconic buildings and we have long-term ambitions to rejuvenate it. While we are still seeking funding for the refurbishment, these remedial works will help ensure the lighthouse continues to welcome visitors to the Crinan Canal.'

The 135-year-old lighthouse is a tourist attraction and with some work it is hoped that it will continue to be.

Edward Laughton, chairman of Ardrishaig Community Council, said: 'I'm delighted to hear Scottish Canals are looking to work on the lighthouse. There have been talks for some time now, but nothing formal.'

'Its front door is rusted and stained from water damage and I know there was work needing done to the top of it. It would be nice to see it restored.'



BRIGHT FUTURE: Ardrishaig lighthouse

Next week's edition

NEXT week's *Argyllshire Advertiser*, dated Friday December 26, will be available to buy from Wednesday December 24.

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Community council unfurls campaign to change flag policy

Bid to get the Saltire flying at war memorial most days of the year

LOCHGILPHEAD Community Council has launched a campaign in a bid to push Argyll and Bute council to amend its flag-flying policy.

The group is keen to have the Saltire flag flown by default, meaning that it would fly at the war memorial every day of the year other than on significant days, such as HM the Queen's birthday.

The issue was raised at a council recently by a councillor from Dunoon, after members of the community there launched a campaign.

The policy was to be reviewed a number of years ago, but it then disappeared from the agenda following the untimely death of councillor Ron Simon who had been championing the

'We will look into getting other community councils together with us and really build on getting a following,'

Gillian Voinot

change.

Because the policy change was raised earlier this month it will mean that the council will not consider it for discussion, unless there is a wider community backing.

Gillian Voinot, a member of the community council said: 'We will look into getting other community councils together with us and really build on getting a following, so that we can present again to the council in six months.'

'We should be celebrating being Scottish and come together as a nation.'

Councillor Sandy Taylor, of Lochgilphead, said: 'People thought that the Saltire was for independence, but if you look around at no campaigners people will see that they also fly the Saltire.'

'The flag is really about people being proud to be Scottish and we are a Scottish council and it's appropriate that we fly the flag and I would campaign.'

'I have already put forward a motion to have the flag flown by default, but withdrew it.'

The motion will also suggest allowing local charities to use the flagpole in Lochgilphead during special events in the town.



Mother and daughter, Hilda McKnight and Tracey McGonagall, of Lochgilphead will both support the campaign to fly flags all year round on the bare pole on the Front Green. 08_a51flagpole01

John Armour wins by-election

SOUTH Kintyre's new councillor is John Armour.

The Scottish National Party candidate was elected to Argyll and Bute Council on Thursday (December 11) with 942 first preference votes. He will replace fellow SNP member John Semple, who resigned in October.

Joyce Oxborrow of Scottish Liberal Democrats received 214 first preference votes, with 203 for Charlotte Hanbury, Scottish Conservative and Unionist, and Michael Kelly of Scottish Labour receiving 156.

Mr Armour said: 'It is a huge privilege to be elected as the SNP councillor for South Kintyre. I am delighted at the overwhelming support of the communities in South Kintyre and I pledge to repay their trust by working hard for this area. There are a number of significant challenges facing the communities here and residents can rest assured I will give nothing less than my absolute best in pursuit of a better future for this area.'

Mike Russell, SNP MSP for Argyll and Bute, thinks Mr Armour will be a 'first class councillor'.

He added: 'He is rooted in the area and as a community activist he knows what needs to be done for South Kintyre and all those who live there.'

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operate throughout this holiday period

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Disturbance in Lochgilhead

IN THE early hours of last Thursday morning police responded to a disturbance on Argyll Street, Lochgilhead.

The incident took place after 1am and a 24-year-old man was arrested and is now the subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

Trio caught with drugs

ON FRIDAY a 22-year-old man was found to be in possession of a quantity of cannabis at a flat in Union Street, Lochgilhead.

He is now subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

Police found a 20-year-old woman in possession of herbal cannabis within a flat in Lochnell Street, Lochgilhead, on Friday night.

She is now the subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

On Sunday a 33-year-old man was found to be in possession of cannabis within a house in Manse Brae, Lochgilhead. He is now the subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

Man arrested for assault

A MAN was arrested in the early hours of Saturday morning following an assault on a 19-year-old female.

The 23-year-old was also arrested for breach of the peace and resisting arrest. He is now the subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

Woman assaulted in Tarbert

ON SATURDAY at 3am 27-year-old woman was assaulted in Tarbert.

A 28-year-old man has since been arrested and is now the subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

Police drive home new limit law



Police stopped drivers at the lay by after Corran roundabout.

POLICE were out in Lochgilhead last Friday morning to impose the new drink-drive limit and carry out vehicle safety checks.

PC Cameron Brownlee and PC Fiona Kirk, road traffic officers based in Mid Argyll, were stopping drivers at the Corran roundabout to enforce the new law, whilst reminding motorists to make sure their cars are fit for the road.

Officer Brownlee said: 'We are carrying out road safety checks, such as lights, horns and pending offences.'

'If anyone does not have the right legal documentation or has outstanding offences then we can breathalyse them.'

'I think a lot of people are on board with the new limit and they are more aware of the risks. The stops we are carrying out are really to

get the message across to people. Alcohol impairs driving, right from the first mouthful and people know this and are willing not to drink.'

Police found there to be 'mostly lighting defects' during their checks last week.

The legal drink drive limit was lowered from 35 microgrammes in 100 millilitres of breath to 22 microgrammes on December 5.



Phyllis Yates, from Kilmartin, left, was travelling to get fuel when she was pulled over for the routine check. She said of herself and her husband: 'I think that we just won't drink on weekends, apart from at home. We were worried about the hotels and pubs for their businesses, but I do agree with the limit.'

08_a51police03



Eric Cunningham, from Clydebank, supplies fire extinguishers across the west coast of Scotland. He said: 'I don't drink but I do think that it should be reduced to zero, because people think that it is okay to have one. I want a ban altogether.'

08_a51police04

Fears voiced over division merger plans

A PLANNED merger between two police divisions, announced last week without prior consultation, will 'undermine' community policing in Argyll, says one MSP.

Police Scotland is proposing to merge L Division (Argyll and West Dunbartonshire) with K Division (Inverclyde and Renfrewshire), a move that has led to speculation that L Division headquarters at Dumbarton could be downgraded.

The plan comes just months after Police Scotland removed the chief inspector's post from Oban, amalgamating the role with the chief inspector for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the islands.

Highlands and Islands

MSP John Finnie is a former police constable and a member of the Scottish Parliament's justice committee, as well as its policing sub-committee. He criticised the proposal as 'centralisation' that would 'undermine' community policing.

He said: 'The national service suffers from an instinct to centralisation that frustrates the public's wish for responsive, local policing.'

'This is felt particularly keenly in rural police divisions, where there are greater distances and greater diversity between communities.'

'Throwing Port Appin in together with Port Glasgow is not a recipe for locally-sensitive decision making.'

'Policing in Argyll and

Bute has altered enough in recent years, and not always for the better. I think we need to take the time to reflect on the less than two years'

experience of the single service. I'd like to see a moratorium on any further change which will inevitably see rural policing lose out.'

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Our offices will be closed on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th December and Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd January

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR ADVERTISING DEADLINES

The issue dated Friday 26th December will be available to buy from the 24th December
all advertising must be booked in by Monday 22nd December

The issue dated Friday 2nd January will be available to buy from the 31st December
all advertising must be booked in by Monday 29th December

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Weather updates from Mid Argyll fishermen

FISHERMEN from Mid Argyll took to social media to report on the storms that hit Argyll and Bute.

Frank Ronald and Bill Macfarlane, from Tarbert, launched a humorous news broadcast called 'Caledonian News' on Facebook.

One Facebook user David Roberston said: 'This is more entertaining than the real news and weather. Keep it up boys.'

The fun fishermen are well known for their 'Friday Fever' music video uploads, in which they perform comical renditions of current pops songs from their fishing boat.

Frank and Bill will be reporting on the festivities over the Christmas period as part of their new venture.

Another Facebook user said: 'Brilliant look forward to the Christmas edition.'

Newsdesk
01546
602345

Lightning strikes cause chaos in Mid Argyll

WINTER storms which swept through Scotland last week left thousands of homes and businesses in Argyll without power.

After thunder, lightning, hail and snow storms, Tesco Express in Lochgilphead was left without power on Thursday, forcing it to close its petrol pumps for the day, while the Riverside garage on

Oban Road was affected on Friday.

Engineers from Scottish Hydro Electric Distribution (SHEPD) were drafted in to repair faults and by last Friday evening power was restored to more than 59,000 homes.

The turn of weather which struck Scotland was said to be the tail end of an Atlantic 'weather bomb'.

Areas which were affected included Campbeltown, Lochgilphead and Dunoon.

Ferry operations to the islands were disrupted and many roads were deemed unsafe as lightning struck the skies and heavy showers of hail turned the streets white and icy.

Stuart Hogarth, SHEPD's director of distribution, thanked cus-

tomers for their patience in a statement released on Friday.

He said: 'We know it is really inconvenient when the power goes off, particularly at this time of year, but we aim to fix faults as quickly and as safely as possible. Our engineers had to contend with thousands of lightning strikes, which made their task that much harder.'



Argyll Street in Lochgilphead was hit by hail stones last Wednesday. 08_a51hail01



The lamp post that was left damaged by a tree blown down in the storms. 08_a51post01

Lamp post damaged by fallen tree

A LAMP post on Lochgilphead's Bishopton Road was severely damaged during storms last week.

The lamp post was taken down and replaced by Argyll and Bute Coun-

cil staff last Wednesday morning.

A council spokeswoman said: 'During the very high winds on Tuesday evening, a tree blew down, damaging the lamp post.'

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From left: Tarbert man Martin Jefferies and Margaret MacNeill at the Corner House race night for charity.

Fundraising event for Parkinsons UK and Myaware

Corner House raises over £2,000

MARGARET MacNeill, licence holder at the Corner House pub in Tarbert, decided to hold a fund-raising race night after finding out two people close to her have been stuck down with Parkinson's disease and Myasthenia.

But recently with our two friends being diagnosed with these illnesses in particular, I felt it only right that we support Parkinson's UK and Myaware.'

Margaret raised £2,324.76 on the December 6 race night in the pub. The cash will be split equally between the two charities.

Before holding the event Margaret contacted both organisations which supplied her with information leaflets to give out on the night.

She said: 'The organisations were both encouraging about the

ing lots of local causes. But recently with our two friends being diagnosed with these illnesses in particular, I felt it only right that we support Parkinson's UK and Myaware.'

Margaret raised £2,324.76 on the December 6 race night in the pub. The cash will be split equally between the two charities.

Before holding the event Margaret contacted both organisations which supplied her with information leaflets to give out on the night.

She said: 'The organisations were both encouraging about the

fundraising night. Because Myasthenia is quite a new condition, Myaware was really keen for me to work on raising awareness more than money. On the night itself it did become a talking point as a lot of people hadn't heard of it.'

Margaret aims to make the race night the main event and host it annually. She will, however, continue to support local causes.

For more information on either Parkinson's disease or Myasthenia, go to www.parkinsons.org.uk or www.myaware.org

Appeal to people who will be alone at Christmas

THE FIRST lunch in Lochgilphead for people who are alone at Christmas will take place this year thanks to volunteers in Mid Argyll.

The idea came from a Carr Gomm volunteer who was concerned that there was nowhere to go on Christmas day for people who are on their own in Mid Argyll.

Community Contacts, government funded or-

ganisation that addresses isolation among people in communities, will be holding a lunch for those on their own.

Appeal
Community development project worker Amanda Scott has initiated the lunch, which will take place in Lochgilphead Parish Church.

She said: 'We are appealing for volunteers to help out - cooks, mu-

sicians and anyone who feels that they have something to give, even if it is just their time to others.

'The day is ideally for people who will be on their own.

'Single parents, people who are here working and can't make it home, anyone who is feeling a bit lonely around this time of year.'

A buffet lunch will be

served up instead of table service to encourage people to mingle and socialise on Christmas day.

The event will take place from 1pm until 3pm on December 25.

Email amandascott@carrgomm.org for more information.

Community Contacts operates out of the Carr Gomm office on Lorne Street in Lochgilphead.

Fat's the way to do it say Scottish Water

SCOTTISH Water is encouraging customers in Mid Argyll to keep the water cycle going and help garden birds by disposing of cooking fats, oils and grease responsibly during the festive season and beyond.

As families across the region prepare for Christmas dinner and festive fry-ups, Scottish Water is reminding them that over time, cooking fats, oils and grease poured down the sink or drain can build up

and cause blockages in drains and sewer pipes that prevent the waste water draining away properly causing extremely unpleasant internal sewage flooding or environmental pollution.

It is important that families dispose of cooking fats, oils and grease responsibly by leaving them to cool and placing in a suitable container (like an empty milk carton) and then placing in the bin or re-

cycled if possible.

Animal fats and meat juices can also harm our feathered friends and therefore such kitchen scraps should not be used to feed winter birds.

Chris Bailey, advisory manager for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland, said: 'Feeding garden birds is a popular activity in Scotland as well as a lifeline for many species during winter when natural sources of

food are in short supply. However, certain types of food are very bad for birds and cooking fat is one of them.

'The problem comes when cooking fat mixes with meat juices and sets; the consistency is prone to smearing which can damage birds' feathers at a time they need them in a good condition to stay warm. The mixture will also go off quickly providing a breeding ground for diseases.

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argyllshire advertiser

Incorporating Campbeltown Courier

THE COMMUNITY in Ardrishaig will be able to look at its waterfront with pride again soon following the pledge by Scottish Canals to refurbish the lighthouse.

The village community council has been highlighting it, as has Ardrishaig's regeneration project. So for Scottish Canals to come forward and apply for permission to work on the building is a welcome move.

Along with Scottish Canals' work to promote the Crinan Canal to sailors, many hope that with some work the iconic lighthouse will also help to generate visitors to the area.

Even more welcome is the canal maintenance organisation's pledge to look into securing a long-term project to see that it is maintained and fully restored.

It can only be hoped Argyll and Bute Council grants Scottish Canals permission to go ahead with the £15,000 project.



THE NEW drink-drive limit, which dissuades motorists from having even one drink before driving, is being reinforced to drivers.

After spending the morning out with police in Lochgilphead, it was apparent that while the new Scottish limit is changing the mindset of people to drinking and driving, it may not be so great for businesses in Mid Argyll.

While road users appreciate the importance of not driving under the influence of alcohol, they are saying they will have to stay at home because there is a lack of public transport in the evenings in Mid Argyll and, with many miles between towns, it is something that will have to improve to avoid people being stranded in the cold.

Will our public bars suffer as a result of a lack of public transport in this rural area?

Time will tell. But, in the meantime, well done to Police Scotland for acting on the important issue of drink driving.

who's who at your advertiser

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Senior Reporter:

Edel Kenealy
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Reporter:

Amanda Crawford
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Receptionist:

Lisa Smith
adverts@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Head Office:

Wyvex Media
Lochavullin Industrial Estate
Oban
PA34 4HB

opinion

e EMAIL

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t TWITTER

i LETTER

Hardy souls brave atrocious weather to witness Christmas lights switch on

Sir,

May I take this opportunity to offer my personal thanks to the hardy souls of Lochgilphead who braved the atrocious weather last Saturday evening to turn out and witness the town's Christmas lights switch on ceremony.

Despite the cold and wet conditions we were able to provide some entertainment and it was heartening to see so many people make the effort to attend.

The Mid Argyll Pipe Band, as usual, was audibly and visually superb, the Xmas DJs - Saz, Becca and Leean provided plenty of sing-a-long classics to keep everyone cheery.

Thanks in particular to the following folks who donated time and effort to make it work: Archie Ferguson for providing the stage, Tony from Jewsons for providing the power, the Army Cadets for ensuring the square is cordoned off and safe and the boys from the council who, yet again, ensured the Christmas lights come on just when we get to the end of the countdown.

To the shopkeepers who remained open, thank you, your efforts all go towards providing the atmosphere we want.

My special thanks to Stephen, Pat and Donnie, you all helped make it work.

Karen Ellis, a person who does so much for the community, the time and effort you provide is much appreciated, thank you.

Brian, thanks for sending Margaret down to switch the

lights on, she did a great job and remember you are still part of the team.

Once again thanks to everyone for helping and I hope you all have a great Christmas.

**Jimmy Lister,
Lochgilphead.**

Black Friday

Sir,

There has been a lot of discussion about Black Friday, which I am sure all will recognise as an American marketing tool.

Of course here in Scotland, Black Friday would have been December 19, had Scottish people not been wise enough to have prevented it. Just imagine waking up three months after the Referendum to discover that 'Yes' had won. What would we be experiencing? A Scottish economy collapsing due to the impact of the rapid fall in oil prices and the related tax revenues.

There is unemployment on the Clyde due to the lack of naval shipbuilding orders. An exodus of financial companies from Glasgow and Edinburgh due to the uncertainty over which currency Scotland would adopt.

Pensioners concerned about the stability of their pensions. More house 'for sale' signs, as the current upturn in the local housing market would not have taken place.

So, this festive season we have reason to celebrate. The future is brighter due to all political parties coming together in the Smith Commission to agree a form of home rule, which ensures a fairer, stronger, and more united Scotland. As predicted we are Better Together.

**U J Craig,
Cove.**

Thanks from Tarbert Christmas fair

Sir,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support in organising this years Tarbert Christmas fair.

We would especially like to say thank you to the employees from Argyll and Bute Council who worked hard to make sure the replacement Christmas tree and lights were ready in time for the children's lantern parade and lights switch on.

Thank you to Catriona Arnot and her colleagues for organising the carol singers from Tarbert Academy primary choir, Louise Paterson, Neil McKnight and the teachers of Tarbert Academy for their support with the children's lantern parade.

Thanks also go to community policeman Alan Frame and the boys from the coastguard who turned out to assist on the evening. Margaret MacNeill, Lorna Andrew and Duncan MacGregor from the festival committee who helped out on the night and also in the organising of the Christmas fair.

A special thank you to Santa and his elves, local boys James Prentice and Kirk McInnes, who did a fantastic job of looking after the many local children who popped in to visit Santa in his grotto.

And finally, a huge thanks to all the locals who turned out to join in the festivities. Tarbert Academy Parent Council.

Real reindeer

Sir,

It is worrying to see the increased use of real reindeer in Christmas parades, 'Santa's

grottos' and other festive activities.

It is undoubtedly fun for young ones to see animals from films and storybooks in the flesh. However, uprooting reindeer from their natural habitat, bringing them to a life of captivity in the UK, transporting them up and down the country and subjecting them to the stress of being on public display causes reindeer significant health and welfare problems.

Our warmer weather and the food they are forced to eat here differ enormously from the climate and diet to which they are adapted. These magical and majestic creatures shouldn't be used as props in garden and shopping centre displays, or forced to traipse along high streets pulling a sleigh behind them. They belong in the tundra, eating lichen and roaming the wilds in freedom.

**Claudia Tarry,
Tonbridge, Kent.**



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Letters to the Editor, Argyllshire Advertiser,
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PRESS POLICY

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

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

The Argyllshire Advertiser adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

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

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

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

E-mail: editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk.

E-mailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and telephone number.



Emma Kemp, staff nurse, with Cathy Robertson, member of Macmillan Fundraising Committee. 08_a50mamillan01

Pink Day raises £1,000 for cancer support day suite

MACMILLAN Cancer Support was presented with £1,000 towards its day suite, located in Mid Argyll Community Integrated Hospital. The money was raised from the Pink Day coffee morning held annually for breast cancer awareness. Mid Argyll hospital staff met with the Macmillan Fundraising Committee at the day suite to exchange the big cheque.

Money granted to keep water therapy afloat

AN ISLAY-BASED charity has received more than £4,000 to maintain a water therapy service.

Islay and Jura Community Enterprises Ltd was given £4,400 from Lloyds TSB's Henry Duncan Awards to run the Aquacare project at MacTaggart Leisure Centre, which uses warm water and a physiotherapist to relieve pain of disabled people or those suffering from conditions such as arthritis.

Gary Scott, general manager of Islay and Jura Community Enterprises, said: 'Funding like this allows us to provide respite from pain and respite for carers.'

'We have volunteers but they're trained by a private physiotherapist and we heat the water up from 29 °C to 31

°C so it can be quite expensive. The charity receives money from a range of different organisations which keeps the project going.'

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, welcomed the funding.

He said: 'I'm delighted that Islay and Jura Community Enterprises Limited is getting this grant, enabling it to continue the great work it does providing care services in these communities.'

'Many of the Henry Duncan grants go on existing staff and running costs, meaning they are a lifeline for local charities in this tough financial climate. These grants help make a huge difference in my constituency and I look forward to welcoming more such good news in 2015 for local good causes.'

N McCormick Steel Fabrication & Welding Contractor

Please contact for pictures and examples of ornamental steelwork, e.g. rails, gates, house names etc which can be e mailed to you.

Neil wishes all his customers a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year

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Councillor Rory Colville

Wishing all in South Kintyre a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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Baddens Farm Nursery continues to grow

THERE was a little ray of sunshine on a bleak mid-winter's day last week when four-year-old George Balkeen from Baddens Farm Nursery was named the successful winner of Argyll Community Housing Association's (ACHA), 'Grow the Largest Sunflower'

competition. In 2012, ACHA introduced a competition for children to grow the largest sunflower.

As a result of the success in previous years, the competition was again open to all 3-5-year-old children who attend a pre-school education unit in the

Mid Argyll and Kintyre areas.

Between both areas, 13 pre-school units entered the competition and sunflower seeds were supplied for each child, and George's sunflower measured the highest of all of Mid Argyll's entries at an impressive 176cm.

George and the nursery both received book vouchers for their achievement.

Sarah Shaw from Baddens Farm Nursery said: 'We are delighted that a child from Baddens Farm Nursery won the competition, and George was very happy to have won. All the children enjoyed having the opportunity to take part, and we look forward to participating again next year.'

Yvonne Litster, ACHA's regional manager said: 'We were delighted to be in a position to involve the children in our communities in the sunflower competition. We have received excellent feedback from the nurseries that took part this year, and we look forward to running the competition again next year.'



George Balkeen is pictured receiving his vouchers and certificate from Jane Hepburn (right) of ACHA along with his mother (left) and Sarah Shaw from Baddens Farm Nursery (centre).

Lights to Remember event hailed a success

MID ARGYLL Marie Curie Fundraising Group held a very moving service recently at Mid Argyll Community Hospital to remember those who have suffered, and sadly lost their battle, with cancer.

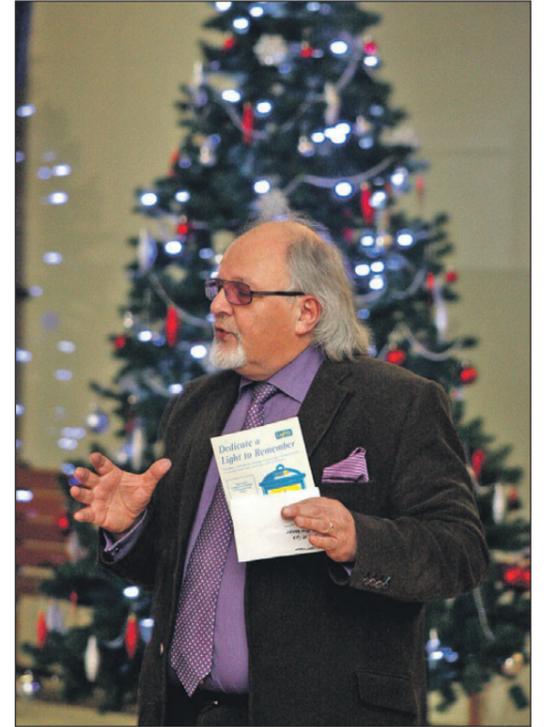
The Lights to Remember service last Wednesday evening was deemed a great success by the charity.

Thanks

The service was well attended and special thanks went to the Mid Argyll Youth Chorus for their uplifting carol singing and to John Lowrie Morrison for kindly switching on the hospital tree lights and for his inspirational words.

A spokesman for the charity said: 'The fundraising group continue to do sterling work raising funds which are used locally.'

'The next big bash in the Mid Argyll Ma-



John Lowrie Morrison switched on the hospital tree lights. a50lig01NO by Gavin Brown

rie Curie Fundraising group's calendar is the Daffodil Ball in March 2015.

'Please contact the group if you would be interested in supporting this event by sponsoring a table or donating a raffle prize.'

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Quiz starts 3.30pm
Teams of around 4
£10 per team incl. light buffet
Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd
Quiz Master: Big John.

Skipness Village Hall
Festive Family Dance
with Gunna Sound Ceilidh band on Saturday 27th December at 8.30pm
Adults - £6, under 18 - £3, under 12 - free
Teas & Raffle. Come & join us!

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Flu vaccination for mothers-to-be

DOCTORS are urging mothers-to-be to receive a flu vaccination following a new report showing how fatal the virus can be for pregnant women.

Research released by academics showed flu was the cause of death in one in 11 women who died during or shortly after pregnancy between 2009 and 2012.

Dr Ken Oates, consultant in public health medicine for NHS Highland, said: 'Getting flu during pregnancy can lead to an increased risk of miscarriage, premature birth or having a low weight baby. Having the vaccination reduces the chances of getting flu, which in turn means the risk of these complications is significantly reduced.'

'Flu can also be serious for newborn babies, who cannot be protected themselves by vaccination, but gain some protection if their mother is vaccinated in pregnancy. The good news is that flu is now largely preventable for pregnant women and their babies thanks to the flu vaccine from your GP surgery.'

Mid Argyll women raise £6,000 for children's hospital

A WOMAN whose toddler was treated for a brain tumour at Yorkhill Children's Hospital has raised more than £6,000 for the Glasgow facility with the help of her friends.

Natalie Armour's son, Harris Law, was diagnosed with a benign brain tumour in July and was admitted to hospital within days, where fluid was drained from the growth into his stomach.

Now young Harris, who will be two in February, is well and back at home in Ardrishaig with his mum, dad, Johnny Law, and his older sister Kerry-Anne.

Natalie and her friends decided they wanted to do something to pay back the Yorkhill doctors and nurses who saved Harris's life.

So, they took on a 24-mile sponsored cycle

from Ardrishaig along the Crinan Canal and around the surrounding villages in October.

The friends have recently counted the total donations and discovered they have raised £5,151 between the cycle and a disco the same evening. A further £1,259 will be added through gift aid, bringing the final amount to £6,410.

Natalie said: 'It's such a great feeling being able to do this for Yorkhill.'

'I've been so overwhelmed with the generosity and support of the people of Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig. It's been unbelievable.'

'Harris needs to go for check ups every three months for the next year but he's doing so well. He's just a happy two-year-old boy, play-



Young Harris's life was saved in Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

ing and messing around, doing what two-year-old boys do.

'A massive thank you to everyone who donated and supported us.'

Prepare to take a roller-coaster of a ride as the IRN-BRU Carnival rolls back into town!

It's that time of year again... from Friday December 19 2014 until Sunday January 11 2015* the ultimate adrenaline junkies' playground, the IRN-BRU Carnival, is set to take over the SECC, Glasgow, once again.

To celebrate the return of Europe's largest indoor funfair, the IRN-BRU Carnival has teamed up with *The Argyllshire Advertiser* to offer readers the chance to win one of 15 pairs of tickets to the ultimate festive day out.

Making a debut this year is the 'Crazy Mouse', a thrilling roller-coaster that will send the daredevils in the family on a speed frenzy journey.

Also new for 2014 is the 'Dreams Live' and 'TopFlip' which will take riders on an up-side-down spin. Visitors can reach new heights on the returning 'Extreme XL' as the IRN-BRU Carnival ventures outside the SECC and onto the banks of the River Clyde.

Expect to scream at the top of your lungs as you are spun and swung 50ft feet into the air! For kids, both big and small, the firm favourites are back again. There's fun for all the family on the Teacups, Dodgems and Carousel whilst older families will enjoy the Drop Zone and Speed Buzz. This year there will

also be theme days, giving kids and grown-ups alike the chance to dress up as their favourite childhood characters on certain days throughout the Carnival. So dig out those costumes because the IRN-BRU Carnival is going to be overrun by pirates, princesses, superheroes, villains and many more.

Celebrating 94 years of family fun, the Carnival is Europe's largest indoor funfair with over 60 rides and attractions.

With new and exciting additions this year, it's set to be even bigger and better than ever before.

As a family 'must do', make sure to visit the IRN-BRU Carnival as part of your family's festive fun!

Entry price is £13 with visitors receiving 10 vouchers which can be used on all rides and most stalls** (each ride is one voucher and stalls are two vouchers).

For full information please visit www.irn-bru-carnival.com.

You can also get your hands on a two for one entry voucher to the IRN-BRU Carnival when you purchase a 24 pack of Regular or Sugar Free IRN-BRU cans from selected supermarkets in Scotland.

*Closed Christmas Day

**Some stalls are cash taking



THE IRN-BRU CARNIVAL

CARNIVAL

at the SECC
19 DEC - 11 JAN

15 PAIRS OF IRN-BRU CARNIVAL TICKETS UP FOR GRABS

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets, just cut out this week's token 1 and look out for token 2 along with the entry form in next week's Argyllshire Advertiser.

TOKEN

1

Terms & Conditions
 This competition is open to all adults over the age of 18. All entries must include the name and contact details of the entrant. Entries will not be considered if they do not have all information specified. Winners will be chosen at random, this decision is final. Prize is one pair of tickets to the IRN-BRU Carnival. Prize is only valid for one day. This prize has no cash alternative, is non-refundable and non-exchangeable. Travel is not included. The IRN-BRU Carnival reserves the right to refuse entry without explanation.

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2015

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10	11		12			
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19		20			21	
22				23		

Across

1 Birdsong (7)

5 Sound heard when Santa is coming... (5)

8 ...left for Santa (5,4)

9 Energy (3)

10 A goner (5)

12 Lit in church (7)

13 Wickedness (13)

15 The purpose of a church (7)

17 Biting (5)

19 The night before Christmas (3)

20 Fruit provider (5,4)

22 Hazardous (5)

23 The feeling of children at Christmas (7)

Down

1 It comes from above (5)

2 Where they had no room for Mary (3)

3 Go back, from outdoors (2-5)

4 Said to be Jesus (6,2,5)

5 Small boatswain (5)

6 Pendant (9)

7 An Indian turnover (7)

11 Stated in courts (9)

13 A week to the day after Christmas (3,4)

14 Spar-like (7)

16 Jubilant (5)

18 Dough? (5)

21 Natural breakdown (3)

Last week's solution

E	N	V	I	M	P	E	T	I	G	O		
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Forest plans are blooming

KILFINAN Community Forest Company (KCFC) has applied to the National Forest Land Scheme (NFLS) to purchase approximately 432 hectares of woodland at Upper Acharossan, near Tighnabruaich.

Administered by Forestry Commission Scotland, the NFLS gives communities the opportunity to bid to buy or lease national forest land on the basis that it provides increased public benefits.

The community run company currently owns 127 hectares, which was acquired from Forestry Commission Scotland in 2010.

Sustainability

The group has said that the successful acquisition of the new area would secure its future and bring long-term sustainability to the wider community.

A 28-day open consultation period is required by the scheme and public comments on any aspect of the

proposal are welcome. Details of the application can be viewed on line at <http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/supporting/strategy-policy-guidance/communities/national-forest-land-scheme-nfls/current-applications/kilfinan>.

All comments on the proposals detailed in the application must be submitted by January 12, 2015.

For more information email malcolm.wield@forestry.gsi.gov.uk



Ashfield Primary School.

Happy, polite pupils at Ashfield primary

ASHFIELD Primary School has been praised for progress following a recent inspection.

Education Scotland found that children at the school - which was recently forced to close for a number of weeks due to a lack of staff - are happy, polite and support each other well in class.

The inspection report highlighted the pupils' developing skills in cit-

izenship and eco work, through learning outdoors with a focus on learning in the forest and commended staff for planning activities in a progressive and flexible way.

Benefited

It also states that the whole school has benefited from working closely with Tayvallich Primary School.

Plans are now in place for the school to share

headship, with the head teacher of Tayvallich also taking control of Ashfield Primary School.

Parents have been consulted about developments at the school and have been involved in designing the curriculum.

A spokesman for Education Scotland said: 'The school, with the support of Argyll and Bute Council, has made

significant progress in addressing all the main points for action as outlined in the inspection letter of November 2013.

'Whilst there is still work to be done, the progress made should be commended.'

A copy of the report can be found at www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/AshfieldP-SCEV091214_tcm4-845513.pdf

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 Hogmanay - Closing at 9pm
 New Years Day - 8am - 1pm
 January 2nd 2015 - 9am - 6pm
 From January 3rd - Open as normal

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“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Come and worship Jesus, the light of the world.”

MID ARGYLL

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

“Let earth receive her King”

Sunday 21st December
 “While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born”
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 Achahoish at 12:30pm
 (followed by Seasonal Food and Drink)

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve
 Carol Service
 Achahoish at 7:00pm
 (Organ Interlude – Harry Bicket)

Watchnight Service
 Ardrishaig at 11:15pm
 (Carol Singing from 11 o'clock)

Sunday 28th December
 “Let’s go ... and see this thing that has happened”
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 Achahoish at 12:30pm

Sunday 4th January 2015
 “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us”
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 Achahoish at 12:30pm

NORTH KNAPDALE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO THEIR CHRISTMAS SERVICES
 Charity Number SC001002

Sunday 21st December
 Service of Lessons and Carols
 Inverlussa Church 11:30 am

Wednesday 24th December
 Carols on the Green
 Tayvallich Green 4 pm
 with mulled wine and mince pies

Wednesday 24th December
 Christmas Eve Celebration
 Tayvallich Church 11:15 pm

Thursday 25th December
 Christmas Day Family Celebration
 Bellanoch Church 11 am

Sunday 28th December
 Morning Worship 11:30 am
 Tayvallich Church

Sunday 4th January 2015
 Morning Worship
 Bellanoch Church 10 am

All welcome

Enquiries
 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 21st December
 11.00am Family Worship

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve
 11.15pm Watchnight Service
 Refreshments and Christmas Pies from 10.45 p.m.

Thursday 25th December Christmas Day
 11.00am Family Worship

Sunday 28th December
 11.00am Morning Worship

All Welcome

www.lpchurch.co.uk

Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland)
 SC016311

KINTYRE

TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday 19th December
 Tarbert Church
 Rededication and carol service at 7.00pm.

Wednesday 24th December
 Tarbert Church
 Watch night service at 11.30pm.
 Kilberry Church
 Watch night service at 7.00pm.

Sunday 28th December
 Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Rev Tommy Bryson.
 Kilberry service 2.00pm
 Rev Tommy Bryson.
 For more info call 01880 821012
 SC002622

SADDELL AND CARRADALE PARISH CHURCH LINKED WITH SOUTHEND PARISH CHURCH

SADDELL & CARRADALE CHURCH

Sunday 21st December
 10.00am Christingle All age worship

Wednesday 24th December
 11.30pm Watchnight Service

Sunday 28th December
 10.00am Morning Worship

SOUTHEND CHURCH

Sunday 21st December
 11.45am Nativity All age worship

Wednesday 24th December
 11.30pm Watchnight Service

Sunday 28th December
 11.45am Morning Worship

Minister: Revd Steve Fulcher
 01586 830504

GIGHA AND CARA LINKED WITH KILCALMONELL LINKED WITH KILLEAN AND KILCHENZIE

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve
 Family Service Clachan 7.00pm
 (Christmas refreshments will be served after the service)
 Watchnight Service Gigha 11.30pm
 Watchnight Service A'Chleit 11.30pm
 (with tea and mince pies in the hall from 10.30pm).

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
 Scottish Charity number SC011686

Sunday 21st December
 Morning Service 11.15am
 Choir items
 Next Generation and Triple C
 Nativity Play
 Rev P Wallace

Wednesday 24th December
 Watchnight Service 11.30pm

Thursday 25th December
 “O Come let us adore Him”
 Morning Worship 10.30am
 A short service to celebrate Christmas Day
 Rev P Wallace

THE SALVATION ARMY, CAMPBELTOWN CORPS
 Charity No. SC009359

Sunday 21st December
 Christmas Carol Service 4.30pm

Thursday 25th December
 Christmas Morning Worship 10.30am

Sunday 28th December
 Morning Worship 10.30am

Everyone welcome
 God Bless you this Christmas!

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2014

JESUS, He's the Reason for the Season

Sunday 21st December
 11.00am Christmas Family Service followed by lunch
 4.00pm Lorne Campbell Court Christmas Service

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 25th December Christmas Day
 11.00am Christmas Day Service

All welcome to all events

“For to you a Child is given”

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 21st December
 Christmas Family Service
 A presentation by the Sunday school children
 with Campbeltown Brass Ensemble followed by coffee & mince pies

Sunday 28th December
 All Age Service
 “Get in the Picture”

Sunday 4th January 2015
 New Year Communion Service
 “Wise men seek out Jesus; Wise men still do!”

All our services start at 11.00 am and are held at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
 SC043322

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GEORGE STREET, CAMPBELTOWN

Sunday 21st December
 at 2.30pm
 ‘Jesus – Light of the World’
 Christmas Carols and reflections on the Christmas story

Guest Speaker:
 Rev Prof Bob Akroyd

Everyone Welcome

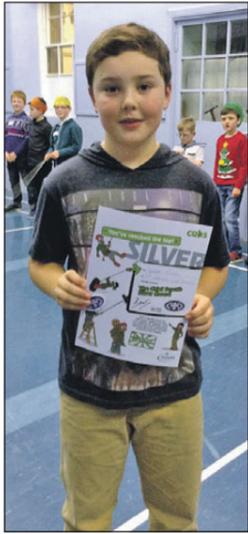
Scottish Charity Number:SC009980

KINTYRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Friday 19th December at 8pm

Carol Service
 In Tayinloan Village Hall
 Speaker: Mr Kelvin Moller
 Christmas Supper
 Come and share in the true spirit of Christmas.
 Everyone welcome.





JOSEPH Tustin of the 19th Argyll Cubs received his Silver Chief Scout award - The highest award that a Cub can earn. Joseph will move to Scouts in the next term.

Correction

WITH regard to a picture, which accompanied Tarbert's Santa's grotto article on page seven in the December 12 issue of the *Argyllshire Advertiser*, a girl was incorrectly named as Beth Johnstone. She is in fact called Charlotte Johnson, aged four. The *Advertiser* apologises for any confusion.

The show must go on, with just six dwarfs

MINARD and Furnace primary schools performed Rhoald Dahl's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, despite there being just six.

The show went ahead last Thursday with just six dwarfs after one pupil was unwell and couldn't take part.

Children put on two

shows of their annual Christmas pantomime in Furnace Primary School's hall.

The morning performance was attended by pupils and parents while an evening slot was scheduled for parents and members of the public.

Debbie Munro, head

teacher of both schools, said: 'The children did extremely well and both performances were enjoyed by all.'

For the last week of term pupils will be going on a trip to Oban Phoenix Cinema to see comedy cartoon 'The Penguins of Madagascar'.



Pupils who took part in the performance. a51panto01



Pupils enjoyed watching this year's Nativity play. 08_a51nativity01

Nativity play at Lochgilphead primary

YOUNGSTERS from Lochgilphead Primary School performed their annual Nativity play last Wednesday.

The primary one to three children got in to the festive spirit with their own rendition of the traditional Christmas story.

Ready, get set - go on line

GET on your starting blocks for MOKRUN.

It is getting close to that time of year again when only the swiftest will be ensured a place in arguably the UK's most popular races outside the London Marathon.

Last year 900 entries for the MOK half mar-

athon and 10k in Campbeltown were snapped up within 24 hours.

Taken up

For the 2015 races on Sunday, May 24 the total entries have been increased to 1,000, but they are again expected to be taken up within hours.

There will be no re-

serve list, so there will be one chance only to secure a place.

Entries will open online at www.entrycentral.com at noon on January 2.

More details can be found at www.mokrun.com

Junior race entries will also be online.

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Tayinloan heifer champion at top quality Oban show

ONE of the best ever quality shows of cattle to be seen at Oban Mart in the 17 years Caledonian Marts has been operating at the centre sold last week to a record number of buyers.

The annual Christmas show and sale saw the judge on the day, well-known show exhibitor, Dougie McBeath, Lower Greenyards, choose a 330kg Limousin from Robert Currie, Low Dunasherry, Tayinloan, as overall champion.

Mr McBeath went on

to pay £1,400 for the heifer.

Reserve champion was a 370kg Charolais Heifer from Pat Boyd, Tiree, which was unsold at £1,300.

Other awards were as follows:

Single Bullock calf from Mainland – 1 D W Semple, Dippen, Carradale, 380kgs £1,150 to B Duffton, Bogie Street, Huntly; 2 A Buchanan, Achnaba, Connel, 390kgs £1,150 to M G Nicholson, The Lake, Carlisle; 3 R Currie,

Low Dunasherry, Tayinloan, 340kgs £1,120 to M G Nicholson.

Single heifer calf from mainland – 1 and overall champion, R Currie; 2 A Hamilton, Kilwhipnach, Campbeltown, 335kgs £1,320 to B Duffton; 3 E McGillivray, Barcaldine Home Farm, 325kgs £1,150 to J McGillivray, Pennygown, Mull.

Single bullock calf from an island – 1 R Cunningham, Neriby, Islay, 350kgs £1,300 to S Smith, Sunnyside Croft, Turriff.

Single Heifer Calf from an Island – 1 and reserve not sold. 2 D McCormick, Baligarve, Lismore 460kgs £1,300 to J Carmicheal, Fiart, Lismore; 3 D McCormick, 325kgs £870 to W & W Faulder, Houghton, Carlisle.

Champion pen of four bullock calves – Limousin X from R Cunningham, Neriby, which scaled 350kgs and realised £1,150 to M G Nicholson.

Champion pen of four heifer calves – Charo-



lais X from D W Semple, Dippen, Carradale which scaled 375kgs realised £980 to J Leggat, Little Invernorth, Fraserburgh.

A feature of the sale was 31 Limousin spring calves from Bob Cunningham, Neriby, Islay which sold to an amazing £1,300 to average a tremendous £945.16.

Overall champion and champion heifer from the Christmas show and sale at Oban Mart from Robert Currie (left), who received his prize from Alan King, Reid and Robertson managing director (second left). Holding the heifer are Stuart Currie and Karen Love of Reid and Robertson. Photo Kevin McGlynn.

MARKET REPORT

CALEDONIAN Marts in Oban sold 1,261 suckled calves, store, breeding and OTM cattle at its December 6 sale, following the Christmas show.

Bullocks (576) sold to average 266p per kilo to 368p per kg for a 350kg Limousin from R Cunningham, Neriby, Bridgend, Islay and to £1,450 for a 770kg Limousin from P Boyd, Drumaglee, Cornaigmore, Tiree.

Heifers (532) averaged 252p per kilo to 419p

per kilo for a 330kg Limousin from R Currie, Low Dunasherry, Tayinloan by Tarbert and to £1,400 for the same animal.

Young Bulls (31) averaged 220p per kilo to 263p per kilo for two 225kg Charolais from A McLarty, Homestead, Ardferrn and to £670 for a 260kg Limousin from the same home.

Breeding cattle (70) sold to £1,450 (twice) for a Limousin spring calving heifer and a Simmental Spring calv-

ing heifer from R Leitch, Lagganulva, Mull and N McLean, Achaleven, Connel.

Bullocks: Up to 250kgs - £810 Neriby, 364p No 5 Burnside; 251-300kgs - £980 Neriby, 360p Neriby; 301-350kgs - £1,120 Low Dunasherry, 350p Ardashy; 351-400kgs - £1,300 Neriby 367p Neriby; 401-450kgs - £1,120 Low Dunasherry, 260p Low Dunasherry; 451-500kgs - £1,190 Ballinackilichan, 246p Killoccraw; 501-550kgs - £1,200 No 5 Tomag, 234p No 5 Tomag; 551-600kgs - £1,280 Drumaglee, 221p Drumaglee; 701kgs plus - £1,480 Drumaglee, 191p Drumaglee.

Heifers: Up to 250kgs - £740 Achnacloch 383p Achnacloch; 251-300kgs - £970 Neriby 330p Neriby; 301-350kgs - £1,400 Low Dunasherry 419p Low Dunasherry; 351-400kgs - £1,320 Tyree 346p Tyree; 401-450kgs - £1,250 Dippen 306p Dippen; 451-500kgs - £1,300

Baligarve 280p Baligarve. Leading prices per head: Bullocks: £1,300 Neriby (Islay), £1,280 Drumaglee (Tiree), £1,200 and £1,170 No 5 Tomai; (Campbeltown), £1,190 Ballinackilichan (Lismore), £1,150 Dippen, Achnaba and Neriby, £1,120 No 5 Tomag & Low Dunasherry; £1,100 Strongorm; £1,090 Ballinackilichan; £1,080 Dippen, £1,070 Annat and Ardachy; £1,010 Feall (Coll) and Rhoine (Campbeltown); £1,000 Dallachullish and Inion; £990 Achnacreebay and Keil (Campbeltown); £980 Tyree, Neriby and Keil.

Leading prices per head heifers: £1,320 Tyree (Benderloch); £1,320 Kilwhipnach (Campbeltown); £1,300 Baligarve (Lismore); £1,250 Dippen; £1,150 (twice) Barcaldine Home Farm; £1,060 (twice) Polliwillean (Campbeltown) £1,010 and £940 Killoccraw (Campbeltown); £1,000 and £980 Dippen; £970 Neriby; £940 Rhoine; £910 Neriby and Killoccraw; £890 Laggan (Lismore); £870 Keil, Tur-

nault and Laggan. Heifers in-calf: £1,300 Lagganulva, £1,100 Achaleven.

Cows in-calf: £900 (twice) Saulmore, £850 Achnacreebay, £740 Ardpatrik. Bulling heifers: £780 Tayvallich Estate.

Leading prices per kilo: Bullocks: 362p Tayvallich; 360p Neriby; 350p Ardachy; 340p Auchnacloch (Islay); 338p Neriby; 337p Turnault; 332p Aird (Ardferrn); 329p Feall and Low Dunasherry; 328p Shenavallie; 327p Baligarve; 325p No 5 Burnside and Neriby; 321p Shenavallie and Auchnacloch; 316p Dippen; 313p High Tirfergus (Campbeltown) and Shenavallie. Heifers: 391p Kilwhipnach; 358p Laggan Farms; 353p Barcaldine Home Farm; 346p Tyree; 330p Neriby; 333p Mossfield (Coll); 321p Aird; 306p Dippen; 300p Shenavallie and Ardachy; 299p Auchnacloch and Neriby; 288p Ballymeanach (Mull), Turnault and Baligarve; 287p Fiart (Lismore); 283p Scammadale; 280p Achindue (Lismore) and Baligarve.

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Steve Merrick: 'The Troubadour of Song'

12 December 1922 - 17 November 2014

ARGYLL musician, Steve Merrick (born Walter John Pert) known as 'The Troubadour of Song' has died at the age of 91.

Steve was born on December 12, 1922 in Fort William, Scotland, in a house at the foot of Ben Nevis.

His father, John, was a lucky survivor from the battle of Ypres in The Great War, and was a manager at the 'Black and White' distillery in Gentauchers.

His mother, Jean née Cameron in common

with Steve, was a Royal National Mòd Gold Medallist.

Steve attended school in Keith, Banffshire. Along with a naturally gifted voice, Steve practiced the accordion religiously from an early age and at 14 he was broadcasting from Aberdeen on the BBC's 'Children's Hour' with contemporary stars such as Molly Weir.

Three years later, the family moved south to Glasgow, where he joined the Scottish Radio Orchestra as resi-

dent singer. When the second world war broke, Steve joined the ARP as a driver with St John's Ambulance in Dumbar-ton, which was heavily attacked in the Clyde-side bombings of 1941. There he witnessed atrocities that he never forgot.

In 1942, he was drafted to the Navy, and posted as telegrapher aboard a frigate.

While ashore in Troon he met his Scots-Italian wife, Laura Mazzoni, whom he married at St Margaret's Church, Lochgilphead.

Steve left the Navy in 1944 and joined the 49th APC training with tanks as a wireless operator and gun loader.

At the end of the war, he was stationed in Germany, resuming his broadcasting career with the British Forces Network programme in Hamburg, and his stage career.

Later, Steve returned to Scotland, to his family home in Inveraray, Argyll, where he helped to run his parents' establishment, 'The Albion Tearooms' in Inveraray Main Street.

He also continued to work in radio.

In 1951, Steve embarked on a tour as supporting act to civil rights activist and singer Josh White, along with comedian Arthur Haynes.

He realised that his prospects would be more lucrative in the theatre and cabaret circuit, so Steve and wife Laura headed for London in the early 1960s.

He toured Britain's theatres and gained recognition, working with aspiring performers of the day, such as Petula Clark and The Kentones.

He appeared on television and radio for the BBC and ITV and even had his own radio series

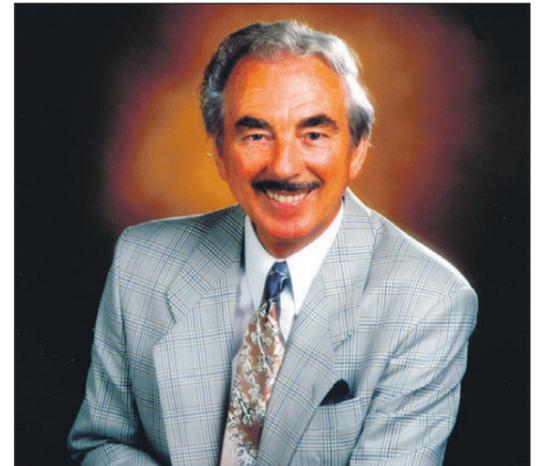
called, 'Presenting Steve Merrick'.

In latter years, Steve took residencies in Bahrain, Dubai and Qatar, ending with his longest engagement in Spain, working alongside singer Toni Dalli at his famous Oasis Club in Marbella, before he returned home to semiretirement in 1995.

Although he continued to sing and play until his death, Steve Merrick's final stage appearance was aptly with his old wartime friend, musician, actor and comedian Stan Stennett, as part of his 'Golden Days of Variety' tour in 2009 at the age of 86.

Steve's wife battled with dementia for a number of years and he cared for her until she passed away in 2010.

Steve regularly returned to tour Scotland and to his parents' home in Inveraray, performing annually in the 'In-



Steve's funeral took place in London. He received a fitting final ovation for his 1970s recording of the song 'Didn't We' written by Jimmy Webb.

veraray Week' concerts for many years. Steve's music lives on with his 1963 albums 'Italian Moon' and 'Songs from the Garden of Love', Steve's funeral took place in London on December 3, at which he received a fitting final ovation for his 1970s recording of the song 'Didn't We' written by Jimmy Webb.

He died unexpectedly after a brief illness. His family are thankful that he was blessed with tal-

ent and health, which enabled him to keep working throughout his life. He brought enjoyment to others doing what he loved the most with such passion and complete dignity until the 'last curtain call'.

Steve and his late brother George, also a musician and manager of several Argyll hotels, are to be remembered with a dedicated grove of trees in the Highlands.

Paul Pert, December 4 2014



Two of Steve's albums.



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PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02884/PP	Renewal of planning permission 12/01991/PP (Erection of 60 metre high wind monitoring mast for a period of 3 years)	Land to North of Existing Anemometer Mast A'Chruach Minard Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
14/02886/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Garden Ground of Old Manse Lochgair Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8SB	Mid Argyll Area Office
14/02890/PP	Use of land for the siting of three caravans (amendment to increase spacing between existing lawful caravan pitches), the upgrading of existing vehicular access onto the A83(T), provision of one new hardstanding, upgrading of two existing hardstandings, provision of landscape planting and restoration of disused section of existing access track and one hardstanding	Land West of North Beachmore Farm Muasdale Argyll and Bute PA29 6XD	Sub Post Office Tayinloan

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02848/LIB	Alterations and renovation of existing lighthouse	Ardrishaig Lighthouse Ardrishaig Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>
 The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.
 A weekly list of applications can be viewed at the above address and at all Council Libraries.
 Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website.
 Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

(CROSS STREET, CAMPBELTOWN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC & PEDESTRIANS) ORDER 2014

On Monday 15th December 2014, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be that for a temporary period no person shall drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on that length of Cross Street, Campbeltown which extends from its junction with Main Street northwards for a distance of 17 metres or thereby.

Extensive building renovations are planned to the Campbeltown Town Hall, 50 - 52 Main Street and 2 Cross Street and structural scaffolding to support the facade during the renovation is required. It will not be possible to maintain vehicular access over part of Cross Street due to the width of the required scaffolding. The existing one way operation on Cross Street will be temporarily suspended for the duration of the closure so that vehicular access can be maintained to the businesses on Cross Street via Burnside Square.

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times, however the pedestrian access may be restricted if there is a specific operation which is identified as being a possible risk to public safety. Roads and Amenity Services will put in place conditions to ensure that pedestrian access is only restricted in periods of unavoidable risk.

This closure will be effective when indicated by signs from Monday 5th January 2015 until 30th November 2015 or until such time as the works are complete, whichever is the earlier.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads & Amenity Services, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD

ARCHIE MITCHELL

Would like to thank everyone who came to his party and made it a night to remember. Thanks for all the lovely cards and gifts. Archie and family would also like to wish family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

THANK YOU

John Armour would like to thank everyone for their support during the recent South Kintyre Council By-election. It was very much appreciated.

I would like to wish everyone in South Kintyre a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2015.

Martin would like to congratulate **SCOTT ELLIOT, SAM FERGUSON, SAFFRON COFFIELD, DAVID CONLEY, RHYS BLAIR, SAM SNEEDON, CLAIRE ANDERSON & EILISH MACARTHUR.** who passed their driving tests.

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David and Christine Wike



Happy 50th Anniversary Mum and Dad

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Happy 65th Birthday



Love from all the family.

Golden Wedding Anniversary



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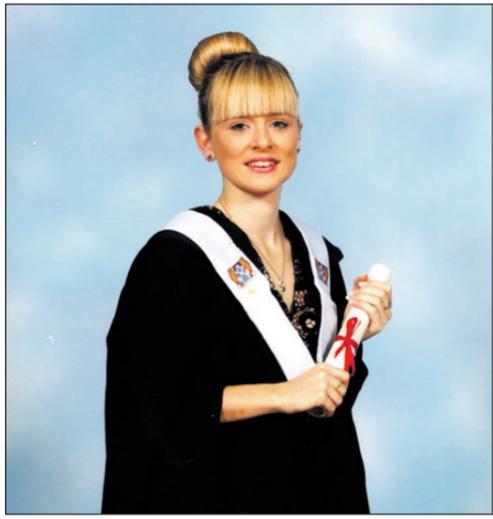
Love from The Kendrick Clan x

65th Wedding Anniversary

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Mid Argyll
 Refuse and recycling collections due on Thursday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 27th December.
 Refuse and recycling collections due on Friday 26th December will be collected on Sunday 28th December.
 Refuse and recycling collections due on Thursday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 3rd January.
 Refuse and recycling collections due on Friday 2nd January will be collected on Sunday 3rd January.
 Lingertown Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25/26th December and 1st/2nd January.

Kintyre
 Refuse collections due on Thursday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 27th December.
 Refuse collections due on Thursday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 3rd January.
 Roding Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January.
 Information is also available on the Council website and from your local office.

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Snowing me, snowing you

The Institute of Advanced Motorist's chief examiner, Peter Rodger, is offering weekly motoring tips to riders and drivers.

This week he is advising drivers about travelling in snow.

While there is just snow forecast at the moment for the north-east of Scotland, the unpredictability of our weather means it could come elsewhere at any time.

If you have to travel in bad weather plan your journey thoroughly. Think about where you are going and what it will be like all the way along the journey. If you can, avoid travelling on less-used roads or country lanes as these are less likely to be gritted.

Before setting off, clear all your windows and mirrors fully. Clear off snow piled on the roof of your car and the bonnet too, as it can fall and blow on to the windscreen. Don't leave anything obscured.

Start your car gently from stationary and avoid high revs. If road conditions are extremely icy and you drive a manual car you should move off in a higher gear rather than first gear. You should stay in a higher gear to avoid wheel spin.

It's important you get your speed right when travelling in snow. Never drive so fast that you risk losing control and don't drive so slowly that you risk losing momentum for getting up a slope.

At the very least double your stopping distance from the vehicle in front of you

– ideally lengthen it much more than this. This will give you more time to slow down without relying on your brakes.

Make sure you slow down sufficiently before reaching a bend so you have enough time to react to any hazards that appear as you go round it – and so you do not skid as well. You should have finished slowing down before you start to turn the steering wheel.

If you break down or have to pull over on a motorway or dual carriageway, you should leave your vehicle and stand to the safe side of it, but not in front of it, when waiting for help.

Peter Rodger, chief examiner, said: 'Many of the problems associated with travel during snow could be avoided if people planned in advance. People routinely travel with only the minimum of safety equipment, without realising their journey could be a lot longer than expected.'

'At the very least you should have a shovel, torch, blanket, jump-leads and tow rope. You should ensure your mobile phone is fully charged, and the number of your recovery organisation is saved into it. And don't set out without knowing the location of petrol stations on your way.'

'This all might sound obvious, but too many of us forget to do any of this. Don't be one of the ill-prepared, and listen to the weather forecast for the whole length of a winter journey to help you prepare for it.'

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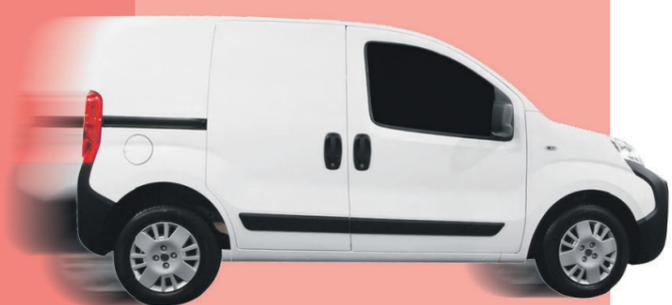
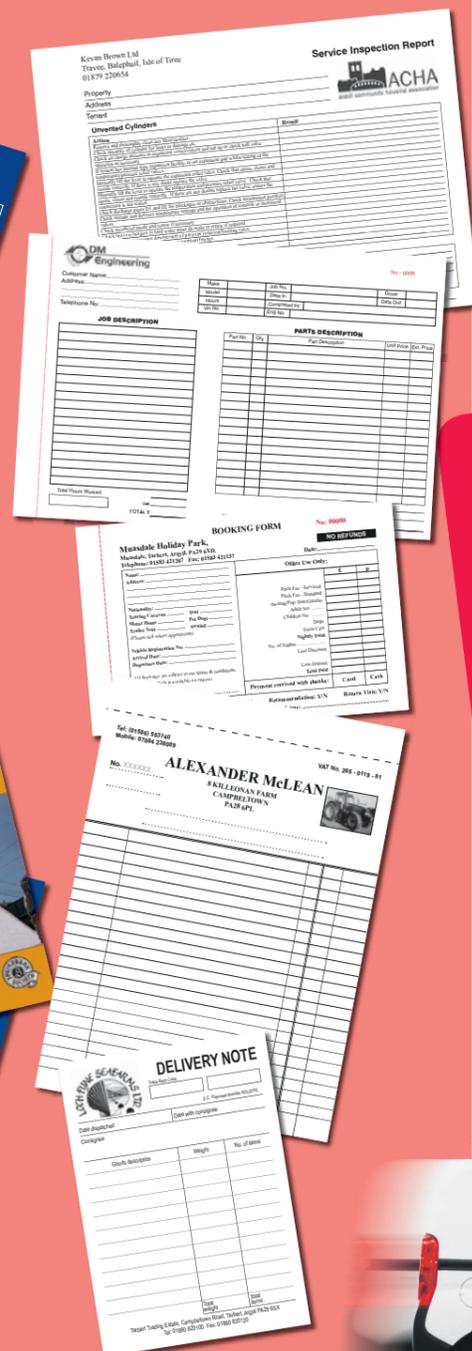
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Action plan targets growth in Highlands and Islands



An action plan aimed at helping employers across the Highlands and Islands gain access to the skills they need has been launched.

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) has published the Skills Investment Plan for the Highlands and Islands, outlining a raft of measures aimed at improving the skills base across the region.

In the region of 7,500 new jobs could be created in key economic sectors such as energy and financial services across the Highlands and Islands before 2020, with the plan outlining ways for the region to capitalise on job opportunities.

The plan was presented at a meeting of the Convention for the Highlands and Islands in October, where Angela Constance, cabinet secretary for training, youth and women's employment, led a discussion on skills.

She said: 'I welcome the publication of the Highlands and Islands Skills Investment Plan. This collaborative approach reiterates the Scottish Government's commitment to work with partners to increase sustainable

economic activity across the Highlands and Islands.

'In implementing the recommendations from Developing Scotland's Young Workforce Commission we will seek to further involve employers in Scotland's world-leading education and skills system.

'In this way we can work together to ensure that we are equipping individuals with the skills that employers need to operate and grow successful businesses here in the Highlands and Islands and more widely across Scotland.'

The Highlands and Islands economy is worth £7.4billion per year, or 7 per cent of the Scottish total.

It is home to 25,940 enterprises and 209,500 jobs.

The youth employment rate of 61.1 per cent is already above the Scottish average of 54.4 per cent and a key part of the action plan will be retaining 4,000 more young people across the region each year.

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An experienced bookkeeper is required to be responsible for processing the accounting transactions of the businesses, customer and supplier contact and support, general administration and invoicing at Ormsary Estate in Argyll.

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John McClelland CBE, chairman of Skills Development Scotland, said:

'The overarching message of our Skills Investment Plan is one of opportunity.

'The Highlands and Islands economy has been growing strongly over the last 10 years and the potential for growth, both from existing companies and inward investment, is of national significance.

'However, this opportunity brings into focus some challenges.

'Some companies are already reporting difficulties recruiting for some key skills and concerted effort is needed to ensure the potential for growth across the region isn't lost.

'Our action plan sets out a series of measures which will see SDS working alongside its partners to ensure that the Highlands and Islands economy can fulfil its potential.

'It offers a blueprint for future cooperation between employers, academia and public sector bodies that will deliver real benefits for the Highlands and Islands and for Scotland as a whole.'

The key themes of the action plan are:

- *Meeting the needs of employers*
- *Planning for the needs of the future economy*
- *Retaining young people in the region*

- *Attracting people of working age*
- *Engaging employers in the skills system*

SDS will work in partnership with the Scottish Funding Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the University of the Highlands and Islands and local authorities across the region in delivering the plan.

Initiatives include increasing the uptake of Modern Apprenticeships across the Highlands and Islands, establishing industry-led skills provision across the region, and meeting immediate needs of employers in key economic sectors such as energy, tourism and the creative industries.

Purchasing Assistant

Fort William

Marine Harvest (Scotland) is the largest Aquaculture Company operating in Scotland. Our marine and freshwater sites are located throughout the West Coast, Outer Isles and Argyll.

We are seeking to appoint a Purchasing Assistant to join our Purchasing Department in our processing plant in Fort William. The Department is responsible for the purchasing of equipment, supplies and services for the processing and logistics departments.

The Purchasing Assistant will be required to liaise with suppliers as well as other internal functions to ensure goods and services are purchased at the lowest ultimate cost, in line with the overall purchasing strategy.

The Purchasing Assistant will issue invitations to tender, analyse the bids received and prepare relevant contractual documents. They will also be involved in supplier evaluation and selection and will eventually be responsible for rationalising the supply base to further reduce spend.

Training and development will be given to the successful candidate in all areas of purchasing including negotiation, tendering, supply base rationalisation and cost reduction.

Person Specification

- Conversant with Microsoft Office packages (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)
- Excellent communication and numeracy skills
- Purchasing experience within a fast moving environment would be an advantage

The post is offered on a full-time permanent position, working a 40 hour week.

If you feel that you possess the appropriate skills and are looking for a new challenge, please apply in writing to Gillian Dempster, Human Resources Assistant, Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd., Business Resource Centre, Blar Mhor Industrial Estate, Fort William PH33 7PT, no later than Wednesday 31st December 2014.



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to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Willie McCallum, 78 Longrow.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my friends & neighbours from Janette Ramsay, 15 Albyn Avenue.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives & friends from Mary & Willie MacBrayne, 96 Millknowe.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Rachel would like to wish all family, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. 13 Harbour View, Campbeltown.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

& best wishes from Emily McDonald, 15 Lochend Street.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Elizabeth Greenlees, 9 Burnbank, Drumlembie.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives & friends from Duncan Snr, Southend.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from May McDonald.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Donald & Margaret Anderson, 57 Meadows Avenue, Campbeltown.

My Warmest Love & God's Blessings

to all my loving family & friends for a very happy future from Agnes McAllister, Graehome.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Betty Dawson, Southend.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Marie & Neil Kennedy, Argyll Street.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all relatives & friends from Mary & John Harvey, 39 Lady Mary Row.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives and friends from Archie Greenlees, 4 Front Row, Drumlembie.

BILLY & LUCY CUNNINGHAM

& family, 54 Kirk St, wish all relations, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy, Prosperous & Blessed New Year.

Florence & Jimmy (Sevie)

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

SEASON'S GREETINGS

To all my relatives & friends Merry Christmas & a very Happy New Year from Sheena Graham, Woodland Drive.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to the wonderful team who look after me, and also to all my friends from around Argyll from David McLean, Kilmory Road, Lochgilphead.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Mrs A Taylor, Bridge House, Muasdale.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my family & friends from Hamish McMillan, 28A Calton Avenue.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Margaret Lindsay, 2 Lorne Campbell Court.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Flora Anderson, 9 Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all our friends from Pat & Dulcie.

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wishes family & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. 20B Calton Avenue.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives & friends from Katie & Danny.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Ken Smith, 6 Sealand, Peninver.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to everyone that knows me from Hamish Thomson, Hazelbank Court.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my friends and neighbours from Niven McVicar, Barrachuile Farm, Kilmichael.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my friends & neighbours from Ailsa Scott, 37 Hillside Road.

George & Margaret The Old Rectory

wish family & friends a Happy Christmas & Good New Year.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my friends in the Borders, Trossachs, Mull and Colonsay, Miss Strath regrets due to blindness, that she is unable to write cards but wishes to send hearty greetings for Christmas and the New Year to you all. Abbeyfield House, Carradale.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

& best wishes to all my relatives & friends from Margaret Reid, Campbeltown.





MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my family, friends & relatives, home & away, from Hugh Colville.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Maureen Henderson.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all family & friends from Tommy & family, Craigruidh.



Cathie & John Martin

86 Crosshill Avenue, would like to wish all family & friends a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all family, friends & neighbours from Peggy Wareham, 5 Castlehill Court.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives and friends from Elizabeth Brown, 12 Barochan Place (formerly Davaar Avenue).



Gail McEachran

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



NANCY MACPHERSON

30 Lorne Campbell Court, would like to wish all family & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Neil McEachran, 43 Calton Avenue.



Ella McLachlan

would like to wish all family & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. Auchinlee.



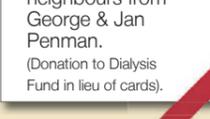
SEASON'S GREETINGS

Wishing all my family & friends a very Merry Christmas from Katharine McIntyre, 23 Meadow Park.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to friends & neighbours from George & Jan Penman. (Donation to Dialysis Fund in lieu of cards).



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives & friends from Richard & Helen Kelly, & David, Audrey-Anne & Darren, Alexandria.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives and friends from Cissie McMurphy, 55 Dalaruan Street.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all friends & family from Cathie Armour, Glebe Street.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all our relatives & friends from Alex & John Johnston, Stanley Place.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

to all my family, friends & neighbours from Flora Williamson, Lorne Campbell Court.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Colin & Flora MacBrayne, Meadows Avenue.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my friends from Barbara Gill, Smith Drive.



MRS DOROTHY MCCONNACHIE

17 John St, wishes all relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



MARY DOCHERTY

wishes her family, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



PRUNELLA MACBRAYNE

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



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends, neighbours & colleagues from Alisdair, Lorraine, Rachael & Campbell O'May.



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Ella Johnston, Dell Road, Campbeltown.



Season's Greetings from Troon

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all our family & friends. Love, Allan, Susanne & Rebecca Lang.



BETH MCKINVEN

St Anne's Care Home, Musselburgh, remembers fondly all her friends & family in Campbeltown & wishes everyone a very Merry Xmas.



Kathleen & Clark Lafferty

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



Alex Galbraith

wishes friends & family a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.



DAVE & ISOBEL DAVIS, PERTH

wish all their family & friends a Merry Christmas & best wishes for 2015.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to family, friends & neighbours, and all the best for 2015 from Jenny Tyrrell.



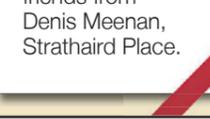
Jackie & June Morrison

111 Davaar Avenue, would like to wish all family & friends a Merry Christmas & all the best for 2015.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all family & friends from Denis Meenan, Strathaird Place.



Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Isa Anderson, 35 Saddell Street.



Flora Henderson

wishes all her friends, family & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. Smith Drive.



Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



IT is almost time.

The endings should be almost at an end.

The end of the shopping, the end of the card writing, the end of the decorating, the end of the food planning, the end of the rushing.

It is time finally to pause and come to the manager.

It is time finally to listen in the silence.

It is time to stop and wonder.

It is almost time to meet the Christ child.

But where will we meet the maker and keeper of our days?

We have no stable to visit, there are no angels to guide or wise men to follow.

So where should we go?

We know we will not find him in the corridors of power or the courts of royalty.

He will not be wining and dining with the rich and the powerful or posing for photographs with the celebrities.

So maybe we should look for him in our own everyday lives.

Maybe we will find him gathering sheep with us on the hills, or waiting till we finish the chores in the kitchen.

Maybe he will walk with us by the shoreline when we are troubled.

Maybe he will go ahead of us into the hospital ward that we dread.

Maybe he will wait with us as we await news we fear to hear.

Maybe he will hold us as we worry about the future.

Maybe he will be there rejoicing with us as we celebrate new birth.

Maybe we don't need to travel too far to meet him, for we will find that he is already there.

He is God incarnate, the Emmanuel God, the God with us from our first breath till our last.

So as we wait for God, so too he waits for us - however long it takes.

I wish you all the blessing and wonder of this special time.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

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 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.

1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

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

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www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office
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Campbeltown Picture House receives £1 million grant

RESTORATION of Campbeltown Picture House can now go ahead thanks to a £1.1 million grant.

The 'wee pictures' will be brought back to its former glory as Campbeltown Community Business, the charity which owns the cinema, plans to recreate the 1930s interior, with all the equipment of a state of the art cinema.

The money came from the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of £4.8 million donated across the country.

Jane Mayo, chairwoman of Campbeltown Community Business, said: 'Magical fairy dust will certainly be sprinkled on our picture house.

'Now we shall be able

to recreate the 1930s unique interior with the fantastic wee houses restored to their original glory, and all allied to 21st century comfort. The restoration of this nationally important building will add to the other recent and on-going improvements in Campbeltown.'

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, welcomed the news.

He said: 'This is a great Christmas present for Campbeltown and for all film exhibition in Scotland. The picture house was the longest continuously operating purpose-built cinema in Scotland when it reached its centenary in May 2013. Now there will be new life breathed into the old building by



Campbeltown Picture House.

means of an imaginative restoration and renewal project which has attracted strong support

from a range of bodies over recent months.

'This grant should secure the future of the

community-owned venue and I congratulate the team involved.'



Pupils at Tarbert Academy blew their audience away with an emotive shadow performance.

Christmas show to mark centenary of First World War

PUPILS from Tarbert Academy put on a special Christmas musical to mark the centenary of the First World War.

Children from primary four up to S6 put on a shadow performance called Christmas 1914 for pupils and parents as part of a final instalment to their school project on World War One.

Children who took part were said to have been particularly touched by letters written during that time and they combined their own script with sequences of letters from a soldier to his sweetheart for the show, which took

place at the school on Tuesday, December 9.

Louise Paterson, deputy head teacher, said: 'I was extremely excited about their performance.'

'It was decided to sing the pieces from Christmas 1914 to run along with their own script-written sequence of letters between a soldier and his sweetheart. It was all done from behind a large white screen dressed all in black with flat caps and head scarves.'

A silver collection on the night raised £240 for Poppy Scotland.

Eye tests in sight for drivers in Campbeltown

EYE tests for drivers will soon be available in Campbeltown, saving people up to 170-mile round trips.

A contract between the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) and Specsavers meant those living in Campbeltown and Islay have to travel to the nearest approved opticians in Oban or Dumbarton to receive eye tests for driving licences.

But in a letter to Alan Reid MP, transport minister Claire Perry said a contract had been negotiated with an independent optician to allow tests to be carried out in

Campbeltown. Ms Perry added that the DVLA was also making progress with a contract for Islay Eyewear.

Mr Reid welcomed the news but said he wouldn't rest until the tests were underway in both areas. He said: 'It looks as if eye tests will soon be conducted again in Campbeltown, however the situation on Islay is still not clear.'

'I will keep up pressure on the DVLA until the contracts with local opticians are actually signed and implemented. It is totally unacceptable to force drivers to travel to Oban or Dumbarton for their eye tests.'

Silver award for CalMac

ARGYLL'S most prominent ferry provider has been recognised for efforts to help armed forces personnel and veterans in the workplace.

Caledonian MacBrayne was given a silver award from Supporting Britain's Reservists and Employers (SABRE) for providing flexible working arrangements and delivering career development opportunities.

Christine Roberts, human resources director at CalMac, said: 'We are committed to supporting our local communities by providing sustainable careers for local people.'

'We're honoured to be receiving this prestigious award, members of the armed forces and their spouses play an important role at CalMac and this recognition is as much theirs as the company's.'

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'... a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord' (Luke 2:11).

BIRTHS



KERR

Graeme and Sharon are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son, Murray John, on December 5, 2014 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. A little brother for Caryn and Robert. Grateful thanks to midwives at Campbeltown Maternity Unit and staff at RAH.

MACKINNON - William and Lauren are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their baby sister, Kate Beth, on November 27, 2014, at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. Mum, Dad and grandparents are also delighted. Thanks to all midwives at Campbeltown and Paisley hospitals.



MCAULAY

Ashley and Aimee are proud to announce the birth of their little sister, Emeli, on December 10, 2014, weighing 5lbs 13ozs. Special thanks to the Campbeltown midwives.

WEDDINGS



MURPHY - GARTON

On December 6, 2014, at Datchet by Windsor, Ross Simpson, son of Brian and Lesley, Lochgilphead, to Nicola, beautiful daughter of Ken and Margaret, Croxley Green. A magical day.

DEATHS

COFFIELD - Peacefully at home, 9 Ramsay Place, Campbeltown, on Saturday, December 13, 2014, Ian McKenzie Coffield, in his 63rd year, dearly beloved husband of Vivian Morrans, much loved father of Nicola, Steven and Leighanne, a loving granda, and beloved son of Martin and the late Mary-Jane Coffield. Funeral private.

GILLESPIE - Suddenly at home, Elyside, The Walk, Dalintober, Campbeltown, on Saturday, December 13, 2014, June Hogarth, in her 54th year, dearly beloved wife of Stuart Gillespie, much loved mother of Stuart and Lyle, loving daughter of Archie and the late Peggy Hogarth and beloved sister of Anne.

MACKINNON - Peacefully, after a long and happy life, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on Tuesday, December 16, 2014, Duncan MacKinnon, in his 91st year, Low Tirfergus, Drumlembie and formerly of High Ugadale, Saddell, dearly beloved husband of the late Isabel MacGregor, much loved father of Janette, Morag, Isabell, Katie and Duncan and loving grandfather and great grandfather. Service in the Highland Parish Church, Campbeltown, on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Highland Parish Church and the Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital. At Duncan's request you are asked to wear bright colours to the funeral.

MCCAIG - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on Thursday, December 11, 2014, Neil McGregor McCaig, in his 87th year, 24A Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Theresa Toye, much loved father of June, Peter, Wilma and the late Martha and a loving grandfather and great grandfather. RIP.

MILNE - On December 13, 2014 at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, James Falconer Milne (Jim), aged 68 years, beloved husband of Janet (McIvor), much loved father of Alistair, Ailsa and Ian, loved papa of Kailey and a dear brother to Jean. A celebration of Jim's life will be held in Christchurch United Reform Church, Oxford Road, Marlow at 2.00pm on Thursday, January 8, 2015. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, to Myotonic Dystrophy Support Group, c/o David Silvey & Son, Westbourne Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 2PZ. A service of remembrance for Jim will be held in Campbeltown at a later date.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GRAHAM - Margaret and the family of the late Archie Graham would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy received on their sad loss. Special thanks to Matthew Ramsay and the Lorne and Lowland Church, to Kenneth Blair for his professional services and to the Ardshiel Hotel for catering. Also very special thanks to the community nurses and to all the carers from Carr Gomm who delivered care in such a professional, kind and caring manner. Finally, our thanks to all who attended the church and graveside to pay their respects.

RONALD - The relatives of the late Helen Lightbody Ronald (Nellie) would like to thank friends and neighbours for flowers and expressions of sympathy following their sad loss. Also thanks to the staff of Kintyre Care Home and nurses and doctors of Campbeltown Hospital for care and attention, to the Rev Steve Fulcher for his comforting service, to Francis and Ian for excellent catering and to Alasdair Blair for funeral arrangements.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER

IN MEMORIAM

ADCOCK - Keira, August 11, 2000 - December 19, 2003.

A quiet thought, a silent tear, A constant wish that you were here, Words are few but our thoughts are deep, Memories of you we'll always keep. Jah bless our beautiful daughter. - Love, Mum and Dad, Cassie and Annie xxxx. Your memory is our keepsake With which we'll never part God has you in his keeping We have you in our hearts. - Loving you always, Nana and Papa xx. Forever in our hearts. - Love from Uncle Colin and Uncle Stuart xx.

BROWN - In loving memory of James, a dearly loved son and brother, who died December 13, 2009.

The years pass by, but memories stay, Loved and remembered every day. - With love, families at home and away.

CAMPBELL - Remembering with love, Marion McKenzie, who died December 19, 2009. May the winds of love blow softly And whisper for you to hear That we'll always love and miss you And wish that you were here. - Archie, Moira, Fionnaigh, Christine and families.

DUFFY - In loving memory of our adored son and brother, Craig, who passed away December 19, 2004. Ten years have not made our parting any easier to bear Till we meet again may God love you and hold you as precious as we do. - Mum, Colin, Shane and Eilidh. Look after Papa for us, Craig xxxx.

DUFFY - In loving memory of my beloved partner, Craig, taken so tragically on December 19, 2004. The moment that you died My heart was torn in two One side filled with heartache The other died with you. Remembered every day with all my love as always. - Jane xxxx.

DUFFY - Precious memories of my grandson, Craig. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. - Love from Granny Tottie.

DUFFY - Craig, December 19, 2004.

Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day Unseen, unheard but always here Still loved, still missed and very dear.

- Love, Uncle Colin, Auntie Margaret, Jacquelyn and Emma xx.

DUFFY - In memory of Craig, a fellow fisherman and friend, taken too soon, December 19, 2004. Gone but not forgotten. - TT Boys.

GATNER - In loving memory of Andy, who died December 22, 2005. Lovingly remembered, dearly missed each day. - From Sarah, Rita and Andrew.

MACAULAY - In loving memory of Tommy, died December 18, 2012. Loved and remembered always. - Marie and family.

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

MACIVER - Billy, December 14, 2007.

Seven years now, Daddy, Since you left this place, Seven years since I last kissed your face, Combed your hair and held you tight, It was just us at the end and that felt right. I miss our chats, jokes and your voice Tho I hear what you're telling me, you had no choice, But Daddy I'd give all that is mine To be held by you just one more time. - Love you My Daddy, your Trina.

MCALPINE - Duncan. In memory of dad, died December 15, 2011.

It doesn't need a special day to bring you to our minds, For days without thoughts of you are very hard to find. - From Mary and James.

MCALPINE - In memory of Papa. Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day, Unseen, unheard, but always there, Still loved and missed and very dear. - From Andrew.

MCALPINE - In memory of Papa. Just as you were, you will always be Someone special in our memory. Greatly missed. - From Jamie Duncan and Pam.

WILKIN - In loving memory of John Alan Wilkin, who left us bereft on December 20, 2010. A dearly loved husband, dad, granda and great granda. Always in our thoughts. Forever in our hearts. - Nancy and family.

CHURCH NOTICES

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 21 December
Inverlussa Church 11:30 am
Lessons and Carols

Wednesday 24 December
Carols on the Green
Tayvallich Green 4 pm
Watchnight Service
Tayvallich Church 11:15 pm

Thursday 25 December
Christmas Day Celebration
Bellanoch Church 11 am
Rev. C. Acklam
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

TARBERT LOCHFYN AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 21st December 2014
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Rev. Anne Melver

Friday 19th December
Rededication and Carol Service
Tarbert Church 7pm
Rev. Tommy Bryson

Watchnight Services
Wednesday 24th December
Tarbert Church 11.30pm
Kilberry Church 7pm
Rev. Tommy Bryson
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Telephone 01880 821012
Everyone very welcome
SC002622

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

Sunday 21 December 2014
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: Graham McLean "Emmanuel - God with us"
All Welcome



Highland Parish Church
SCO02493
Sunday 21st December
Fourth Sunday in Advent
Service will be led by Rev William Crossan in the Church
Badminton Club
The club is closed until Tuesday 6th January
P1-5 : 6.30 - 7.30pm
P6-7: 7.30 - 8.30pm
Everyone very welcome

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 21st December
Morning Service 11.15am
Choir items
Next Generation and Triple C
Nativity Play
Rev P Wallace
Wednesday 24th December
Watchnight Service 11.30pm
Thursday 25th December
"O Come let us adore Him"
Morning Worship 10.30am
A short service to celebrate Christmas Day
Rev P Wallace

The Salvation Army Campbeltown Corps
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
No morning meeting
4.30pm Family Carol Service
Lt. Mark Scoulding

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Jesus, He's the Reason for the Season!

Sunday 21st December
11.00am Christmas Family Service followed by lunch
4.00pm Lorne Campbell Court Christmas Service
Wednesday 24th December
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
Thursday 25th December
Christmas Day
11.00am Christmas Day Service
For details and other enquiries contact Pastor Ross Ferguson
01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646



LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER 2014
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
The service will feature a Nativity Play
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
SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER 2014
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311



George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 21st December
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Prof Bob Akroyd
2.30pm 'Jesus - Light of the World'
Christmas Carols and reflections on the Christmas story
Guest Speaker:
Rev Prof Bob Akroyd
All Welcome
There will be no Water of Life Café for the next three weeks. It will resume on
Wednesday 14th January
www.campbeltownfreechurch.com
Scottish Charity Number: SC009980



CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday 21st December
11.00 am
Christmas Family Service
A presentation by the Sunday school children
with Campbeltown Brass Ensemble followed by coffee & mince pies
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

Scottish Episcopal Churches

Christ Church
Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sundays
11.00 am Eucharist service
4th Sunday of the month 10am Mattins
& 11am Eucharist Service
Coffee & Cake follows the service
St Columba's, Paltolloch, nr Kilmartin
(SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month 9am Eucharist service
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Scottish Prayer Book
All Saints, Inveraray
(SC025646)
Saturdays 5.30pm Eucharist Service
Father Simon Mackenzie
Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran
01546 602315



Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 21st November
Fourth Sunday of Advent
10.45am Holy Communion
Thursday 25th December
Christmas Day
10.45am Holy Communion
All Welcome
Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH
LOCHGILPHEAD
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
ST KIERAN'S CAMPBELTOWN
Saturday 5pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome
(SC002876)

WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Services 21st December 2014 - all welcome!
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Morning Service in Cumlodden Church at 10 am (with Church Choir)
Annual Carol Service in Lochgair Church at 6.30 pm. (with Church Choir)
(Retiring Offerings for Salvation Army)
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Morning Service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
Christmas Eve Watchnight Services
Wednesday 24th December in Cumlodden Church at 11.30 pm in Inveraray Church at 11.30 pm
Christmas Day Service in Inveraray Church at 11 am

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 21st December
Lessons and Carols
Glassary 10am
Wednesday 24th December
Carols on the Green in Tayvallich 4pm
Wednesday 24th December
Watch Night Service in Kilmartin 11.30pm
Rev. C. Acklam
A new loop hearing system has been installed.
All welcome
SC0 02121

lochgilphead baptist church

All Welcome
Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 21st December 2014
Family Service 11.00am
Carols by Candlelight 6.30pm
mainly music
Tuesday at 10am
Also mainly families
Saturday 20th at 10am
Christmas Day Family Service
10.30am
Short service of celebration
Kids bring along your toys
No Jumpstart until 9th January
Scottish Charity SC015187

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT:
Tarbert 10.00am, located on School Road.
Lochgilphead 11.30am, located on Lochnell Street/Manse Brae
Sunday 21st 6.30pm Joint Community Carol Service
Tarbert Free Church
Minister: Rev. R Macleod
Prayer Time (fortnightly)
Mondays 1.15 - 1.45pm
Ladies Bible Study 2pm
Soup Lunch Monthly (last Thursday)
All welcome.



The motley crew from Loch Fyne SAC getting into the Xmas spirit.



Nikki Thompson with a Loch Etive Spurdog.

Christmas comes early for angler Nikki

CHRISTMAS came early for Ardrishaig angler Nikki Thompson when she lifted top honours at Loch Fyne SAC's annual Festive Sea Angling Competition held at

Loch Etive on Saturday. Six hardy souls braved the wintry weather for the Christmas Shield event, and although chilly, the sun did peek out with only a few seasonal

showers throughout the day. Fishing aboard the Laura Dawn II began with a very productive morning session with good sized spurs and quality whiting kicking off

the competition.

A quiet spell mid-way was followed by a busy afternoon with plenty of impressive whiting, a number of doubles, and lots of smaller

spurs making up a creditable tally of 120 fish for the day.

Top Rod for the Christmas competition was Nikki Thompson with 32 fish for 122 points. Runner-up Gary

Sinclair landed 26 fish to secure 90 points, followed by Robert MacBrayne with 19 and 80 points. The club's next league event is at Loch Etive in January.

Seconds out but big fight fails to go the distance

THE BUILD-up lasted for months, but it was over in less than two minutes.

The charity karate grudge match in Oban, featuring Argyll fighters Wullie Rodger and Robert Neil, ended in the first round on Saturday as Wullie won following four knockdowns.

Robert's efforts weren't in vain, however, as the bout at the Corran Halls raised £2,320 for Yorkhill Sick Children's Hospital, where his son underwent major heart surgery in 2011.

Both fighters were confident beforehand, with Wullie saying he would do his talking on the mat, and Robert saying he hoped the best man would win.

In the end, Wullie, who is former World United Martial Arts (WUMA) super heavyweight champion of Britain, was too big and strong for Robert, who was giving away a lot in weight difference.

Wullie said after the fight that he knew in his own mind he would win.

'He's not used to full-contact fighting which made the differ-



Wullie, who said before the fight he would 'do his talking on the mat', was pleased to raise the cash for Yorkhill.

16_t51karate02

ence because there's a big difference between the styles that we do,' he said.

'It's great that we have raised money for the hospital, which is the main thing, it's just a pity the fight didn't last longer for the crowd.'

Robert was magnanimous in defeat, saying: 'Congratulations to Wullie on a powerful and spectacular performance.'

'I was totally out-gunned by his impressive onslaught of combinations.'

'Although disappointed at not winning I had enjoyed myself thoroughly and I am pleased to have been part of this event.'

'Many thanks to the general public of Oban who attended to make it so successful.'

The £2,320 raised from ticket sales and donations was presented to Yorkhill Children's Charity on Monday.

Robert also thanked staff at the Corran Halls, referee Lisa Douglas, and everyone who made donations towards the event.



Referee Lisa Douglas raises Willie's hand in victory, after he knocked down Robert four times in the first round. 16_t51karate01



Inveraray jogscotland members on the run.

Jogscotland members praised at the annual prize giving

ATHLETES from Inveraray were recognised for commitment and talent at the town's jogscotland Christmas celebration.

Members braved the weather for a swift run before retreating to The George Hotel for the prize giving.

It was a triple success for Paul Honey, who won silverware for inspirational runner, marathon man and most likely to come out whatever the weather.

'Chat-run-chat'

Janet Riddoch also did well, picking up the 'chat-run-chat' prize and most likely to bring a friend.

Despite driving rain and wind continuing through the weekend, the group gathered in Inveraray for the jingle bells run on Sunday.

Young runners tackled the one-mile loop with enthusiasm, with Eilidh Cameron taking first place and Angus MacAskill coming second while their older counterparts took on a mud-dle three and a half mile route.

Inveraray jogscotland leader Fiona Corner said: 'The children were amazing in their support for each other, indeed for everyone running which really made the occasion. Thanks to Liz

Feeney and Becs Barker for the soup which was very much needed post run and to everyone for the sweet treats.'

Most improved

Awards: Personality of the year, Becs Baker; Inspirational runner, Paul Honey; inspirational leader, Jillian McCreery; Most improved, Margaret Breeze; Chat-run-chat, Janet Riddoch; Most likely to bring a friend, Janet Riddoch; Most likely to come out whatever the weather, Paul Honey.

The group will return for 2015 on Tuesday January 6 and Thursday January 8 at Inveraray School shelter shed.

Lottery funding welcomed for grassroots sports clubs

'Funding will ensure benefits of Commonwealth Games are felt for many years to come'

THREE sporting groups and events in Argyll and Bute have received grants totalling £4,571 from the Big Lottery Fund.

The 19th Argyll (Lochgilhead) Scout Group received a £1,000 award for an outdoor activity weekend at the Lochgoilhead National Scout Centre through the Communities programme.

Rothesay Academy received a £1,795 award to deliver various sports aimed at getting more high school students and members of the local community active, including: rugby, football, fitness, badminton, table tennis, athletics, softball and golf sessions.

Equipment
North Bute Primary School received a £1,776 award for

equipment for new after-school sports clubs.

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, welcomed the news.

He said: 'I congratulate the groups on obtaining funding from the Big Lottery Fund's 2014 Communities programme.'

'This year's Commonwealth Games was an amazing event for all of Scotland, with many people, young and old, participating and enjoying sport and physical fitness activities.'

'I'm pleased that a range of groups and organisations in my constituency will benefit from funds available as a result of the games.'

SAFL results and fixtures

LAST Saturday's results: West of Scotland Cup fourth round - Harestanes v Oban Saints postponed; Premier Division - Campbeltown Pupils 3, Busby 0; Premier Division Two - Centre v Lochgilhead Red Star postponed; Division 1B - Milton of Colquoun v Tarbert postponed.

The SAFL will now take a festive break with games starting again on Saturday January 10.



Members of Tarbert Gun Club enjoy the final shoot of the year

Tarbert Gun Club enjoy last competition of the year

SUNDAY saw Tarbert Gun Club hold the annual Christmas shoot - the last competition of 2014.

John Weir and Bob McColl took first place in the contest, with Andy Wilson and Ronald Jenkins in second and Peter Allison and Donald Nicolson coming third.

All names went into a hat and it was down to luck which shooters were paired together.

A simulated game shoot saw 20 driven pheasant and partridge and 24 pigeons released in batches of three and four to test the shooter's skills with poor weather making the competition more difficult.

Fifth
Fourth place went to Andrew and Lynn MacDonald with Stephen MacSporran and Mal Weaver in fifth.

Lottery numbers

THE KILMORY Camanachd Club lottery numbers were 8, 9 and 13 this week.

There were no winners. The jackpot for next week is £800.

THIS week's Tarbert football club lottery numbers were 5, 10 and 1. There were no winners. The jackpot for next week is £800.

The winners of the bonus lottery draws were: Blair Mackay - £100; Catriona Wilkieson - £100; Helen Crawford - £50; Margaret Johnson - £50.

THE LOTTERY numbers drawn at Inveraray Shinty Club this week were 11, 12 and 17. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £1,300 next week.

There will also be four bonus prizes of £50 available. Organisers have issued a special thanks to supporters.

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To allow for postage over the festive period spot the ball will run for the next 2 weeks. Winners will be announced in the issue dated 2nd January 2015

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2550

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
M MacKinnon
Dewar Avenue
Lochgilhead
I Anderson
Saddell Street
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 **12noon Tuesday 30th December**. 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.



WEEK 1 of 2

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

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

spot the
ball jackpot
now at
£2550!

Lottery funding
welcomed for
sports clubs
Christmas comes
early for angler Nikki

Hunter gets tables turned by Sinclairs

by David Sinclair

JIM Hunter is known for being an amateur magician within Lochgilphead Golf Club and brought some of his props to this week's club event.

His previous tricks include 'The incredible vanishing putter' (tossed it into the burn) and 'the incredible vanishing Jim which involves a helicopter'.

Ross Sinclair played well in difficult conditions but was so intent on beating Jim that he did not notice David Sinclair sneaking past him. David has learned a lot from his trips to Africa, he now knows how to do a lot with not very much - in this case getting a score with a faulty swing and poor balance.

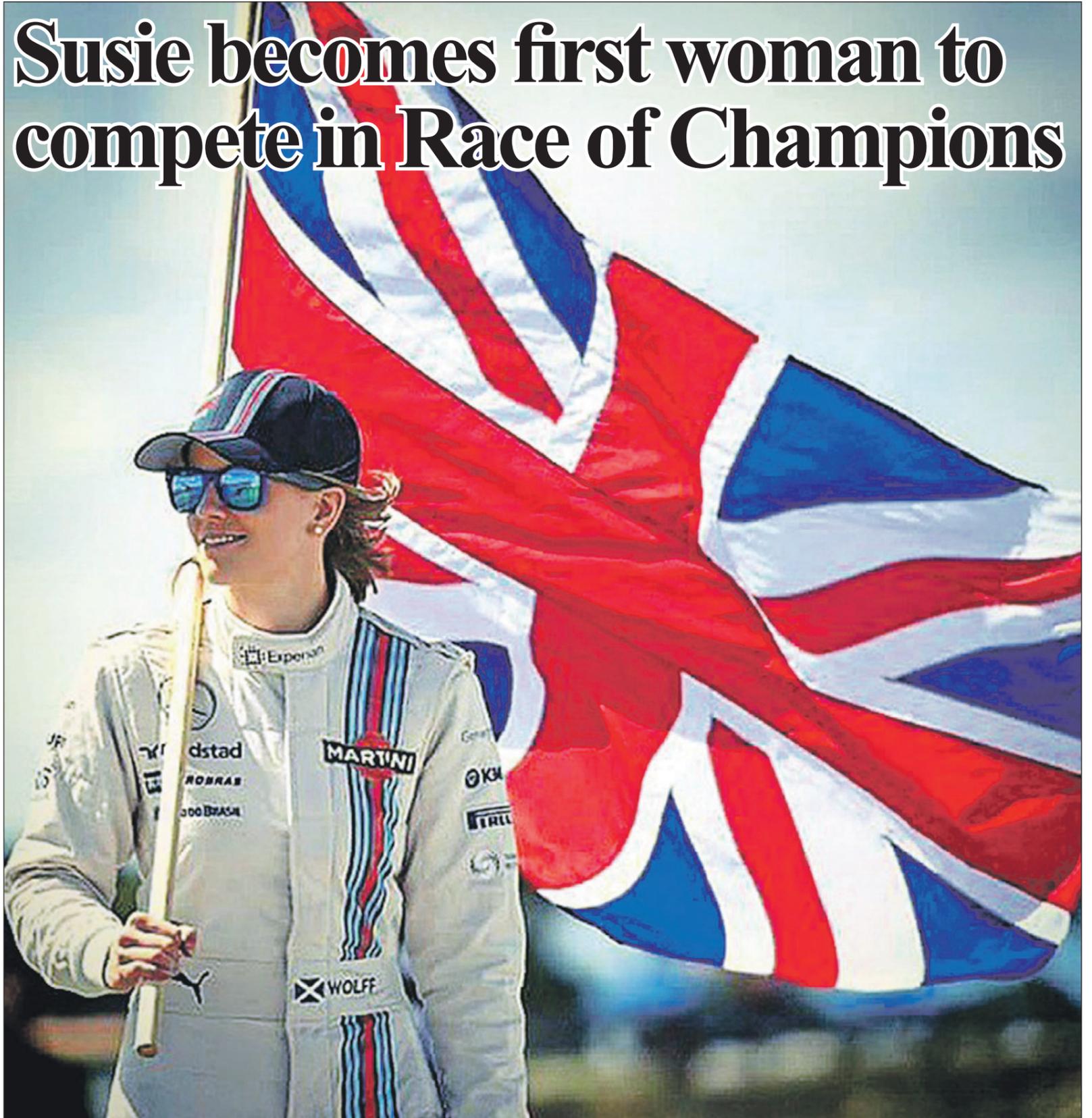
Meanwhile, Alec MacAulay has a golf swing that is a work of art

James Scott does not need a new swing for Christmas as his current one is starting to play ball.

Grant MacDougall was nearest the pin at the seventh hole and after a poor start he putt-ed well.

Results: 10 D Sinclair; 9 R Sinclair; 8 J Hunter; 7 A MacAulay; 6 J Scott; 5 J Carmichael; 4 G MacDougall; 3 K Cowan; 2 C Rowan

Susie becomes first woman to compete in Race of Champions



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O'BAN'S Susie Wolff helped Great Britain reach the final of this Race of Champions (ROC), as she became the first woman to compete in the event.

Retired

The all-Scottish team of Wolff and retired Formula 1 driver David Coulthard lost to Team Nordic's Le Mans legend Tom Kristensen and world rallycross champion Petter Solberg in

the final of the event last Saturday at Bushy Park race circuit in Barbados.

On a hot afternoon in the Caribbean, legends from many of the world's biggest motor sport series teamed up in pairs to battle for national pride.

Purpose-built

They raced a mix of cars - including the Ariel Atom Cup, Audi R8 LMS, Stadium Super Truck, VW Polo RX,

KTM X-Bow, ROC Car and Euro NASCAR - on a purpose-built parallel track at Bushy Park Barbados.

Before the racing the drivers unfurled a banner in conjunction with the institute for advanced research into brain and spinal cord injuries ICM in honour of ROC's absent friend Michael Schumacher as he continues his recovery from his skiing ac-

cident. Schumacher and fellow countryman Sebastian Vettel had previously won a record six consecutive ROC Nations Cup titles.

Dominating

The Scots had seen off host nation Barbados in the semi-final after dominating in the group stages.

They topped Group B with five wins out of six - three for Coulthard and two for Wolff.

The following day Coulthard won the individual event, defeating Mercedes driver Pascal Wehrlein in the final.

Susie Wolff represented Team GB in the Race of Champions, the first woman to do so.

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