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Season's greetings to all our readers and advertisers



Don't be alone - have a magic time this Christmas

THE TRUE spirit of Christmas is alive and well in Mid Argyll.

For the fourth year running, Lochgilphead will be hosting a Christmas day lunch so that no-one in Mid Argyll needs to be alone on the big day.

This year, the gathering will be held in the Red Cross Hall - and it promises to be the best yet. Organisers are particularly keen to see local musicians and magicians going along to entertain.

Co-ordinating the event is Lynda Syed, Mid Argyll project worker with the charity Argyll and Bute Third Sector Initiative.

Lynda said: 'The Christmas Day Gathering has now become an

annual event in the Mid Argyll calendar. Once again this year we have a great team of volunteers and are much clearer about what people really need.

'While the food plays an important part, it is the company of others, on what could otherwise prove a very lonely day, that really counts. We are much more aware now of the damage to health that loneliness and isolation can bring.

'There has been a lot more publicity than in the past. However, much of that publicity has focused solely on older people and, whilst they may be most at risk, being alone at Christmas is not confined

to the elderly. People find themselves alone for many different reasons - bereavement, poverty, lack of transport, distance, mental or physical conditions or working hours. Over the past three years, people of all ages have attended the gathering and we already know there will be a wide age range attending this year. Everyone is welcome

to join in. We want to create a real party atmosphere. Musicians and magicians are especially welcome.'

This year's lunch will be held in the Red Cross Hall on Union Street, Lochgilphead, between noon and 2pm. Transport is available within Mid Argyll. To book, contact lynda@argylltsi.org.uk or on 01546 606808.



Hitting the festive high notes

As Christmas excitement was building, Feorlin Renton, left, and Rosie Blyth were singing festive favourites last week in Inveraray ahead of the big day. Full story on page 7.

Our look back at 2017

DON'T miss part one of our month-by-month review of 2017.

Over two festive editions, we look back to some of the stories making the headlines in your *Argyllshire Advertiser* during the year.

Turn to pages 11 to 16 for a selection of stories from January to June. And look out for next week's edition when we reflect on an eventful second half of the year.

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Meeting plea to prevent 'rabbit-out-hat' budget

Colin Cameron

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A KINTYRE councillor has asked for a special meeting to discuss the impact of likely budget cuts on Mid Argyll and Kintyre.

At the December meeting of Mid Argyll,

Kintyre and the Islands (MAKI) area committee, Councillor Donald Kelly made the request to committee chairman Councillor Robin Currie.

Donald Kelly, supported by Argyll First member Dougie Phi-

land, proposes a special MAKI area committee meeting in late January or early February to discuss budget savings proposals.

Councillor Kelly said: 'This would be an opportunity for the current administration

to change its way of working and be open and transparent.

'It appears the previous administration's mentality still exists and we will see the usual pulling-rabbits-out-of-hats scenario come budget day.'

Councillor Currie responded: 'I have had a formal request from Councillor Kelly, supported by others, to have a special area committee to consider budget impacts for our area.

'I am now consid-

ering that request and will get back to Councillor Kelly as soon as possible.'

Argyll and Bute Council's budget is expected to be formally agreed at a full council meeting in mid February 2018.

Police files

Abusive behaviour

AT 3PM on Thursday December 14, in Glenfyne Park, Ardrihaig, following a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner, a 46-year-old man was arrested and charged. He was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

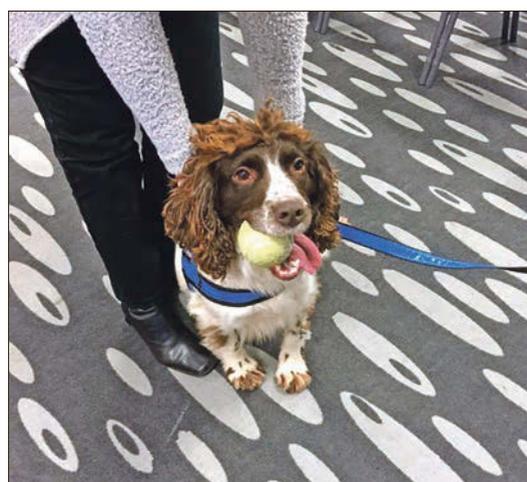
Man arrested on warrant

ON THURSDAY December 14 at 8.30pm, in Knapdale Terrace, Ardrihaig, a 39-year-old man was arrested on a court warrant.

During the incident, the man allegedly assaulted a police officer and behaved abusively. The man was arrested and charged with the offences and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Vehicle damaged

SOMETIME between Tuesday December 12 and Friday December 15, in Church Square, Inveraray, a silver Ford S Max car was scratched. Police are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



Police dog Heidi looks alert during the talk at Lochgilhead Joint Campus.

No hiding from Heidi at high school

A POLICE dog and her handler visited Lochgilhead High School on Thursday December 14.

Police Dog Heidi and PC Mitchell gave pupils a demonstration on how easily police dogs can recover drugs.

The dogs live at home with their handlers and are trained for specific purposes. Heidi is a specialist dog who has been trained extensive-

ly to ensure successful recovery of drugs and other material.

Acting principal

teacher for enterprise and achievement Mrs Fiona McBride did some brilliant acting

and had a substance planted on her by the police which Heidi soon discovered.



Pupils listen to the officers as they give a demonstration on how easily trained police dogs can recover drugs.

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Argyll and Bute Council

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

Mid Argyll

Refuse and recycling collections due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Friday 22nd December

Refuse and recycling collections due on Monday 1st January will instead be collected on Friday 29th December

Lingerton recycling and civic amenity site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January

Kintyre

Refuse collections due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Saturday 23rd December

Refuse collections due on Monday 1st January will instead be collected on Saturday 30th December

Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Monday 25th December will instead be collected on Thursday 28th December

Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Tuesday 26th December will instead be collected on Friday 29th December

Recycling collections by Kintyre Recycling due on Tuesday 2nd January will instead be collected on Thursday 4th January

The Roading recycling and civic amenity site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January

Information is also available from the Council website and from your local office.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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

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Tragedy on shores of Loch Lomond

TWO MEN who died in a fire at the Cameron House Hotel on the banks of Loch Lomond have been named.

Simon Midgley and Richard Dyson from London were staying at the hotel when fire tore through the main building in the early hours of Monday December 18.

Three adults and a baby were taken to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow, and later discharged. More than 200 guests were evacuated to the hotel's boat-house restaurant.

Hotel director Andy Rodger described the emergency services' response as 'heroic'.

He said: 'The very swift actions of the emergency services undoubtedly prevented further tragedy and I cannot begin to thank them for their bravery, compassion and professionalism.'



Fire rips through the Cameron House Hotel near Balloch as the sun rises on Monday morning.



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Newsdesk
01546 602345

Argyll charity chief resigns

THE CHIEF of an Argyll charity has resigned following an investigation by its board after 'one of the most challenging years' for its staff.

Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI) confirmed 'there have been ongoing investigations into some

aspects of the management and governance of the charity'.

A statement added: 'As the board of a charity and one funded by public money, we had a responsibility to ensure the findings of these investigations were comprehensively reviewed and, as a result,

Argyll and Bute TSI disciplinary procedures were instigated.

'In mid November, Ms Glenn Heritage resigned as chief executive officer by letter. The board, after taking human resources and legal advice, has accepted Ms Heritage's resignation.'

It is understood no financial irregularities have been found.

Advice

Argyll and Bute TSI provides a single point of access for support and advice for third sector groups in the area.

TSI chairman John Stevens said it had

been 'one of the most challenging years' for staff, adding: 'The fact most groups have not mentioned a change in delivery of our services is of great credit to every one of those staff members who continue the important work the TSI carries out across Argyll and Bute.'



Former TSI chief Glenn Heritage.

A selection of seasonal greetings



Provost Len Scoullar.

Argyll and Bute Provost, Len Scoullar

A FESTIVE greeting from Councillor Len Scoullar, provost of Argyll and Bute:

The Christmas season is with us once again and it is wonderful to see Argyll and Bute looking festive, colourful and vibrant.

Christmas is filled with family, friends, fun and festivities and New Year is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and look forward to next year with real excitement.

I am also aware that for many this time of year can be difficult and my thoughts are also with them. I know everyone is busy but I would ask you to please take some time to think about others.

As 2017 comes to an end, I wish everyone in Argyll and Bute a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.



Brendan O'Hara MP.
06_a13ohara01

Brendan O'Hara MP

IT IS traditional at this time of year to look back and reflect on the

past year. For me there have been highlights, retaining my seat after a bruising General Election campaign being one of them.

But there have also been lows. Too many are finding it hard to survive these tough economic times, particularly when many are also struggling with the additional burden of welfare reform.

What has struck me above all this year, however, is the essential part volunteers play across Argyll and Bute.

They may look after a friend or a relative, assist with the many groups making their town or village a better place or make sure the most vulnerable don't go hungry.

I'd like to wish all of those people in particu-

lar a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and say a huge thanks for everything you do.

Michael Russell MSP

AFTER what has been one of the most confusing years on record - Brexit, Donald Trump, an unnecessary election and a non-summer weather-wise - though there were more tourists about in Argyll and

Bute than ever before, it is a saving grace that most of us can take a deep breath, wind down and look forward to a peaceful festive season with friends and family.

I wish a very happy Christmas to everyone in the area but particularly to those who will be lonely or facing hardship even at this special time. May there be something good awaiting you as well and for all of us

may there be a more caring, more considerate, more inclusive and more prosperous new year ahead.



Michael Russell MSP.
06_a18hustings_russell01



2018 Single and Family Golf Memberships are now available. All memberships include the use of the driving range and your 2018 SGU Dues.

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Contact the Golf House at 01586 810 058 for further information.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM McIVORS CAMPBELTOWN

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers for taking the time to shop locally and for supporting our family business throughout 2017.

There is still time to deck your halls and arrange gifts for loved ones so we welcome you to visit the shop on Longrow Campbeltown, or give us a jingle on 01586 552386.

We have a range of beautiful Christmas trees, handmade holly wreaths, floral arrangements, hampers and a host of festive gifts to ensure your festive season is full of cheer.



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Christmas at Ardfenaig

ARDFENAIG Care Home residents were treated to some Christmas songs and gingerbread - thanks to little ones from Riverside Rascals nursery.

Santa

Residents clapped along as children sang about all things festive,

Santa getting stuck in the chimney to mince pies.

Santa Claus managed to take time out from an extremely busy schedule to make an appearance, gifting the kids with sweets and stickers for their great performances and good behaviour.



Residents enjoying singing some Christmas carols with the children. 08_a51ardfenaig11



Rudolph (Jean McPhee) also appeared at Ardfenaig. 08_a51ardfenaig09



The residents watch the children as they excitedly sit around Santa. 08_a51ardfenaig03



Nursery director Jean McPhee cosies up to Santa Claus. 08_a51ardfenaig02



Wee Lily Galloway in her Christmas jumper. 08_a51ardfenaig10



The children spot Santa making his appearance. 08_a51ardfenaig08



Two children with Christmas props. 08_a51ardfenaig04



Santa double checks if Harris and Harry have been well behaved this year. 08_a51ardfenaig07



Jodie Cook, aged four, poses for a 'selfie' with Santa. 08_a51ardfenaig01

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WEDDING



RONALD - CONLEY

Archie Ronald to Sandra Conley, at the Highland Parish Church, Campbeltown, on June 24, 2017. A magical day.

GRADUATION

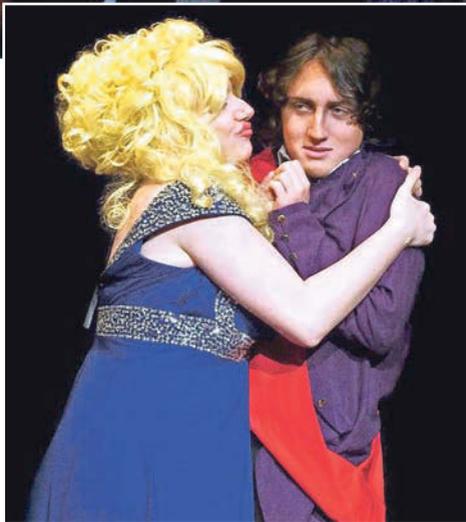


DELORES FIRTH

Graduated with an MA in Child Education at Derby University in November of this year. Mrs Firth lives in Achahoish and is currently Head Teacher at Achahoish Primary School.



Cinderella has them in hysterics



One of Cinderella's step-sisters tries to flatter the young Prince Charming, played by Jock Spencer. Photograph: Steve Carter.

The cast of Acting Up Argyll's performance of Cinderella. Photograph: Steve Carter.

ACTING Up Argyll's performances of Cinderella ensured audience members left Ardrishaig's public hall with a smile.

All the characters put in a stellar performance across two days, giving everyone across Mid Argyll the opportunity to witness the much-loved Christmas show.

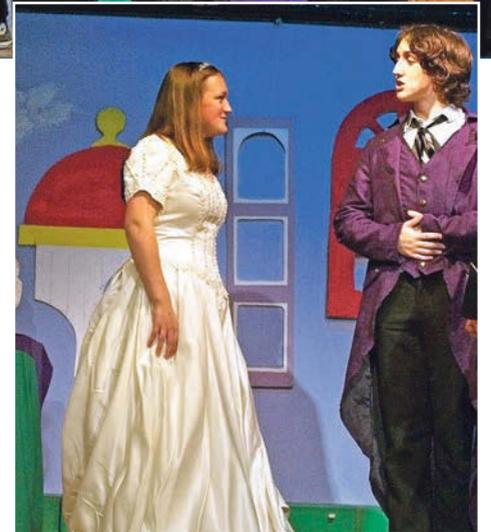
The show kicked off last Friday, December 15, at 7pm with a matinee and evening performance on Saturday December 16.

More than 100 hours of rehearsal time ensured the show ran smoothly, with organisers praising the young people, who organised the event

with little adult involvement. The youngsters were also involved in funding the production, asking local businesses if they wished to donate and have their name in the programme.

Becs Barker of Minard said: 'The audience was entertained during three performances of a cracking show. What is truly impressive is that Acting Up is a club run by the young people themselves with very little adult involvement, showing they can be responsible, productive and have fun at the same time.'

'These young people are a credit to our community.'



Cinderella (Catherine Hubbard) and her Prince Charming (Jock Spencer) are reunited at long last. Photograph: Steve Carter.

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Editorial

Festive friendship

IT'S CHRISTMAS and - for all the festive cheer to a never-ending playlist of 'Last Christmas' and 'Santa Baby' - it can be a difficult time for many people.

Loneliness can be particularly raw over Christmas and New Year. The annual Christmas Gathering organised by our own local charities is a great way of offering people the chance - if they feel like it - to meet up, have a laugh, a slice of turkey and a mince pie with a bit of entertainment thrown in.

As the organisers of this worthwhile event point out, loneliness knows no age, gender or social barriers and can affect anyone.

Well done to everyone involved, and we hope it turns out to be a great Christmas afternoon.

Season's greetings

IN THIS week's leader column we are not, as we occasionally do, greetin' about issues of the day.

Rather, everyone at the *Argyllshire Advertiser* wishes our loyal readers season's greetings. Have a very peaceful and happy Christmas and we'll see you in time for New Year.

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In defence of the NHS

Sir,
In reply to the letter published in the *Argyllshire Advertiser* on Friday November 24 criticising the local GP practice, I want to write in its defence.

The Americans, Australians, Canadians, French, Italians and others are all proud of their countries and achievements. Why are we so unappreciative and critical of our achievements, especially the NHS? The NHS is not perfect, but it is also abused and under appreciated by some patients.

During my life I have had the 'misfortune' to need treatment from several departments of the NHS and my care in each case has been very good - care which was carried out by hard working, caring, well trained staff. I have recently been diagnosed with cancer and unlike Councillor Redman's doom and gloom description of the NHS, my diagnosis and treatment was fast and efficient.

The care and attention I have had locally has been exemplary and I cannot praise them highly enough. They have, without exception, gone above and beyond the call of duty in their treatment of me.

We do not appreciate our NHS enough and as far as I am concerned the new system works.

Name and address supplied.

Fish farm credit due on all sides

Sir,
I welcome the decision by Kames Fish Farming Ltd not to pursue its application for a 12-cage fish farm in the Sound of Jura.

I have supported the campaign by local residents against the proposal, which was widely seen to be untenable as a result of the environmental, marine and geographic features of the site.

I think the company has

been wise and responsible in concluding that the latest environmental evidence, brought forward by SEPA, suggests that permission would not have been granted for this site and withdrawing their plans in the light of that evidence.

I wrote to Fergus Ewing, the relevant government minister, at the very outset raising serious questions about the proposals and they have never been satisfactorily answered by the company.

The community - particularly through the Friends of the Sound of Jura - has campaigned with vigour and intelligence. Credit is due on all sides, both to those local residents and individuals from further afield who have been proved right about this particular site and to the company for avoiding a long, drawn-out and acrimonious formal planning process that would inevitably have ended in bad feelings on one side or the other.

I am certainly not against aquaculture, having had ministerial responsibility for it when I held the environment post, but not all sites are suitable and establishing a fish farm in a Marine Protected Area seems to me - and many others - a particularly bad and unacceptable idea.

Michael Russell MSP.

RBS closure 'cynical'

Sir,
I am calling on the Westminster government to step in and stop the proposed closure of 62 Royal Bank of Scotland branches, and have already called on the chief executive of the RBS to revisit the decision.

These closures will have a devastating impact on all of Scotland but especially in the Highlands and Islands where 13 of these branches are earmarked for closure.

The reasons used in justification are cynical. We have the worst broadband in Scotland, and indeed in

the UK, and therefore the ability to bank online is a distant dream rather than a reality.

While we rightly concentrate on service provision, we must not forget the staff who work in these branches. They are losing their jobs and the distance they would have to travel to alternative branches will make relocation impossible. Neither do they have a hope of gaining a similar job in these rural communities, where jobs are scarce.

These are closures being directed by the bank that we bailed out - the people making these decisions owe their own jobs to the communities they are now riding roughshod over. This bank belongs to the people and the bank must make the people its priority.

The Westminster government could intervene to stop this on behalf of all us, the shareholders. They must - because it was they who changed the way pensions were paid forcing people to put their pension straight into their bank account and now, because of that, they will be unable to access it.

Rhoda Grant,
Highlands and Islands Labour MSP.

Proud of youngsters

Sir,
We should be very proud of the young people of Mid Argyll, especially those that worked together to produce and perform the Acting Up's version of Cinderella.

The audience was entertained during three performances of a cracking show. I still have a sore throat from the laughing, singing and shouting 'it's behind you'!

What is truly impressive is that Acting Up is a club run by the young people themselves with very little adult involvement, showing that they can be responsible, productive and have fun at the same time. Not

only did they give us fantastic entertainment, they put in over 100 hours of rehearsal time.

These young people are a credit to our community and should be congratulated on what they have achieved.

I can't wait for the next show - well done!

Becs Barker,
Minard.

Scots most taxed

Sir,
Despite the SNP manifesto promise not to increase taxes on basic rate payers, the SNP recently voted against that manifesto in support of higher taxes on ordinary workers.

Three of the four positions in the SNP's tax paper would hit basic rate payers with higher taxes. Two of these approaches would see tax increase on everyone earning over £24,000 and another on everyone earning over £27,000.

It's clear that business and the public do not support higher taxes that would damage our economy. A Federation of Small Business survey found that 79 per cent of business owners do not want higher income tax in Scotland and a Survival poll found that only 22 per cent of respondents would support higher taxes.

In contrast, since 2010 Conservative-led governments have cut income tax by £1,005 for basic rate payers in Scotland. Since 2010/11 the personal allowance has increased from £6,475 to £11,500 in 2017/18.

The SNP government's own analysis found that increasing the additional rate of tax could result in lower revenues. The paper suggested that a 5p rise would lose £24 million under a high behavioural response model.

The SNP government's block grant will be protected in real terms next year - so any cuts they make are out of choice rather than necessity. The Scottish Government's budget will

increase by £479 million in 2018/19 - a 0.1 per cent increase in real terms.

Even the most radical of the SNP's tax policies would only increase income tax revenue by two per cent. Approach three would raise taxes on half of all taxpayers but raise only £255 million in additional public spending. The Scottish Government's draft budget 2017/18 projected income tax receipts of £12.3 billion in 2018/19.

Now only the Scottish Conservatives are on the side of the majority of the Scottish people. The SNP has no democratic mandate to impose austere tax rises on low and middle earners in Scotland.

Councillor
Alastair Redman,
Islay.

Missing painting

Sir,
I wonder if I could put a question to your readers to try to get a lead on the following situation.

Does anyone remember seeing a powerful painting called 'Comrades' when it hung in Minard Hall in the 1930s and 1940s?

It was one of the military paintings by the Scottish artist Robert Gibb (1845 - 1932) and possibly his most famous work.

The painting features a group of three Napoleonic soldiers in the foreground with a young man whispering his dying message to a comrade in the snowy wastes of the Crimean winter, all the while guarded by a Highland soldier.

It may have been relocated when the hall changed ownership. Any information is welcome and particularly by the Black Watch castle and museum, Perth.

Kind regards,
Una Cochrane,
Edinburgh

If you can help find the painting, contact the *Argyllshire Advertiser* by emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk or calling 01546 602345.

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

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

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



Carolling on the green at Inveraray



Making music along Inveraray's Main Street.

INVERARAY was alive with the sound of Christmas carols.

Young and not-so-young, the carollers gathered at the Christmas tree on the front green on the afternoon of Sunday December 17.

The multi-talented Stuart Liddell - also one of the best pipers in the world and a useful drummer - accompanied the singers on the accordion and then it

was off to the Inveraray senior citizens' lunch to perform a wee medley.

Next it was across to the George Hotel, over to the Loch Fyne Hotel and around the town.

Thanks

Margaret Renton, of Inveraray Youth Project, said: 'Special thanks to Pamela Spalding for helping organise today's carol

singing and to Kenny Stark for compiling song sheets. Last but not least, our musical maestro Stuart Liddell for accompanying us on the accordion.'

The carol singers raised £289.74 for Inveraray Youth Project.

Margaret concluded: 'Inveraray Youth Project wishes everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.'



Mother and daughter Laura Blyth and Lynda McCulloch in good voice.



Pamela Spalding with accordionist for the day Stuart Liddell.



Above: All the singers getting ready to head to the senior citizens lunch to perform a medley before lunch.

Left: Entertaining in the George Hotel.



The singers give it festive laldy on the front green.

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Lochgilphead school show a festive success

LOCHGILPHEAD High School brought some Christmas cheer to the joint campus with its annual Christmas concert.

Pupils from S1 and above showcased their musical talents, with Eve Maxwell and Holly Renton singing hot off the heels of performances in the Mid Argyll Musical Society's Wizard of Oz.

Holly sang Harry Styles' hit single 'Sign of the Times' with Tiegan

Holyroyd. The pair performed at Inveraray's Best of the West festival earlier this year.

Head boy James Urquhart also played Christmas tunes on a number of instruments he had picked up for the first time last week.

The hall was filled with pupils, parents and staff who also joined in the festive fun singing carols 'Once in Royal David's City' and 'Rocking Around the Christmas Tree'.



Pupils and teachers accompany the audience singing 'Once in Royal David's City'. 08_a51LGHschoolshow05



Lochgilphead Pipe Band with their tutor, world champion piper Stuart Liddell. 08_a51LGHschoolshow03



Eve Maxwell and Holly Renton singing at the school concert. 08_a51LGHschoolshow07



Dance group Fusion perform 'December'. 08_a51LGHschoolshow01



Members of Mid Argyll Pipe Band leave the hall following their performance. 08_a51LGHschoolshow04



Award winning singer Eve Maxwell sang 'Du bist die Ruh' at the concert. 08_a51LGHschoolshow02

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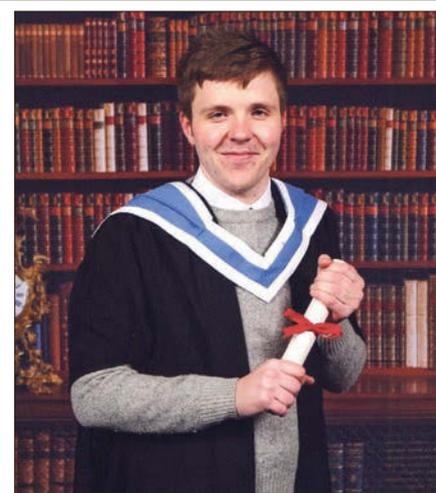
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GRADUATIONS



Stuart Robert James Crossan graduated with HND Coaching and Developing Sport from Glasgow Clyde College. Stuart is the son of Arthur and Anne, and grandson of the late James and Carol Crossan, Campbeltown, and Margaret (Meadowpark, Campbeltown) and the late Robert McSparran, both formerly of Kildavie Farm, Southend. Stuart has taken up a post at St Phillips School, Airdrie, North Lanarkshire.



Cameron Alexander Willis graduated recently from the University of Strathclyde with a Master of Letters Degree in Digital Journalism. Cameron is the middle son of Val and Jackie Willis, who wish him continued success in his new position of Online Digital Marketing Executive for Edinburgh-based craft drinks firm, Flavourly.

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Roadshows help 'sharpen' union's priorities on Brexit

NFU Scotland says it has sharpened its focus on key Brexit priorities after a 'hugely successful' series of roadshows across Scotland in November.

Feedback from the workshops at the 12 Brexit events is in addition to discussions at ongoing branch AGMs round the country and the NFU Scotland autumn conference held at the end of October.

The objectives of the roadshows were to set out the current Brexit process, make clear NFU Scotland's continuous lobbying priorities, check those priorities with the membership and accelerate the enrolment of members in the development of potential future support options.

The first major opportunity to influence will come in early 2018 when the UK govern-



Andrew McCornick called for a seasonal agricultural workers scheme.

ment is expected to publish an agriculture White Paper ahead of draft legislation.

NFU Scotland president Andrew McCornick said: 'Next year will present a host of challenges in securing the best Brexit deal possible for farmers and crofters but their valuable engagement

in the past few months has only strengthened our resolve and focused our priorities.

'A real change in mindset was evident at all the Brexit roadshows. Members across Scotland appreciate that change is inevitable. More importantly, members backed NFU Scot-

land's intent and commitment to initiate and influence the many changes that the industry faces. Our engagement with politicians at UK and Scottish government level has never been higher and that will build as we enter 2018.

'There was clear support from members for the NFU Scotland vision set out in our CHANGE document, launched at the Highland Show and agreement that the opportunity exists to develop a prosperous future for Scottish agriculture.

'There was overwhelming recognition that future support must incentivise action and that, beyond the CAP, there should be a clear departure from area-based payments that have often resulted in inertia, thwarted innovation and stifled

restructuring. While budget challenges were recognised, all agreed that NFU Scotland must press for an adequately-funded, fairly-allocated and ring-fenced budget for future agricultural and rural development support in Scotland.

'The clear majority also backed the development of a commonly agreed regulatory framework for UK-wide standards, if only to preserve the functioning of the UK internal market.

'And it was supported without dissent that there must be fully devolved delivery of schemes and measures that fit Scotland's needs.

'While significant uncertainty surrounds what a transition period might mean or involve, there was a clear view that any sort of

'cliff edge' must be avoided – especially in the absence of certainty over the future operating environment of Scottish agriculture.

'The clear majority backed the union's calls for friction-free trade and the protection of Scottish provenance. There were significant concerns over the potential of cheaper imports, produced under very different cost structures, that could displace Scottish products in domestic markets. There was also a lack of belief in the UK and/or Scotland's ability to develop new export opportunities through new trade deals, making our job in influencing trade talks in the year ahead absolutely vital.

'There was a clear view that success should be built on the provenance of farming,

food and drink, and the story behind the very high animal health and welfare and environmental standards adhered to by Scotland's farmers and crofters.

'The unanimous opinion was that Scottish agriculture, and the food processing sector, must have continued access to skilled and competent labour. While this is a very real and present threat to certain high value sectors, it was agreed by all that Scotland's farming, food and drinks industry is wholly dependent on on-farm and off-farm, seasonal and permanent labour from the EU and beyond.

'Action must be taken sooner to resolve many current labour issues through, for example, a revised seasonal agricultural workers scheme.'

A trouble shared is a trouble halved - farmers urged 'Don't wrap up'

RURAL organisations and the Scottish Government are joining forces to promote an important message to farmers - 'don't wrap up' this Christmas.

The campaign is looking to highlight mental health rates in rural Scotland, what the signs of mental illness can be and the different ways to offer support.

Christmas, in particular, can be a hard time of year for many farmers, and with the cold weather, short days, seeing everyone else get time off while they still have to work, it can all add up.

That is why the 'Don't Wrap Up' campaign is asking farmers, and those close to them who might be suffering, to open up and speak about their prob-

lems; a trouble shared is a trouble halved. Throughout the week, December 18 to 22, National Farmers Union Scotland, rural support charity RSABI, the Scottish Government and other farming groups have been sharing and re-sharing social media content to get the word out on where someone can go if they do need help this winter.

NFU Scotland vice president Gary Mitchell is backing the campaign and commented: 'Depending on your circumstances, any time of the year can be hard but in farming there are a number of factors that can present a risk to mental health at the year end.

'A bad autumn and winter can have long-lasting effects to a

farm's success, not to mention the other financial costs associated with Christmas. It can often be hard to see many people take time off at Christmas when you do a job that requires you to be there every day of the year, sometimes in the biting cold or pouring rain.

'If you think someone close to you may hurt themselves, you must speak to them straight away and ask them directly. Asking them directly if they need help can only make things better. Often an initial offer of support can make the world of difference. Seeking support from one of the many organisations who can offer professional advice can help you both deal with the issue in a supportive way.



Arran farmers enjoy tales from the life of Councillor John Armour.

John is main attraction on Arran

WELL-KNOWN Kintyre farmer and Argyll and Bute councillor John Armour was guest speaker at the annual general meeting of Arran's branch of the NFUS in December.

Ricky McMaster

stood down as branch chairman after two years, with his brother Jimmy taking over as chairman. Charlie McAllister stepped up as vice chairman.

The branch also appointed three younger members as New Gen-

eration group monitors. After an excellent steak pie supper, members heard from Mr Armour, who spoke of his time as a farmer, councillor and as a volunteer radio host on the Argyll FM farming programme.

No such thing as the Grinch at Lochgilphead Primary School



Above: A group of 'sheep' perform in the nativity.



Left: A robot even got in on the Christmas performance.

LOCHGILPHEAD Primary School year groups held their school shows last week.

Primary six and seven performed 'Mr Humbug Sees the Light' and primary one and pre-five staged their nativity, 'The Sleepy Shepherd'.

Family and friends were present to join the festive fun. The school thanks everyone involved and says 'well done' to all pupils and staff.



Left: Santa made an appearance in the primary six and seven performance of 'Mr Humbug Sees the Light'.



A few of the little ones dressed up as angels.



P1s and pre-five pupils as shepherds and angels.

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Jack gets a cuddle from owner Joan as he recovers from his three-day ordeal. 06_a01jack02

Blind collie Jack's ordeal in forest ends in Hogmanay delight

JACK, a blind collie estimated to be 16-years-old, was found safe after a three-night ordeal alone in a forest, and in horrible weather.

The former sheepdog became lost in woods near his Lochgair home.

After a lot of searching and an 'unbelievable response' on social media, Jack was spotted and picked up by a passing motorist just before midnight on Hogmanay.

Stalwart and TV star recognised

ONE OF the best-loved figures in Argyll farming circles was stunned to be given the first 'stalwart' award.

Sybil, who farms near Dalmally with husband George and is a longstanding advocate of hill farming, also appeared on the first series of BBC series *This Farming Life*.

The Argyll and the Isles Stalwart quaich was introduced by NFU Scotland members in memory of Mull farmers Bert Leitch and Lachlan Maclean, who died in 2015.

Sybil said: 'I knew Bert and Lachlan so well and this means so much to me.'



Sybil proudly holds her stalwart quaich. 06_a03sybil02



Alison Hutchins pictured at the proposed site. 06_a04cairndow03

Exciting times for Cairndow childcare

PLANS forged ahead for a new community childcare centre for Cairndow.

Registered charity Cairndow Community Childcare Ltd had plans to build purpose-built premises at a site near the Tree Shop at Clachan at a cost of around £1.9 million.

In January news arrived that the Scottish Land Fund had granted £37,000 towards buying the land. The next step would be a decision – due in February – by the Big Lottery on a funding bid towards the cost of the new build.

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Sanjay takes the reins

INVERARAY Pharmacy's new owner was announced as Glasgow restaurateur and pharmacist Sanjay Majhu.

Mr Majhu became known as the curry king of Scotland as chief executive of the Glasgow-based Harlequin Leisure Group, with 12 restaurants in the company portfolio.

Away from the restaurant business, he trained as a pharmacist and opened up a chain known as Apple Pharmacies.

Seeking a new challenge, Mr Majhu spotted that Inveraray Pharmacy was on the market and snapped it up, before taking on Tarbert's pharmacy later in the year.



Sanjay Majhu, the new owner of Inveraray and Tarbert pharmacies. 07_a05invpharm01



Aileen's mum Margaret MacDougall sells raffle tickets with hard working helper Eilidh Graham. 06_a06bloodwise04

A bubbly afternoon for charity

PEOPLE came from far and wide to support two causes close to the heart of a Lochgilphead woman.

Now settled in Edinburgh, Aileen Lamb is an ambassador for Bloodwise, a charity supporting people with blood cancers including leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma.

Aileen, 44, arranged the Prosecco afternoon tea to raise cash for Bloodwise, and for Maggie's Centres.

A grand total of £1,330 was raised at the event, which was a hit with many across the region.

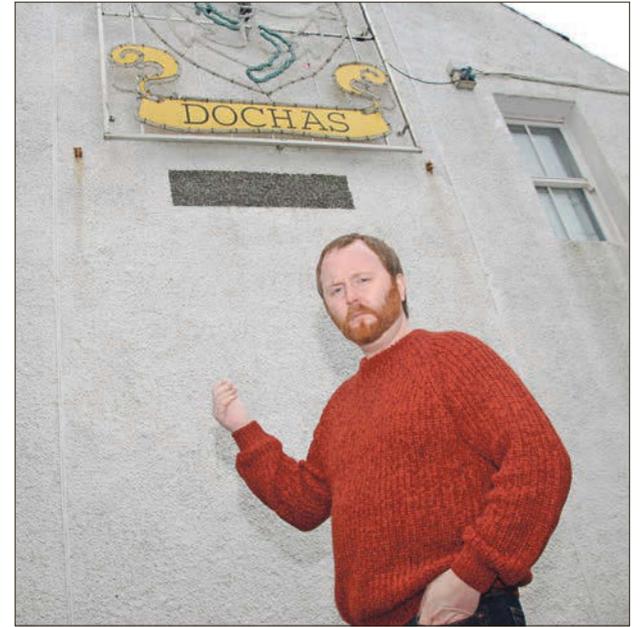
Speaking our language

A GLASGOW man was in the news as he set out to save the native tongue of Argyll.

Gaelic consultant, tutor, translator and singer-songwriter Àdhamh O'Broin, aged 37, wants to revive the embers of the Gaelic language spoken in Mid Argyll and Cowal until not so long ago.

The self-taught Dalriada Gaelic speaker has brought up his three children to speak the language.

Find out more on the www.dalriada.scot website or via Facebook and Twitter.



Hope for Argyll Gaelic – Àdhamh hit the headlines in May. 06_a06Gaelic03

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L-R Helen Rhodick, Betty Rhodick, Mandy Awcott, Sophie MacIver, Jan Williams and Linda Tighe. 06_a10Rural06

Coffee, cakes and competition at Mid Argyll SWI

MID ARGYLL SWI group met at Lochgilphead Parish Church where judges Mavis Yuill of Kilmartin and Lochgilphead's Pat Cairns had the difficult job of choosing winners.

Lochgilphead SWI won the embroidery competition. Ford institute was the winner of the silver salver competition for three types of savoury biscuit, with Jean McIvor of Kilmichael Glassary taking home the marmalade award for her orange, lemon and red grapefruit preserve.

Arctic penguin sets sail

AFTER more than two decades as a fixture at Inveraray Pier, the Arctic Penguin ship moved on to a new home in the south.

Built in 1910, the 400-tonne steel hulled schooner arrived at the pier in 1995, and became an established maritime museum.

With the museum shut some years ago, Viscount Christopher Wright acquired the ship. On a fine clear morning on March 25 he supervised proceedings as she slowly left Inveraray Pier after 22 years, bound for repair work at Barrow on Furness.



The schooner heads down Loch Fyne to her new home in the south. a13arcticpenguin06



Joachim Brolly.

Police search for missing man

FORD man Joachim Brolly disappeared this month. He was last seen on Thursday March 9 at around 3pm getting into a boat at Torran Bay Hostel at the southern end of Loch Awe.

Specialist sonar equipment was drafted in by police to assist in the search, but the 59-year-old has never been found.

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Surfer thanks miracle rescue heroes

A SURFER picked up 13 miles off the Kintyre coast after more than 30 hours adrift thanked his rescuers for saving his life.

Matthew Bryce, aged 22 and from Airdrie, was reported missing by his family after he failed to return from a surfing trip to Westport beach in Kintyre the previous day.

A coastguard rescue team located him drifting in open waters between Kintyre and Rathlin Island before he was airlifted to hospital in Belfast.

Mr Bryce said in a statement released by the hospital: 'I am so grateful that I am now receiving treatment in hospital. I cannot thank those enough who rescued and cared for me. They are all heroes.'



Matthew Bryce on *This Morning* with Philip Schofield, Holly Willoughby and the crew who saved him.



New deputy manager, Leanne. 06_a18macpool03

New deputy manager at MACPool

MID ARGYLL Community Pool (MACPool) in Lochgilphead appointed a new deputy manager.

After two years working at the pool as a duty manager, life guard and swim teacher, 24-year-old Leanne Williams took on the management role.

Leanne, from Ardrishaig, was studying for an SVQ level three qualification in leisure management. In her new role she will oversee the duty manager, lifeguard and swim teacher teams, arrange training and keep staff qualifications up to date, as well as looking after the running of the MACPool office, swim shop and reception.

MACPool manager Graham Love said: 'Leanne is a very good appointment. She has worked her way up over the past two years and knows the various jobs that our staff do, having done them herself.'

Mark is wild about Argyll

ENDURANCE cyclist Mark Beaumont was 'Wild About Argyll' on day eight of his Around Britain training ride.

Mark stopped for a flying visit during his epic cycling tour around the coastline of Britain, a warm up to his World Cycle challenge.

Having started the day in Dumfries and Galloway, he travelled to Argyll from Gourock and headed west to Portavadie, over to Tarbert, across to Kilberry before heading north again on the A83 to Oban.

Along the way he passed some of Argyll's most scenic locations which featured in his well-known Wild About Argyll challenge.



Mark takes a pit stop in Tarbert on the eighth day of his British cycle.

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The fire heading towards the A83. 06_a19furnacefire03

Forest blaze threatens Furnace

RESIDENTS in Furnace had a close shave as a forest fire raged in the hills above the village on the slopes of Dun Leacainn.

A total of four fire crews tackled the blaze, which worked its way quickly through a young conifer plantation, reaching the roadside verges of the A83.

At its height the blaze was around a mile wide.

Police Scotland later confirmed that a man had been charged in connection with the incident.

Cash splash for Mid Argyll Dolphins

YOUNG swimmers donated a four-figure sum to two local organisations after completing a mammoth swimathon.

The Mid Argyll Dolphins pushed themselves to the edge of exhaustion in a gruelling timed endurance challenge as they raised £2,860 for the MACPool and the MS Centre in Lochgilphead.

The cash would support the recently installed biomass heating system at the swimming pool, while the MS Centre would use the money to start a new chair-based exercise class for people with long-term conditions.



Dolphins captains Ruby Bosomworth and Lorne Barrie present the fundraising total alongside Graham Love (far left) and MS Centre manager Karen McCurry (far right).

08_a20swimathon01



Piper Christopher McCartan (left) and Fraser Bell (right) with members of the Lochgair Association.

08_a20lochgairbridge02

Lochgair gets reconnected

RESIDENTS of Lochgair were able to safely cross Eas Dubh burn once again after the opening of a new bridge.

With the help of funding from the A Chruach Community Fund, the Lochgair Association opened the new bridge, accompanied by piper Christopher McCartan.

Fraser Bell, whose grandfather built the original bridge more than 60 years ago, cut the ceremonial red ribbon and declared the new bridge officially open.

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January 2017**

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

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

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Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

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www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Lochgilthead's parade of pride

LOCHGILPHEAD'S Armed Forces Day parade brightened a grey day in June.

Current and former service personnel and youth groups joined forces to pay tribute to those who are serving or have done so.

Armed Forces day was established to offer the chance to show support for the men and women who make up the armed forces community – from currently serving troops to service families, veterans and cadets.

The Lochgilthead event remains the only one of its kind in Argyll and Bute.



Corporal Mark Wilkinson shares a moment in Lochgilthead with Lance Corporal Cruachan IV, mascot of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. 08_a2armedforces21



Dinah and trust scooter Nerys on the home stretch. F19 Dina Bosomworth-01

Dinah scoots for mental health

ORMSARY'S Dinah Bosomworth completed a gruelling 500-mile push scooter ride around the Western Isles to raise money for the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH).

Raising a total of £4,861, Dinah set off on her journey from Oban in late April.

Dinah said: 'Mental health problems effect everyone. I want to help remove the stigma surrounding mental health issues, especially in rural areas, and let people know it is alright to talk about it.'

Smiles at Tarbert Seafood Festival

TARBERT is enjoying a deserved reputation as the festival capital of Argyll, and this year's seafood festival defied the wet weather with some delicious local food on offer.

Seafood festival Queen Jacquelyn Clark, along with princesses Beth Johnstone and Robyn MacFie smiled their way in the drizzle. The big festival procession was led by Mid Argyll Pipe Band, with this year's parade theme being 'nursery rhymes'.



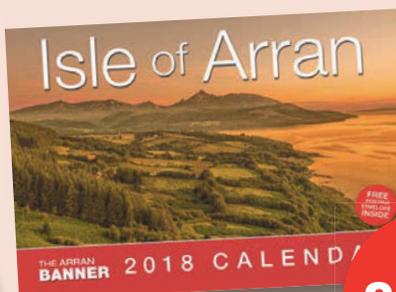
Seafood Festival Princess Beth Johnstone, Festival Queen Jacquelyn Clark and Princess Robyn MacFie. 06_a27TarbSeafood19

Don't miss the second part of our review of 2017 in next week's edition.

Scottish Calendars 2018 *The ideal gift...*



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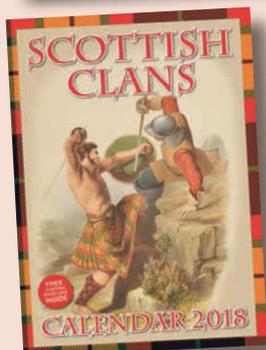
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Enjoy Scotland at its best all year round with our selection of stunning calendars.

Featuring the breathtaking landscapes and diverse architecture from around Scotland.

We also have a Scottish Clans Calendar, featuring illustrations by R.R. McIan.

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To see all the images from our 2018 range visit:

www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

Roys Taxis

Tel: 01586 554625

Wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
We wish you lots of parties
With good food and lots of beer
We wish you great times
With your family and friends
And hope that your good luck
Has never an end
We wish you are smart
And don't drink and drive
We wish you get home
Safe and alive
We wish you don't take emails
Play with your kids and their toys
You need never gamble
When you travel with Roy's
So make it a point of planning ahead
Don't take a chance
Or you may end up in a police cell.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all our customers old and new.**

55 46 25





Lochgilphead Scouts pack for a big year ahead

SCOUTS and Explorers from the 19th Argyll (Lochgilphead) Scout Group are already thinking ahead to 2018.

There are big plans to attend local, regional and national events and the group is looking forward to welcoming 30 scouts from Norway to Scotland in the summer.

But to achieve their ambitious programme of activities the group needs to upgrade its equipment, so members spent December raising money.

Through their efforts and the support of the community, Scouts and Explorers have raised more than £1,100.

David Smart, Scout leader at the 19th Argyll, said: 'We are really excited about the coming year.'

'We are planning a number of adventures, including a weekend to Lochgilphead Scout Centre, numerous unit camps, attending the national Scout camp in the Highlands at Easter and welcoming 30 Scouts from Norway to our big summer camp.'

'The friendship between the 19th Argyll and the Three Drammen group from Norway was formed when 13 members of the 19th Argyll were hosted by the Three Drammen group when we attended the Nord International jamboree inside the Arctic Circle this summer.'

He added: 'We look after all of our kit really well, but eventually tents wear out and we need to replace them.'

David acknowledged the support of everyone who donated

to the cause, adding: 'Thanks to the Rotary Club of Mid Argyll which allowed us to help at its recent Christmas fair and to the staff and customers of the Lochgilphead branch of the Co-op where our members spent a day bag packing.'

The group, based in Lochgilphead, is open to boys and girls aged six to 18 years.

If anyone would like more information about the group please email 19thargyllscouts@gmail.com

Above: Hard at work at the Rotary Club Christmas Fair.

Left: Bag packing fun at Lochgilphead Co-op with Scouts, left to right, Polly Payne, Anya Gritten and Lucas Gritten.



A.G. Barr Optometrists
would like to wish all their patients a Very Merry Christmas and

**A
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Y E A R**

58 Longrow Campbeltown
Tel: 01586 554400

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS 2017

Closed
23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th and 30th, 31st Dec, 1st and 2nd Jan



Councillor John Armour would like to wish everyone in South Kintyre a very happy Festive season and a prosperous 2018

I can be contacted on 07766 970672 or email

john.armour@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Argyll Pharmacy
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Lochgilphead 01546 603217

Wishing all our customers a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

12-14 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead
01546 603217

Mid Argyll Community Pool

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE
MACPool will be closed on Sunday 24th December and will re-open at 8am on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.

Have a fantastic Christmas, we look forward to welcoming all our customers back in the New Year.

Tel: 01546 606676
Web: www.macpool.org.uk

Tel: Lochgilphead 01546 602403 or 602400
Tarbert 01880 820252

FERGUSON & HYSLOP
BUTCHERS

Wishing all our customers a Merry Christmas and Happy 2018.

Argyll 4Sale ESTATE AGENTS
www.argyll4sale.net

Would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous 2018

Slimming WORLD

Rhona would like to wish all past, present and future members a Happy, Healthy Christmas and a successful 2018.

Contact Rhona - slimmingworld.com
Tel 07880 878906 0844 897 8000



Some of the lovely ladies who helped at the coffee morning.

Christmas coffee morning bowls them over

LOCHGILPHEAD Bowling Club held a well-attended Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday December 16.

Excess

The fundraiser, in Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall, gathered in excess of £270.

The club's winter activities include indoor bowls in the clubhouse on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7pm and a ladies' afternoon on Wednesdays at 2.30pm for anyone new or returning to the game and there's always a nice cup of tea.

Santa at Stonefield Castle for Dochas Centre



TARBERT'S Stonefield Castle was the festive venue for 48 carers and staff from the Dochas Carers' Centre in Lochgilphead.

At the hotel they enjoyed Bucks Fizz and a visit from Santa.

Sina McGilp gives Santa a cuddle, while Margaret McKinnon waits for her turn.

Carers from Mid Argyll, Tarbert and Campbeltown came together for an afternoon of fun and singing to help them to enjoy some time for themselves and catch up with each other.

Centre manager Maggie McLaren said: 'This is the fifth year that Stonefield have looked after us and made the event special for everyone.'

OFFERS & competitions

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

WIN

A TRIP FOR TWO TO SHETLAND OR ORKNEY



Scotland's Northern Isles are closer than you think. With their own unique culture, unrivalled wildlife and spectacular historical ruins, the islands are just waiting to be discovered.



Your journey begins with NorthLink Ferries, where you'll be able to enjoy many comforts on board before arriving at your destination feeling refreshed and ready to start your island adventure.



One lucky reader will win a prize that includes a return ticket on any route for two passengers including one car and a standard cabin on overnight sailings with NorthLink Ferries.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:

Where is the town of Stromness? a. Orkney b. Shetland c. Stornoway

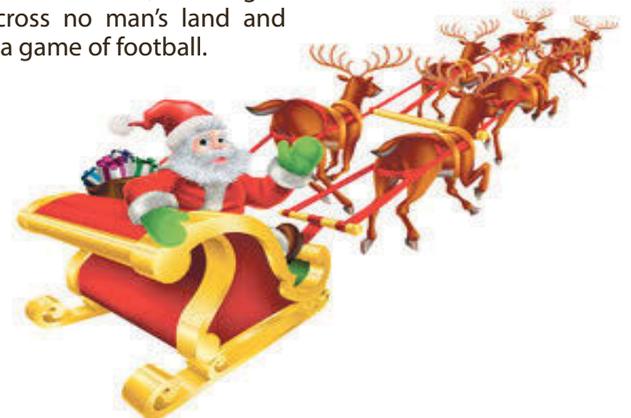
Package includes return travel on any route for two including car and standard cabin with NorthLink Ferries valid until 31 December 2018. Cabins are available on overnight sailings only. The prize is subject to availability, non-transferable or refundable and no cash alternative will be offered. Upgrades are available upon request.

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

Did you know?

- Having robins on Christmas cards started as a joke 150 years ago when postmen wore red tunics and were named after them.
- The abbreviation 'Xmas' isn't irreligious. The letter X is a Greek abbreviation for Christ.
- Christmas trees usually grow for about 15 years before they're sold.
- The music video for Last Christmas was the last time George Michael was filmed without a beard.
- Singer Brenda Lee recorded the original version of 'Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree' when she was only 13 years old.
- Tinsel was once made of real silver
- There are three towns in the US that are named Santa Claus. One in Georgia, one in Arizona and one in Indiana.
- Christmas pudding was originally a soup made with raisins and wine.
- One of the reasons we leave milk and a snack for Santa is because Dutch kids would leave food and drink for St Nicholas on his feast day.
- Santa used to wear blue, green and white - his red suit came from a 1930s' Coca Cola advert.
- Rudolph was almost named Rollo or Reginald.
- Mistletoe is a parasitic plant that latches on to trees and feeds off them. Its use as a symbol of romance is a tradition dating back to ancient Norse mythology.
- Telling scary ghost stories is an old Christmas Eve tradition that has largely died out over the past century.
- Some zoos accept donated Christmas trees as food for their animals.
- A large part of Sweden's population has watched Donald Duck cartoons every Christmas Eve since 1960.
- During the Christmas of 1914, a truce was held between German and British troops. They decorated their shelters, exchanged gifts across no man's land and played a game of football.
- An artificial Christmas tree would have to be reused for more than 20 years to be 'greener' than buying a fresh-cut tree annually.
- The people of Oslo, Norway donate the Trafalgar Square Christmas tree every year in gratitude to the people of London for their assistance during WWII.
- All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.
- US President Teddy Roosevelt, an environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.
- In Poland at Christmas, spiders or spider webs are common tree decorations. Spiders are seen as signs of goodness and prosperity at Christmas.
- The area of Christmas gift wrap used in the UK every year would cover the island of Guernsey.
- The Santa Claus Foundation of Greenland voted Nelson Mandela its first Santa Claus of the year in 1995.
- The first Christmas was celebrated on December 25, AD 336 in Rome.
- Artificial Christmas trees have outsold real ones since 1991.
- The Canadian province of Nova Scotia leads the world in exporting lobster, wild blueberries, and Christmas trees.
- Roast turkey did not appear consistently on royal Christmas Day menus until 1851 when it replaced roast swan.
- Electric Christmas lights were first used in 1854.
- Santa's reindeer are called Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen.
- France gifted the Americans the Statue of Liberty which stands in New York.

Disclaimer: While the Argyllshire Advertiser has hoovered through the internet for most of these facts, the paper accepts no responsibility for any distress caused if these facts turn out to be fiction.





Susan Simpson was one of a number of fans who had copies of the new book signed by Lindsay Campbell. 06_a51booksigning03

Argyll's criminal past uncovered

AUTHOR Lindsay Campbell had the trusty quill at the ready as she signed copies of her latest work in Lochgilphead.

The Argyll Book Centre hosted the book signing, complete with coffee and cakes, as the Kilmore-based writer continued her promotional tour of Argyll.

The book, 'Now Prisoner Within', uncovers some of old Argyll's true criminal history, with tales of poisoning, fraud, psychopathy and vengeance.

Perhaps it came from her policeman father, but Lindsay has a pas-

sion for investigation. 'Most of these stories, which go back to the early 18th century, have never before been told. I have been poring over archives to get to the detail, which is something I actually enjoy doing,' she said.

Tragic tales

'I find that I am interested in all the tragic tales in these stories - and not just those of the victims. The people accused of these crimes often come from tragic circumstances themselves.

'Looking back from a modern perspective,

we can sometimes interpret things differently. There is one case I came across, for example, where a murderer might well have been suffering from post traumatic stress disorder, having earlier fought at the battle of Sherriffmuir.'

As 'Now Prisoner Within' flies off the shelves, a third book is in the pipeline - so crime fans should look out for that. The book signing, held on Saturday December 16, attracted a steady stream of fans to meet the author and enjoy some home baking.

Festive chuckles

1. Q. What type of motorbike does Santa ride?
A. Holly Davidson.
2. Q. What did the sea say to Santa?
A. Nothing, it just waved.
3. Q. Where does Santa go when he's ill?
A. The elf centre.
4. Q. Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?
A. They always drop their needles.
5. Q. What's worse than Rudolph with a runny nose?
A. Frosty the Snowman with a hot flush!
6. Q. What did Santa ask Rudolph?
A. Is it going to rain dear?!
7. Q. Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?
A. A mince spy!
8. Q. What is the best Christmas present to receive?
A. A broken drum, you just can't beat it.
9. Q. Which athlete is warmest during winter?
A. A long jumper.
10. Q. Which football team did the baby Jesus support?
A. Manger-ster United!
11. Q. How will Christmas be different after Brexit?
A. There will be no Brussels.
12. Q. What do you call an elf that sings?
A. A wrapper.
13. Q. What do snowmen wear on their heads?
A. Ice caps.
14. Q. What's red and white, red and white, red and white?
A. Santa Claus rolling down the hill.
15. Q. What did the Christmas tree say to the bobble?
A. 'Aren't you tired of just hanging around?'
16. Q. What do you call Santa when he stops moving?
A. Santa Pause.
17. Q. What kind of ball doesn't bounce?
A. A snowball.
18. Q. Why did Santa get a parking ticket?
A. He left his sleigh in a snow parking zone.
19. Q. What does Tarzan sing at Christmas?
A. Jungle bells.
20. Q. What did one snowman say to the other?
A. Do you smell carrots?



Krisp Cards
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Campbeltown Tourist Map
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CAMPBELTOWN PICTURE HOUSE

FRIDAY 22nd—THURSDAY 28th DECEMBER

STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI 2D (12A)
Fri, Sat, Sun 2.05pm, 5.15pm, 8.25pm, 11.40pm
Tue 12.50pm, 5.15pm, 8.25pm, 11.40pm

STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI 3D (12A)
Fri, Sat, Tue 8.25pm

MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS (12A)
Fri, Sat 6.20pm

FERDINAND (U)
Fri, Sat, Sun 11.40am, 1.20pm, 2.50pm, 4.40pm, 6.20pm
Tue 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 4.40pm, 6.20pm

JUMANJI: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE (12A)
Fri, Sat 3.45pm, 8.50pm, Sun 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm
Tue 4.00pm, 8.45pm, Wed, Thu 4.05pm, 8.50pm

PADDINGTON 2 (PG)
Fri, Sat, Sun 11.00am, Wed, Thu 11.20am

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN (PG)
Tue 6.35, Wed, Thu 6.40pm

SCOTTISH COMEDY FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCH
Saturday 27th January 7.30pm

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk
Open daily from midday or half an hour before the first film.

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

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/argyllshireadvertiser

SPRINGBANK
EVANGELICAL CHURCH
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
Sunday 24th December, 6.30pm
Christmas refreshments will be served.

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

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Time to vote for your FINALISTS!

014

Angus Cat
Dunstaffnage, Oban

029

Marni Jack Russell Terrier
Caol, Fort William

037

Max Cat
Lochgilthead

038

Scooby-Doo Dog
Inveraray

068

Mr Bigglez Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Bowmore, Isle of Islay

072

Daniel Goldfish
Lochgilthead

073

Ozzy Dog
Oban

111

Meg Dog
Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilthead

125

Cooper Cavachon
Oban

127

Bracken Boxer
Fort William

207

Max Cheviot tup lamb
Oban

220

Archie Lhasa Apso
Oban

270



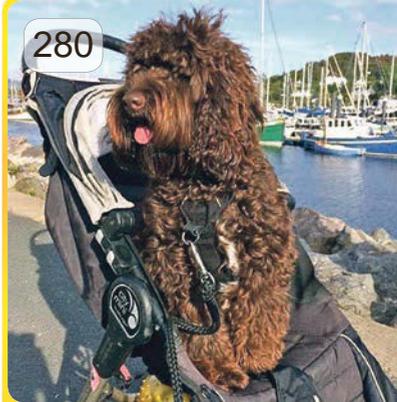
Grayson
Siberian kitten
Lochgilthead

277



Bear
Dog
North Connel

280



Hamish
Cockapoo
Tarbert

282



Keira
Boxer/Staffordshire Bull Terrier cross
Oban

328



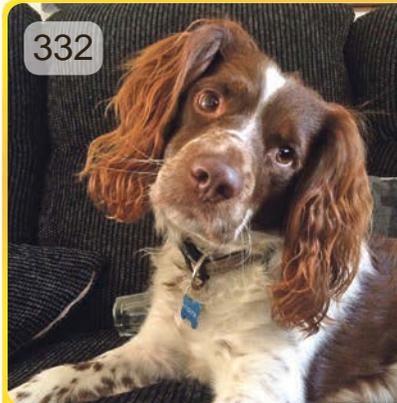
Isla
Dog
Oban

329



Daisy
Jack Russell/Bichon Frise cross
Campbeltown

332



Blue
Dog
Oban

348



Finn
Cockapoo
Campbeltown

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

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

VOTING COUPON
Round 4

I would like to vote for:

Pet number*.....

Pet's name:

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

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

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

You may send in multiple voting coupons in one envelope.

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

The Oban Times
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

LOCHABER TIMES
& Oban Times

argyllshire
advertiser

campbeltown
courier

Votes must be received by 10am, Monday 8th January. You can vote for as many pets as many times as you like. Only one pet can be voted for on each voting form. Just make sure you use the number quoted on the pet's photograph when voting. Photocopied coupons will not be accepted. One coupon counts as one vote. We will also accept multiple vote coupons in one envelope. Good luck to the 20 hopefuls.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 Wishing all my friends and family in Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead, especially the Wednesday Morning Coffee Group, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from Jean Berrie.

ARCHIE, TRACY & ANDREW MILLAR
 would like to wish their family, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

MARGARET MCGOWN, 2 BAYVIEW, MACHRIHANISH
 would like to wish all her relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Neil Kennedy.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my friends & family. Lots of love from Betty McCallum, 24 Barochan Place.

HELEN HOPE
 wishes you all a happy and peaceful Christmas & New Year
 xxx
 New Address:
 9 Dochas Place,
 Lochgilphead.

MARY SCALLY, KINTYRE CARE HOME
 would like to wish all her relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives & friends from Morag Rowan.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Neil & Mary, 7 Harbour View.

Merry Christmas & Best Wishes for the New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Muriel Deans.

JOHN RONALD & FAMILY, COULINLONGART
 would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Alex & John Johnston, Stanley Place.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from John MacMillan, 8 Wallace Cottages, Southend.

ARCHIE & MARNA DOCHERTY, STEWARTON
 would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS & BEST WISHES FOR 2018
 to Sophie Swinton & all our Kintyre friends from Geraldine & Mark Davey x

**CHRIS
 GREET
 20**

DONALD M GILLIES
 would like to wish all his relatives & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
 Best wishes to all my friends, relatives & neighbours from Hamish McMillan, 28A Calton Avenue.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Betty McNaughton, 4 Killean Place.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my family & friends from Peggy Wareham.

GAVIN MUIR
 would like to wish family, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.
 85 Tomaig Road.

NANCY BLACK
 would like to wish family & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.
 32 Lorne Campbell Ct.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
 This is to wish all my friends & family a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year, Senga McPhee.

ANNIE HAMILTON AUCHINLEE
 would like to wish all relatives, friends & staff a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

TOMMY & IRENE ROBERSTON, 12 MEADOW PARK
 would like to wish all relatives & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

NANCY MACPHERSON, 30 LORNE CAMPBELL COURT
 wishes all relatives, friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Archie Greenlees, 4 Front Row, Drumlembie.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Catherine Wareham.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to friends & family in Campbeltown. Best wishes, Margaret Wallis, 18 Benmore Street.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Rachel McMurchy, Carradale.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Hamish Jackson.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Bobby Duncan, Castleacres.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Pearl & Doug, 25 Millers Park.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Ken Smith.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
 to all my family & friends from Annie Grumoli.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 17

Lucy Cunningham, Catriona & David Vick & family

54 Kirk Street, Campbeltown

wish all relations, friends & neighbours, far & near, a Merry Christmas & a Happy, Prosperous, Peaceful & Blessed New Year.

MAUREEN HENDERSON

would like to wish all her relatives & friends a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

CATHIE & JOHN MARTIN, 86 CROSSHILL AVE.

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

MARY & ARCHIE DRUMORE VILLA WEST

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

DONALD, RHONA, JENNIFER & BETHANY KELLY

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

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours, with special thanks to Janette, Peter & Isobel, from Jenny Tyrrell.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Betty Munro, 197 Ralston Road.

CATHIE ARMOUR, 18 GLEBE STREET

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all family, neighbours & friends.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to our family & friends from James & Isobel & family, Carradale.

MARGARET & GEORGE, ARDMORE, HIGH ASMOMIL

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

PRUNELLA MACBRAYNE

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

NANCY WILKIN

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

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Catherine Ann wishes a joyful Christmas & a peaceful New Year to her friends, neighbours & relatives. Castlepark.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Alex & Fay MacCuish, Skipness.

HILDA MCSPORRAN

would like to wish family, neighbours, especially Janet, & friends a Happy Christmas & a Peaceful New Year. Many thanks to the carers, who are so kind and helpful.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

With best wishes for Christmas & New Year, to family & friends in Kintyre & Mid Argyll, from Douglas & May Galbraith, 27 Craighall Crescent, Erskine.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Betty Ronald, 22 Craigowan Park.

FRANK & FIONA BLAKE

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

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to family & friends from Angie Smith, Tangy Lodge.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Maggie Ralston.

BILLY & FIONA BRUCE

wish all their relatives, 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.

Dot & Teddy Russell

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

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Flora Henderson, Smith Drive.

CAROL ABERNETHY & FAMILY

wish all friends & neighbours a Merry Christmas & thank you for all your love & support.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

to all neighbours & friends from Ailsa Scott.

MATTY MCCALLUM

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

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from May Currie.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Stewart McGougan Snr.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

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

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Peter Colville, 13 Hillside Road.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Neil & Betty MacCallum, 115 Ralston Road.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Sally & Archie Anderson.

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

MID ARGYLL

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

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

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

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

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

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE

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

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

Christmas Eve Advent 4
 Angelic Messages
 (Luke 2)
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am
 (No 12:30pm Service at Achahoish)
 Carol Service
 Achahoish at 7:00pm
 Watchnight Service
 Ardrishaig at 11:30pm
 (Carol Singing from 11:15pm)
Sunday 31st December 2017
 "The End of an Era"
 Another Angelic Message
 (Matthew 2)
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

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

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH
Lochgilphead
Christmas Eve
 Carols at 11.30pm
 followed by Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
 Mass at 10am
ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY
Christmas Day
 Mass at 12.30pm
 Fr. David Connor
 01546 602380
 All Welcome
 (SCO002876)

KINTYRE

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

LORNE & LOWLAND CHURCH

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

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN WEST KINTYRE AND GIGHA

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

KILCALMONELL PARISH CHURCH (CLACHAN)

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

KILLEAN & KILCHENZIE PARISH CHURCH (A'CHLEIT)

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

PARISHES OF SOUTHEND, SADDLE & CARRADALE

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

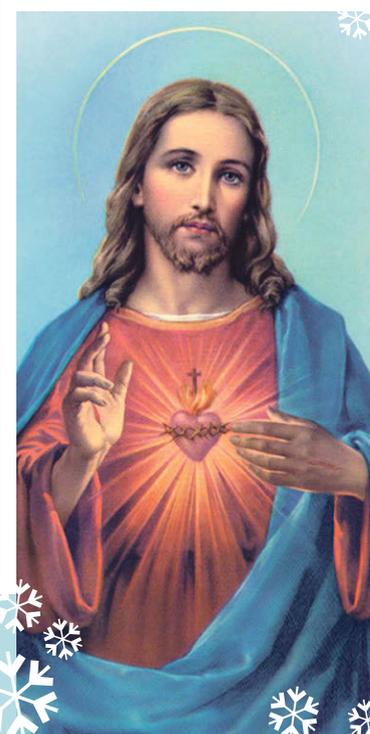


ST. KIERAN'S, CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

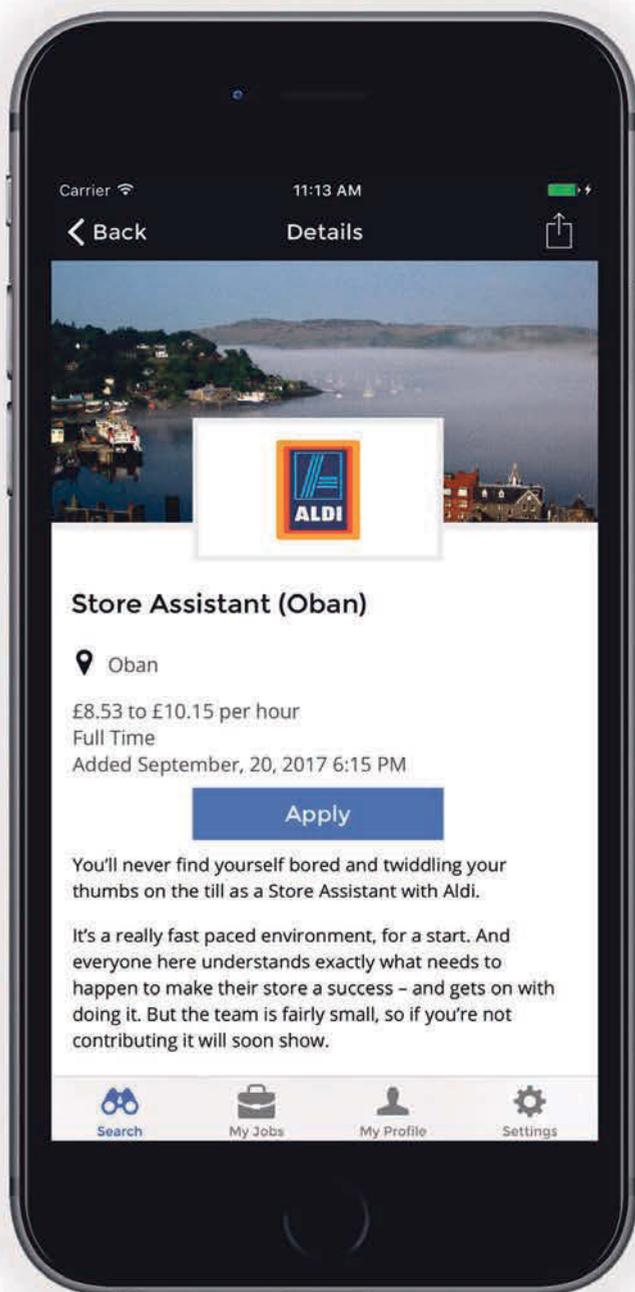
TAYINLOAN CAROL SERVICE

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



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Notice of intention to move

Please be aware that there will be a total of 9 abnormal load movements from the CS Wind factory to Cambelton harbour between the hours of 20:00 and 06:00 on the dates 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th of January 2018. These will include the following roads - A83, Millknowe Road, Aqualibrium Avenue, Kinloch Road and Hall Street. Can you please refrain from parking on these roads on the dates and times stated, parking on Hall Street in particular between 20:00 and 06:00 will be suspended.

Many Thanks, ALE

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
17/02778/PP	Erection of 8 dwellinghouses, installation of 3 septic tanks and formation of vehicular accesses	Port A'Buorrain Farm Dalkeith Glenbarr Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XB	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
17/03107/PP	Alterations, erection of porch and replacement extension to form owners accommodation	Ashbank Hotel Airds Carradale Campbeltown Argyll And Bute PA28 6RY	Sub Post Office Carradale

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

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

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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Argyll and Bute Council

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL
**(UC059 RAF MACHRIHANISH ROAD)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017**

On Monday 11th December 2017 Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle on that length of the RAF Machrihanish Road (Unclassified No. 059) which extends from its junction with the Machrihanish Business Park Access Road to its junction with the A83 Tarbet - Lochgilphead - Campbeltown Trunk Road.

This restriction is required because of the likelihood of danger to the public whilst wind turbine components are being transported from CS Wind at Machrihanish Business Park to Campbeltown Harbour and will be effective when indicated by signs between 0001 hours on Monday 8th January until 2359 hours on Friday 6th April 2018 or until all traffic movements are complete whichever is the earliest.

Exceptions will apply to any vehicle which is:

- a) being driven for the purpose of the wind turbine transportations;
- b) being driven at the direction, or with the permission of, a police officer in uniform.

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

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

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS



Community Support Assistant MacDougall Place, Mull
 £9.11 - £10.71 per hour 4 hours per week (Sat-Sun)
 Permanent

Community Support Assistant Oban and Benderloch
 £9.11 - £10.71 per hour 14 hours per week
 Week 1 – Saturday and Sunday
 Week 2 – Thursday and Friday Permanent

These posts require

- Protection of Vulnerable Adult Group (PVG) membership in relation to working with Vulnerable Adults
- Registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)

For more information, please contact Brian Murphy on 01546 605932 or email brian.murphy@acha.co.uk
Interviews will be held on 24th January 2018 in Oban.

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

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

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

For more information please contact Lee Holness on 01546 605 815 or email lee.holness@ahfa.co.uk

This post requires:

- Basic Disclosure Scotland check

Interviews will be held on 16th January 2018 in Oban.

AHFA 2 x Electricians 1 x Argyll-wide, 1 x Cowal and Bute
 £25,519 - £30,023 37.5 hours per week
 Mon – Fri 08:30 – 16:30 Permanent

For more information please contact Gary Breeden on 01546 605 856 or email gary.breeden@ahfa.co.uk

These posts require:

- Basic Disclosure Scotland check
- Full UK driver's license

Interviews will be held on 23 January 2018 in Inveraray.

To apply visit the recruitment section of our website at www.acha.co.uk

If you cannot access the website, please contact the recruitment team:

01546 605 817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

CVs are not accepted.

Closing date for all posts: 12 noon on Friday 5th January 2018

The Scottish Salmon Company



Your Career Right Here

Marine Site Manager

Petersport and Greanamul, Benbecula

Salary: £competitive

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Site Manager to manage the operations of our production sites in Petersport and Greanamul.

The role will have direct responsibility for the operations at the marine site which will include; ensuring adherence to all Standard Operating Procedures and Health and Safety requirements along with proactively managing fish health and welfare, stock containment, biosecurity, grading and treatment plans, net washing and management of diving operations, and the efficient allocation of resources including staff and equipment utilisation.

The successful candidate will have extensive experience on an aquaculture marine site with proven capability for motivating, developing and leading small teams. In addition to this they will have the ability to accumulate and interpret statistical information for fish growth and health. A full clean driving licence is also essential, along with a flexible and independent approach.

To apply and/or request a detailed job specification please use the contact details below. Please note applications are requested by CV and covering letter.

Rhian Chamberlain

The Scottish Salmon Company

Marybank Estate, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS2 0DB

Tel: 01499 600 601

Northrecruitment@scottishsalmon.com

Closing date: 15 December 2017

www.scottishsalmon.com

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RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS

GENERAL FARM WORKER REQUIRED
 Experience preferred
 Own transport essential
Tel: 01586 830352

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 REQUIRE
 EXPERIENCED PLANT FITTER
 RELEVANT CERTIFICATES & VALID LICENCE/S
 ESSENTIAL APPLICATIONS TO :-
HARRY ROSS
07919 214995
 OR
 e-mail -
lil@mkmacleod.co.uk
 www.macleodconstruction.co.uk

KAMES FISH FARMING LIMITED
 Require
Freshwater and Marine Fish Husbandry Persons
 Kames Fish Farming Limited, a family company established in 1972, is expanding its production. We are currently recruiting for Marine Fish Husbandry Persons at our sea and fresh water sites in Argyll, close to Oban, where we produce selected sea strain Rainbow Trout. This is a great opportunity to contribute to a successful and growing team which is producing fish of the highest quality.
 The successful applicant should have good, practical, stockmanship skills and experience, with an understanding of mechanics. Fork lift, crane, boat and first aid qualifications would be an advantage. Candidates must be enthusiastic, self-motivated and able to work effectively within a small team. Duties include fish welfare, sampling, grading, treating, harvesting and other general fish farm tasks.
 Applicants should also have a full driving licence. Competitive remuneration package dependent on experience, skills and knowledge (£17-£24K).
 Closing date 22nd of December 2017
 Please send your CV with qualifications and accompanying letter to:-
Jamie McAndrew
Kames Fish Farming Limited
Kilmelford, Oban PA34 4XA
fish@kames.co.uk

Caledonian MacBrayne
 Hebridean & Clyde Ferries
 CalMac Ferries Limited has a requirement for:
Port Assistant (Maternity Cover)
 Rothesay Ref: 1078-SB
Fixed Term until 31 August 2018
£10.06 per hour
20 hours per week
 Applications are invited for the position of Port Assistant (Maternity Cover) based at Kennacraig until 31 August 2018.
 Reporting to the Port Manager, you will need a flexible approach to your day-to-day responsibilities. Your duties will include;
 • All duties connected with ship movements, gangways and securing of vessels.
 • Customer enquiries.
 • Sales/collection of passenger/vehicle tickets.
 • Cash handling.
 • Use of VHF and PA Systems.
 • Control of passengers and vehicles embarking and disembarking from vessels.
 You must be computer literate, with excellent verbal and written communication skills.
 You must have the ability to work with initiative as a self-starter, with minimum supervision.
 You are expected to have a flexible approach to working, as shift and weekend work will be involved.
 You must be customer focused, with a clear understanding of the customer interface and have a proactive approach to customer care.
 The successful candidates must be able to commute to Kennacraig Ferry Terminal on a daily basis.
 If you are interested in this vacancy, please apply by applying online at:
<https://www.calmac.co.uk/article/5736/Ref-1078-SB-Port-Assistant-Kennacraig-Maternity-Cover> no later than 29 December 2017.
 David MacBrayne HR (UK) Limited is an equal opportunities employer.

RECRUITMENT HIJOBS
 RECRUITMENT HIJOBS

Caledonian MacBrayne
 Hebridean & Clyde Ferries
 CalMac Ferries Limited has a requirement for:
Senior Port Assistant
 Kennacraig Ref: 1079-SB
 Permanent
£12.13 per hour
40 hours per week
 Closing Date: 29 December 2017
 Applications are invited for the position of Senior Port Assistant based at Kennacraig.
 Reporting to the Port Manager, you will need a flexible approach to your day-to-day responsibilities. Your duties will include;
 • Supervision of Port Staff
 • Deputizing for Port Manager
 • Sale of passenger and vehicle tickets
 • Cash handling
 • Banking duties
 • Controlling petty cash and change floats
 • Completing timesheets
 • Daily statistics reconciliation
 • Disruption management
 • Rostering of staff
 • Stock management
 • Dealing with customer complaints
 • Good understanding of the CalMac Services
 • Excellent written and verbal communication skills
 • Good practical experience of customer services
 • Ability to work with initiative as self-starter, with out supervision
 • Willingness to be a team player in a dynamic, proactive, high tension environment
 • Liaise with other port staff to ensure that there is a high level of proactive communication and coordination of activity
 • Processing verbal and written feedback
 • All duties connected with vessel movements and berthing arrangements
 • Customer enquiries
 • Use of VHF and PA systems
 • Liasing with third party clients and contractors
 • Control of passengers and vehicles embarking and disembarking from vessels
 • Providing clear and concise direction to all passengers and vehicles embarking and disembarking the vessels
 • Overseeing the operations for up to 6 vessels
 • Cleaning and light maintenance
 • Any other duties required by the Port Manager
 The successful candidates must be able to commute to Kennacraig on a daily basis.
 If you are interested in this vacancy please apply online at
<https://www.calmac.co.uk/article/5737/Ref-1079-SB-Senior-Port-Assistant---Kennacraig> no later than 29 December 2017.
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 We also publish a plethora of lifestyle magazines, tourist maps, holiday publications and business directories covering the west coast of Scotland and beyond.
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 Experience in advertising sales is not necessary, as full training will be given.
 We offer excellent pay and real career progression and benefits including BUPA, holidays to 35 days (Scale), realistic targets and achievable bonus.
 You will benefit from on-going training, first class support, job stability and the opportunity to work for a professional company that believes in rewarding success and effort. A full driving licence is essential.
Please submit CV and covering letter to
ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk



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Black/Black leather interior, heated seats, 6 CD multi changer, MOT end March 2018. Great car, lovely drive, very good condition.

£3,500_{ONO}

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£6,695

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

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£11,500_{ONO}

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Highbank Park
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Tel. 01292 880080
01292 880440



S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel. 01292 880080
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Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
Tel. 01292 880080/880440

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E: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk

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John, Brian, Matthew and the team at S&S Services would like to wish all their customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



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Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our customers. Look forward to seeing you in 2018.

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CHEVAL MIRROR pine, £25 Telephone 07833 551164².

COUCH, CHAIR AND FOOTSTOOL large 3 seater chocolate brown leather couch, chair and footstool, good condition - Lochgilphead town centre, £85 Telephone 07766 991987.

MATTRESS Brand new mattress, single, cream colour. Measure: W=92cm, L=190cm, H=21cm. Calls evening, £60 Telephone 01852 300154.

HOME OFFICE

EXECUTIVE DESK Executive desk, excellent condition, measures, L=172cm, W=71cm, H=71cm, 3 drawers right, 1 drawer right + filing drawer. Call evenings, £75 Telephone 01852 300154.

SMALL COMPUTER DESK Small computer desk, excellent condition, measure: L=82cm, H=79.50cm, W=50.58cm. Calls evenings, £60 Telephone 01852 300154.

INDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

SQUASH RACKET Dunlop Airfoil graphite squash racket, with cover and 2 balls. As new, never used, has the original wrapping on the hand, £15 Telephone 01852 200256.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

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LOST AND FOUND

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KILMARTIN

Council supports Kilmartin Museum redevelopment

ARGYLL and Bute Council has announced it will be supporting Kilmartin Museum redevelopment, agreeing to fund £400,000 towards the project.

At a meeting on Friday December 8 members of the council's policy and resources committee were updated on the proposal to redevelop the museum to provide more space to curate its expanding collection.

The committee acknowledged the challenging nature of the £6.7 million project and agreed a capital

grant of £400,000. Councillor Aileen Morton, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Kilmartin Glen and Museum are incredibly important to Argyll and Bute and the wider area attracting visitors from all over the world.'

'Members of the committee recognised that this is a challenging project and there is still considerable work to be done to secure all the necessary funding which includes a substantial financial contribution from the council.'

INVERARAY

South Sudan slide show

INVERARAY History Society was treated to a slide show from Rev Roderick Campbell during his time working in South Sudan.

Just before the turn of this century, Roderick witnessed the terrible effects the many years of civil war had had on Sudan.

He was able to help local villages by taking in a team of experts in agriculture and natural medicines to re-

mind them of forgotten skills, and also busied himself teaching theology to students.

The first history society meeting in the new year will be held on Tuesday January 9, at 7.30pm in the Nicoll Hall. Dr Tertia Barnett, who is the principal investigator of Scotland's Rock Art Project, will be showing the group photographs and speaking about this ancient subject.

ISLAY



Staff from Islay Airport before completing their charity cycle challenge.

Islay Airport staff get on their bikes for charity

STAFF at Islay Airport have completed a charity cycle to raise funds for two charities, the Islay and Jura Sick Children Fund and Bump to Birth.

2,500 miles

Participants cycled the road miles equivalent from Islay Airport to

Santa's Grotto in Norway - around 2,500 miles.

Cyclists used special turbo training bikes within the airport and commuted to work over 12 days, and are aiming to raise £1,000.

To donate visit Islay Airport's Facebook and Twitter pages.

CAMPBELTOWN

Regeneration work continues in Campbeltown

THE LATEST phase in the regeneration of Campbeltown's town centre is underway with work to repair a number of prominent buildings.

The building work to repair and conserve McLean Place West on

main street has started, and is due to be completed in April 2018.

Essential work to the property will see structural repairs, enhancement to roof timbers, rot works, slate roof works, leadwork, stonework and repairs

to chimneys and rain-water goods.

The project is being delivered as part of the Argyll and Bute Council and Historic Environment Scotland funded Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) initiative.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



ON MONDAY night we gathered in Tayinloan hall for our Christmas Messy Church and what a great time we had together.

Babies and grannies and those in-between had fun making crafts, making fun, enjoying a meal together and sharing stories.

Over the years we have become a close family and I always look forward to our time together.

We come from our own villages and schools and yet we seem to be one community.

The thing I love most is knowing the children from babies and treasuring that relationship as they grow.

I see the potential in each one of them and rejoice as they become the personalities God intended them to be.

Obviously we were thinking of the most beautiful of stories about Jesus' birth and we used many ways to tell that story.

Among the crafts we enjoyed, we made Christingles. An orange represents the world and a red ribbon around tells of God's love.

Four cocktail sticks filled with good things tell us that God wants every part of his world to enjoy the fruits of the world.

Then a candle on the top reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

We then thought about light and laughed as a spinning globe covered us all with spots of light.

The children loved to see the light dancing on each of them. I reminded them that while they could see this light on them, there was also another light in them - the God spark.

This Christmas may we recognise that God spark within each other and spread the light in our own wee corner of the world till darkness is no more.

Wishing you all the blessings of this special season.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

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

BIRTHS

GALLAGHER - David and Becky Gallagher are delighted to announce the birth of Jamie William, on December 11, 2017, a first grandchild for Jane and Sid.

WELCH - Jonathan and Christina (Ferguson) are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Millie Lena, on November 3, 2017. A wee sister for Archie. A second grandchild for Lena and Archie, and a fifth grandchild for Karen and David. Sincere thanks to midwives at Mid Argyll Hospital.

GOLDEN WEDDING



NEAL - MCLELLAN At Lochend United Free Church, Campbeltown, on December 15, 1967, by the Rev J McPhee, the marriage took place of Adrian Ernest, to Margaret Ralston. Fifty wonderful years.

DEATHS

CLEAVER - Peacefully, at Lister Hospital, Stevenage, Catriona (née Martin), dearly loved wife of the late Ted Cleaver, dearly loved mother, mother-in-law, nan, great nan and a dearly loved sister. Catriona will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Service will take place on January 4, 2018 at 11.30am, at Bedford Crematorium. Family flowers only please, if desired donations to Cancer Research UK or 42 Station Road, Langford, Bedfordshire, SG18 9PE.

LOWRIE - Peacefully at home, Glenesk, Low Smerby, Campbeltown, surrounded by his family, on December 17, 2017, John Lowrie, in his 89th year, loving husband of the late Betty Lowrie and a much loved father and grandfather. Funeral private.

MARTIN - On December 13, 2017, peacefully, at Glenarary Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, James (Jim) Martin, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Sue Martin, née Arkinstall, much loved father of Denise and Jaqueline and a dearly

loved and respected friend of many. Funeral service was held at Inveraray Parish Church, on December 20, cremation thereafter, at Cardross Crematorium.

TOWNSLEY - Suddenly at home, 20 Glenside, Campbeltown, on December 12, 2017, John Milloy Townsley, in his 55th year, beloved husband of the late Isobel Reid Williamson, a much loved father of Samantha, Mary-Anne and John, a loving and proud grandfather of Lewis, Isobel and Erin and much loved brother of George, Marion, Maureen, Brian and the late Shauvone.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABERNETHY - Carol and Gordon would like to thank everyone for all the expressions of sympathy, love and support over the last months. Special thanks to Dr Elder and all the staff at Carradale Surgery and to all the staff, including Maggie, Macmillan nurse, in Campbeltown Hospital for their loving care. Special thanks also, to Rev Steve Fulcher for all his help and support and for an uplifting service - as Robert would have liked. Grateful thanks to Stuart Irvine for playing the organ, to Kenny and Rhys Blair for professional services, and to the Glen Restaurant for excellent catering. Finally, our thanks to all who came to pay their respects and who generously donated to the sum of £1325, for Macmillan Nurses and Campbeltown Hospital.

BLACK - The family of the late Charlotte Black would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following their recent sad loss. Grateful thanks to the staff of Ardenlee Care Home, Dunoon for their kindness, care and compassion shown to Charlotte. Special thanks to Rev David Carruthers for a most comforting and personal service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their guidance and efficient services; and to Rosslea Hall Hotel, Rhu, for excellent purvey. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at crematorium to pay their respects.

MILLAR - Tommy, Archie and Alan would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for the many expressions of sympathy, kindness and support received following their recent sad loss. Grateful thanks to all who helped care for Archie over the last few months and allowed him to remain living at Whitehill. We are

indebted to Campbeltown medical centre and hospital staff, the community nursing team, Carr Gorm, Carers Direct and Maggie Wilkieson, Macmillan nurse. To all who visited, he loved your company. We would also like to express gratitude to Rev Philip Wallace for such a comforting and apt service, to David Gardiner for music, to the Blair family for respectful and efficient funeral arrangements and to all staff at the Argyll Hotel for purvey, just as he would have liked. Our thanks to all who attended at the church and graveside to pay respects, your presence was of great comfort and much appreciated. The retiral collection for Lorne and Lowland Church raised £2,038, in Archie's memory. "He made the best of this."

IN MEMORIAM

ANDREW - Treasured memories of Bill, died December 24, 2015. Always in our thoughts. - Jessie and family.

CHISHOLM - In loving memory of Johnny, passed away December 28, 2011, a loving husband, dad and papa. Loved and remembered always. - Netta and family, at home and abroad.

FERGUSON - Treasured memories of my beloved husband, Charles John Ferguson, taken suddenly on December 27, 2015. You're in my heart, you're in my mind, You're here beside me all the time, I miss you more each passing day, I miss you more than words can say. Loved and remembered always. - Dadie.

FERGUSON - Remembering our wonderful father, father-in-law and papa, Charles John Ferguson, December 27, 2015. Irreplaceable in every way and so desperately missed. - Charles, Lorna, Fiona, Andrew, Cameron, Ewan, Holly and Anna xxxx.

GATNER - Died December 22, 2005, husband and father, remembered and dearly loved. - Sarah, Rita and Andrew.

MACAULAY - In loving memory of a dear dad and grampy, Tommy, died December 18, 2012. Close to our hearts you will always stay, Loved and remembered every day. - Julie and Chloe xx.

MACCALLUM - In loving memory of a dear mum, died December 22, 2016. This time last year you went away to take a well earned rest. Of all the mums in the world, to us you were the best. - Janette and David xx.

MACFARLANE - In loving memory of Dugald, Mary, Angus and Donald, who passed away. Loved and remembered every day. - Euphie and Eric.

SELFRIDGE - In loving memory of my dear husband, Fred, who died on December 26, 2013. Always in my thoughts, Miss you every day. - Myra.

SELFRIDGE - In loving memory of my dear dad, Fred, who died December 26, 2013. Missing you lots Pops. - Angela, Josh and Fred.

SELFRIDGE - In memory of a loving dad, granddad and great granddad (Fred), who left us on December 26, 2013. The years may be passing but the memories never fade. Always in our hearts. - Carol, Ali, Colin, Siobhan and Rebecca.

TAYLOR - Nicky, who died December 26, 2014. Sadly missed every day. - John and Kieran.

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LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
 Sunday 24th December
 Christmas Service at 11 a.m.
 Followed by a light lunch
 ALL WELCOME

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNESIDE AND KILBERRY
 CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Sunday 24th December
 Fourth Sunday in Advent
 Christmas Eve Services
 Skipness Service 10am
 Mr Tom McKay
 Skipness Evening Service 7pm
 Congregation Led
 Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Mr Tom McKay
 Kilberry Evening Service 6.30pm
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 Sunday 24th December 2017
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 Charity No. SC016097
 Morning Service in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
 Christmas Eve Service Cumlodden Church 7.30pm
Glenarary and Inveraray
 Charity No. SC016665
 Morning service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am
 Christmas Eve Service Inveraray Church 11.30pm
 Christmas Day Service Inveraray Church 10.30am
 Minister: Rev. Dr. Roderick Campbell
 ALL WELCOME

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

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 Kilmartin 11.30pm
 Rev. C Acklam
 All welcome
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 Sunday 24th December
 Blessing of the Nativity Scene and Holy Mass 10.00am
 Nativity of the Lord
 Mass of Christmas during the Night 10.00pm
 Monday 25th December
 Mass of Christmas Day 10.00am
 All Welcome (SCO02876)

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 Sunday 24th December 11.00am
 Christmas Eve Family Service
 Youth Fellowship
 Check our Facebook page for regular updates
 Pastor Chris Holden
 We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
 www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
 SC043322

free church of scotland
 George Street, Campbeltown
 Sunday 24th December 11.15am Christmas Service
 Rev Rodger Crooks
 Wednesday 27th December 12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
 All Welcome
 www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
 Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
 Charity Number SC001002
 Christmas starts with Christ
 We invite you to join in our celebrations this year.
SUNDAY 24 DECEMBER
 Inverlussa Church 10 am
 Advent Worship
 Rev C Acklam
Jubilee Green Tayvallich 4pm
 Carols on the Green
Tayvallich Church 11.15pm
 Watchnight Service
 Rev C Acklam
MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER
 Joy to the World, the Lord is Come
Bellanoch Church 11am
 Christmas Celebration
 Retiring Offering for EMBRACE the Middle East
 Rev C Acklam
 Café Connect resumes
13th January 2018
 All welcome
 Enquiries 01546 606926
 www.northknapdale.org

Highland Parish Church

SCO02493
Sunday 24th December
 The service will be conducted by Rev William Crossan and will be held in the church at 11.15am
Christmas Watch Night Service 11.30pm
 Bring in Christmas with friends and family at the Highland
 All welcome.

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
 Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 24th December
 All Age Service 11.15am
 Choir items,
 Nativity Play with Triple C and Gen 1 Creche
 Joint Watchnight Service with The Highland Parish Church
Monday 25th December
 "O come let us adore Him"
 All Age Service 10.30am
 Everyone most welcome

THE SALVATION ARMY
 Campbeltown Corps
 Church and Community Centre
 Registered Charity No. 214791 and in Scotland SC009399
 Burnside Street, Campbeltown
 01586 552046
Sunday 24th December
 10.30am Morning Service
 6.30pm No meeting
Monday 25th December
 10.00am Christmas Worship
 Majors Ben & Ruth Russell
 All welcome

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
 Argyll Street, Campbeltown
 St Kieran Episcopal Church:
 Campbeltown
 Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 24th December
 Advent 4
 Holy Communion 10.45am
Monday 25th December
 Christmas Day
 Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
 The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 24th December
 Family Communion Service 11.00am
 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
 Christmas refreshments will be served
 Pastor Steve Davies
 All welcome
 Enquiries 01586 551200
 www.springbankchurch.co.uk
 SC014646

Lochgilphead shops embrace late night Christmas opening



There was the promise of light refreshments from the Flower Shop's Corrina Charlwood and Amanda Duffy Brown of D&Ds on Lochnell Street. 06_a51Latenightshopping07



A busy scene at Bluestone Gift Shop on Thursday evening. 06_a51Latenightshopping04

Colin Cameron
 editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

THERE was a distinctly festive feeling in the air as many Lochgilphead shops stayed open into the chill December night.

Shoppers took advantage of opening hours extended until 8pm to bag those quality not-quite-last-minute gifts. Retailers, too, hailed the late night shopping initiative on Thursday and Friday December 14 and 15 a big success.

Driving force

The driving force behind the late night shopping event was Fiona MacLeod of Danny's ironmongers and pet supplies on Argyll Street.

Encouraged by Fiona



Colette Benham, right, from Achnamara, picks up gifts for lucky pooches at Danny's, served by Fiona MacLeod. 06_a51Latenightshopping02

and Danny's, other retailers taking part included the Square Peg, the Sweetie Jar, the Pet Shop, Willie and Pat's, Bluestone Gifts, KC Fashion, the Flower Shop, D&Ds, Salty

Dog Cafe, Archway Gallery and Mary's Meals.

With festive drinks and nibbles on offer here and there, the event was enjoyed by shoppers as well as shopkeepers.

On the hunt for that unique Christmas gift for his wife, one Lochgilphead man said: 'I'm working during the day, so this is great. It's good to support local shops and the fact

they are making the effort makes it easier to shop in Lochgilphead.'

'It went really well and folk did come out to do their shopping,' Fiona commented.

'If anything, the Thursday was busier for us than the Friday, but overall it was really successful.'

'We'll definitely be looking to do it again and it might be even bigger next time around.'



Denise Brolly and Karen Blair, all late night smiles at The Sweetie Shop. 06_a51Latenightshopping06



Jenn Jaime of Marmalade Deli with customer Karen Elkin from Minard filling up her basket. 06_a51Latenightshopping05

Your mission - to conquer an Argyll castle

WITH research revealing almost half of British people have never visited a Scottish castle, VisitScotland is encouraging everyone to 'bag' as many as they can.

Boasting more than 80 castles, the national tourism organisation believes Argyll and the Isles is a fantastic region for visitors to start their castle trail as the 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology comes to a close.

Located on the shores of Loch Fyne, Inveraray Castle is one of Scotland's finest stately homes and considered to be one of the most romantic places in Argyll.

Offering beautifully maintained gardens and an expansive estate, the attraction has

a four-star grading from VisitScotland's Quality Assurance Scheme.

Visitors can also enjoy the famous Armoury Hall as well as the tapestry drawing room containing magnificent French tapestries woven especially for the castle.

For those who prefer a ruined castle, Carnasserie in Kilmartin Glen offers an excellent alternative.

The former home of the first Protestant Bishop of the Isles, the 16th-century castle boasts beautiful Renaissance masonry including moulded string-courses, corbelled angle-turrets, ornate rainwater spouts, gunloops and an impressive armorial panel above the entrance.

In total, Scotland is thought to have around 3,000 standing castles, ruins and documented sites. Of these, about 1,050 are merely sites, including those where a house has been built on the location of a previous castle and about 825 are standing ruins.

At the last count, around 660 were in use (private houses, hotels or wedding venues) and around 469 were open to the public, though some only for a couple of weeks a year.

From World Heritage Sites to listed buildings, cultural traditions to myths, stories and legends, the 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology has celebrated 270 events across Scotland and a wealth of activity including

workshops, competitions and new products developed in celebration of the year.

David Adams McGilp, VisitScotland regional director, said: 'Scotland's history and culture is one the top reasons for visiting the country.'

'The 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology has shone a spotlight on some of our greatest assets and icons as well as our hidden gems. Everyone should have the opportunity to experience a Scottish castle in their lifetime and, with so many options, Argyll and the Isles offers the perfect place to start.'

'I encourage everyone to make it their mission to bag a Scottish castle on their visit here.'



Mary's Meals volunteer Josie Campbell and shop manager Marina Campbell with their special late night pop-up Christmas shop. 06_a51Latenightshopping01



ArdriSHAIG'S sporting memorial to a king

Colin Cameron

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

THE PHOTOGRAPH, top right of this page, might not at first glance seem particularly remarkable.

But look a little closer and many readers will recognise King George V playing field in ArdriSHAIG.

The photograph was handed to the Argyllshire Advertiser by sisters Mary MacDon-



The unicorn symbol - on the left side of the gateway as required in Scotland. 06_a51KGVpitch01

ald and Alma McGuinness, natives of ArdriSHAIG. Taken from a family album dating back more than 70 years, the image clearly depicts an important occasion at the playing field - though Mary and Alma don't know what that might have been.

A little investigation by the Advertiser reveals that the pitch is one of just two in Argyll and Bute - the other being in Rothesay - created as part of a nationwide playing fields project in memory of King George V, who died in 1936. More than 400 were constructed around the country, with 85 in Scotland.

Each field would display heraldic panels in memory of the king, each one to an ap-



And on the right hand side, the lion. 06_a51KGVpitch02

proved design. These were issued, free of charge, as a gift by the foundation and became the official emblems of the national memorial.

Money to purchase the land was raised locally, with a grant made by the foundation from 1937. After purchase the land was passed to the National Playing Fields Association - now known as Fields in Trust. Ar-

drishaig's King George V playing field is now managed by Argyll and Bute Council.

Looking at the photograph, Mary and Alma recalled that GLENGILP Farm above the field was 'McKechnie's farm' and that the patch of woodland was known as the 'Fairy Wood'.

The banks at the pitch-side appear newly excavated, and people are in their Sunday best - so could this be a photograph of the opening of the King George V playing field in the late 1930s?

If you would like to comment on this, contact the Advertiser by calling in to our Lochgilphead office, email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk or call 01546 602345.



King George V playing field - but is this the grand opening?



The playing field as it appears today. 06_a51KGVpitch03

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1500

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

- Z Weir
Clachan
TARBERT
- H McLean
Kirk Street
Campbeltown

To allow for disruption to the postal service over the festive period we will run spot the ball for 2 weeks. Please make sure your entries are in before 10am, Wednesday 3rd January.

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 10am, Wednesday 3rd January. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

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

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



Name

Address

Tel No

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

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Ardrishag's sporting
memorial to a king

Sports club lottery draw results

DRAWN on Monday December 18, the Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery draw numbers were 1, 2 and 19. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £500 next week.

The winning numbers in the Tarbert Football Club lottery draw on December 18 were 7, 8 and 11. Ailsa Laing won the £1,000 prize on the 13th draw. The bonus lottery winners were Betty Tinney (£100), Kenny McGlynn (£50) and Georgie Dickson (£50).

There were no winners in the Inveraray Shinty Club lottery draw, but the next draw on Christmas Eve will have a jackpot of £1,000. A Christmas bonus draw will also see four prizes of £50 up for grabs. Inveraray Shinty Club club would like to thank everyone who has sold and bought lottery tickets for their support during the year.

Christmas fun for Dolphins

MID ARGYLL Dolphins enjoyed a fabulous Christmas party on December 14.

The young swimmers had a great time at Mid Argyll Community Pool, playing on the Aquarun and having a delicious festive buffet afterwards.

The Duchess of Argyll graciously came along to present the swimmer of the month award to Maisie Gilmour and congratulated all the swimmers on their great results at the recent Scottish school trials at Dunoon, where they came back with a fantastic haul of 16 medals.

Young Lochgilphead stars keep on winning

**Helensburgh 0
Lochgilphead Red Star 7**

DFDL Under 13 League

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star 2004s were on league duty on Sunday December 17, recording another impressive victory.

In their final game before Christmas the youngsters faced an away trip to Helensburgh 2003s. In a game with lots of positives Red Star ran out convincing winners by seven goals to nil.



That winning feeling.

A sound defensive performance from Leon Murphy, Innes Paterson, Zak Barclay, Tom West and Gregor Brown kept Helensburgh's chances to a minimum and secured a third clean sheet in league games with Gregor helping himself to a goal as well.

Jamie Stewart and Ruaridh Green worked hard in the midfield to retain possession and harass Helensburgh, whilst Craig Aitken supplied a number of dangerous crosses for the forwards.

Conner McMurchy set Star on their way with the first two goals before adding a third in the second half for his hat trick.

Ciaran Gibson scored early in the second half



A few words of wisdom for the Red Star youngsters.

beating the Helensburgh defence with an excellent header. Soon after Keiran Caskie added another goal with a terrific strike from the corner of the penalty box.

The scoring was

wrapped up by Alexander McLean who coolly found the corner of the net after a great pass into the box from Lee Harris.

The win leaves Star unbeaten with the maximum 21 points

from seven games.

With namesakes Glasgow Red Star also on 21 points from seven games, the Lochgilphead boys top the league by virtue of their better goal difference of plus-24 goals.

The first game of 2018 sees the youngsters travel to Oban on January 14 for a local derby.

The boys would like to thank everyone for their support over the year.

Winter on the water with festive fun and frolics

THE ANNUAL Christmas Shield competition was once again held at Loch Etive aboard the

Laura Dawn II. Conditions were calm but freezing cold, while the snow-capped

mountains were stunning and offered the perfect backdrop for the winter event.

Members of Loch Fyne Sea Angling Club fished a number of marks north and

south of the loch in search of quality fish, but small to medium spurs were the main species caught with nothing huge on offer.

A few in-size whiting made up the tally of 46 for the day.

Despite the lack of fish everyone had a great day with loads of festive fayre and good craic throughout the

day. Everyone dressed for the occasion, and the club even had its very own elf on the shelf and Blitzen the reindeer.

Results: 1 Nikki Thompson; 2 Willie Shaw; 3 Jim Smith.

Heaviest Fish: Robert MacBrayne (3lb 8oz spur). Hamper for best dressed member: Jim Smith



Plenty of Christmas fun on board the Laura Dawn II.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



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