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Appeal to Scottish Government about controversial wind farm

'This application has had no support from the very beginning'

By KALI LINDSAY
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

AN ARGYLL wind farm plan which was kicked into touch by Argyll and Bute Council and vehemently opposed by the community will now be considered by the Scottish Government.

Developer Renewable Energy Systems (RES) has submitted an appeal to the Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) for the 11 100-metre high turbines development near Whitehouse - despite the council's unanimous rejection of the plan in September.

Planners at the local authority said they could not approve the Freas-dail wind farm applica-

tion because it was 'fundamentally flawed.'

Community groups, Tarbert and Skipness Community Council and Kintyre Turbine Watch also strongly opposed the application.

Survey

A survey by West Kintyre Community Council, which serves Whitehouse, revealed the application split the local community - 48 per cent objected to the proposal and 52 per cent were in favour or had no comment.

Angus Gilmor, head of planning at the council, said that if the application was approved it would 'overwhelm and

dominate' a highly sensitive landscape.

He had also expressed fears that the development could set a precedent for other windfarms outwith the Kintyre upland plateau.

Although all applications were assessed on their own merit, he said, it could send an inappropriate signal that 'edge of plateau' developments were acceptable.

But Neil Martin, RES development project manager, said it was in the appropriate location.

He said: 'The limited and localised landscape impacts of the project will not generate an overall impact that justifies refusal of planning

Continued on Page 5



PUPILS from Lochgilphead High School and Tarbert Academy were in the festive spirit last week as the schools held their annual Christmas dances. The wild weather did not stop youngsters from turning up to enjoy an evening of musical entertainment and dancing. Lochgilphead students Kieran Kirkhope and Shaun Doy celebrated swapping their school clothes for party gear for the occasion. For more pictures turn to leisure page nine. 06_a52loch01

Lochgilphead lads raise the temperature

A GROUP of Lochgilphead lads have raised temperatures this week by posing for a charity calendar.

The calendar has been flying off the shelves since it went on sale and will raise cash for the restoration of Kilmory Clock Lodge.

To read more on the story turn to page 7.

Work completed on parish church

INVERARAY Parish Church is to become the heart of the community once again as work to make the building wind and watertight is complete - four years after the community started to raise cash for the project.

The community pulled together to raise £20,000 for the project, which cost a total of £300,000. To read more on the story turn to page 4.

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Charlotte MacNeill, four, enjoyed an early Christmas meal courtesy of Mid Argyll Timebank volunteers. 06_a52timebank01

Lunch Bunch serve up a feast

LOCHGILPHEAD residents enjoyed an early festive lunch courtesy of the town's Lunch Bunch group.

Organised by volunteers from Mid Argyll Timebank, the group pulled out all the stops with a turkey feast, carol singing and live music from band Sanctuary and Bar None Community Choir.

Dozens of residents filled Lochgilphead Community Centre last Friday to enjoy the event, which is now in its second year.

Lunch Bunch member Antonia Baird said: 'We are delighted with the amount of good will that there is here and are thrilled by the number of people who have turned up to show their support.'

Introduction

The Lunch Bunch meets in the community centre on the third Friday of every month and next year there will be the introduction of a free door to door pick up service, funded by the Health and Wellbeing Network.

Students gaining qualifications in core subjects has dropped

AN IMPASSIONED defence of the education system has been made after figures revealed the number of students gaining qualifications in core subjects had dropped.

Statistics presented at last Thursday's meeting of Argyll and Bute Council showed the percentage of pupils achieving at least a Level 5 (credit Standard Grade or Intermediate 2 A - C) in English and Maths had dropped from 95.2 per cent in 2012 to 91.7 in 2013. Meanwhile, the Scottish average rose from 94.5 per cent to 94.9 per cent.

However, over the past

five years Argyll and Bute pupils have generally performed better than the national average and the county compares well with the rest of Scotland when it comes to pupils going onto further education.

Suggested

William Crossan, the council's Church of Scotland representative, suggested the drop in the English and Maths pass rates was linked to a shortage of teachers

He said: 'I think our schools are performing much better than this report suggests but there is a downward trend in English and Maths against Scotland as a

whole and we need more detail about that.'

Councillor John Semple added the exams report did not do justice to the good work in Argyll's schools and wanted more to be done to promote their successes.

Councillor Duncan MacIntyre stressed the importance of education in maintaining Argyll's population, adding: 'In 2009 we were well above the national average [for English and Maths] and now it is three per cent lower. Is our education system fit for purpose? Is it doing what we want it to do?'

'A business would look at what it wants to

do in 10 or 20 years and change its training methods accordingly.'

But council leader Dick Walsh defended the status quo, saying: 'You can nit-pick these papers and focus on the negative but that doesn't help.'

'There is lots of good work in our schools. We are looking at this paper in isolation but there are annual reports that make excellent reading.'

Councillors agreed a recommendation, proposed by Councillor Ellen Morton, to look at how best to report the full scale of educational achievement at future meetings.

Bar staff to help in fight against sexual violence

PUB LANDLORDS and their staff are to be taught how to intervene in situations that have the potential to become dangerous under a new Police Scotland initiative.

The scheme which aims to help people prevent sexual violence in

their communities will be rolled out across Mid Argyll in the new year.

The 'Who Are You?' course will be delivered by local police officers who say they will help bar staff to identify people who may become vulnerable to rape or sexual violence.

Police officers completed the course last week. They saw a film, which showed a number of people who could have prevented the rape of a young girl easily by intervening.

Trish Collins, safer communities officer for Argyll, said simple things - keeping an eye on young girls who have had too much to drink, ensuring they go home with friends, asking people in her company to walk her home, ensuring that a girl is not left with a stranger - are simple ways of preventing acts of sexual violence.

The course will be delivered to licensees as well as any other community group which feels it would benefit from the training. For more information call PC Trish Collins on 101.

Traffic light batteries stolen

A QUANTITY of batteries used to power a set of temporary traffic lights on the A83, five miles south of Inveraray, have been stolen.

The theft, which took place between 2am and 6.20am last Wednesday, left the traffic lights inoperable.

Police are appealing for anyone with information to contact them on 101.

Police require information

POLICE are appealing for information after a large quantity of scaffolding was stolen from a secure area within Kilmory Industrial Estate.

The theft occurred between 8.30am on Saturday and 6.15am on Sunday.

Because of the amount of scaffolding taken a large vehicle would have been required.

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Councillors criticised for backing Ardfern housing application

'We feel very let down by Argyll and Bute Council and councillors'

COUNCILLORS have been slammed for approving a plan for ten houses to be built on the Lower Glebe, Ardfern.

The planning application, submitted by the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland, was backed by Argyll and Bute councillors at a public hearing.

However, Craignish Community Council (CCC) has criticised the councillors for disregarding the Craignish Community Plan (CCP), which states only affordable housing should be permitted on the Glebe.

The application passed is for six affordable homes and four plots of land to be sold for private housing.

Community councillors also hit out at only four of a possible 12 Argyll and Bute councillors attending the public hearing, describing the poor attendance as 'unacceptable'.

CCC has sent letters protesting the decision to Sally Loudon, chief executive of Argyll and Bute Council, and Dick Walsh, the council leader.

Mary Smyth, convenor of CCC, stated: 'It has taken just over a year for the CCP to be worth no more than the paper it is written on.'

She added: 'We feel very let down by Argyll and Bute Council and councillors, who on the one hand encourage

bottom up, democratic involvement in planning issues, but who, at the first challenge, have chosen to ignore the community's clearly expressed wishes.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokesman said: 'It is not the case that the CCP has 'fallen at the first hurdle' following the recent planning decision referred to.'

'The plan has been used to help determine a number of significant planning applications in the area.'

The application also received 120 letters of support and 60 letters of objection.

Mid Argyll councillors Sandy Taylor and Don-

nie MacMillan told the *Advertiser* they were unable to attend meeting after openly supporting the CCC's plans to purchase the land back from the trustees.

Councillor Taylor explained: 'In offering my clearly stated support for the community purchase proposal, I had compromised my ability to participate in the planning hearing.'

'I sought legal advice to clarify my position.'

'I could not be seen objectively by other interested parties as acting impartially and fairly, as I had clearly declared my support for the community buy-out which featured in the objections' case.'



Andy Christie from Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue with police constables Lewis Thorpe and Iain MacVicar before the buzzard was released.

Police release bird of prey

POLICE officers recently released a bird of prey which had been under lock and key for more than three weeks.

Lewis Thorpe and Iain MacVicar helped to release a buzzard in Kilmartin after their colleagues rescued the bird when it had been hit by a car.

Police Constables Ben Rursden and Stewart Charnock came across the bird lying in the road after it had been struck by a car four weeks ago. The men drove the concussed bird to Inveraray, where it was collected by

Andy Christie from the Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue Centre in Ayr.

Andy said: 'It was pretty badly concussed and bruised.'

Hand-fed

'It was on painkillers and anti-inflammatory drugs and was hand-fed for the first 10 days in our hospital. After that it went to the aviary to build its muscles so it could fly again.'

PC Thorpe had the honour of releasing the buzzard in the grounds of Carnasserie Castle, where it immediately flew off over the glen.

Befrienders receive cash boost

A LOCHGILPHEAD charity has received a £2,000 cash boost thanks to The Co-operative Membership Community Fund.

Befrienders, which helps vulnerable and young people across Argyll and Bute, secured the funding from the organisation which will be put towards the running costs of the charity.

Cathi Bertin, from Befrienders, said they were thrilled to have received the money.

She said: 'Funding is becoming ever harder to secure, therefore we were de-

lighted to hear that we were successful in securing this grant from The Co-operative. The cash has made a huge difference to our group.'

Liz Armstrong, The Co-operative group's membership officer in Western Scotland, said: 'Supporting local communities has been an inherent part of the Co-operative's values and principles since the very beginning of the Co-operative Movement.'

Community Fund application forms are available online at www.co-operative.coop/communityfund

Car paint work vandalised

A VANDAL scratched the paint work of a red Volkswagen Passat while it was parked on Dun Mor Avenue, Kilmory.

The damage was done between 2pm last Thursday and noon last Friday.

Anyone with information can contact the police on 101.

Boxes stolen from lorry

A NUMBER of boxes were stolen from a lorry parked in Lorne Street car park between mid night last Thursday and 3am last Friday.

Police are appealing for anyone with information to contact them on 101.

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Inveraray Parish Church works complete

'We would like to say thank you to everyone for all their efforts'

INVERARAY Parish Church will be preserved for generations to come as work to make the building wind and water tight is completed.

Scaffolding that has surrounded the building since the start of the summer while work to the roof, beams and windows has been carried out was due to come down this week - weather permitting.

Gold leafing

The work, which was carried out by specialist contractors Laing Masonry, also included gold leafing the clock face, rough casting the building and painting its exterior.

The moment marks a

huge milestone for the local community which raised £20,000 for the Church Refurbishment Project across four years after the building suffered serious storm damage.

The overall cost of the project is expected to have cost in excess of £300,000, which was raised through grant funding and included £200,000 from Historic Scotland.

Douglas Gibson, property convenor, said: 'We would like to say thank you to everyone for all their efforts on the project. It really has been a team effort and has been no one man band. The community has wanted this for a

very long time. We cannot thank the community enough for its support and we hope that this is a building that people will enjoy for years to come.'

Special thanks

He added: 'We would like to give a special thanks to Reverend Louis Bezuidenhout for all the work he has done on the project. No one knows the amount of paper work that has gone into getting the project complete.'

Members of the church will now focus on raising funds to refurbish the interior of the building, which will include installing a disabled access and fitting a new kitchen.



Children from Fyne Families Elfs and Toddler group met with Santa. 06_a52elfs01

Elfs Nursery celebrates Christmas for final time

THE ELFS Nursery Christmas party in Lochgilphead was an emotional occasion as it marked the last event before the facility closed its doors for the final time.

Youngsters from the nursery along with the toddlers group enjoyed cakes and party food in Lochgilphead Community Centre last week before Santa arrived to hand out presents.

The nursery, which is run by social enterprise Fyne Families, closed last Friday because of dwindling numbers of children and a poor economic climate.

Santa also stopped by the centre to visit the Lochgilphead After



Youngsters from the Fyne Families After School Club were excited to meet Santa. 06_a52fyne01

School Club to greet children and handed out presents to everyone who was there.

The club is keen to welcome new children in the new year. Anyone who would like

more information can contact the Fyne Families team on fynefamilies@yahoo.co.uk

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remain unchanged during this period

Houses for heroes awarded £3million in funding

A CHARITY which enjoys loyal support from the people of Mid Argyll has been awarded £3m in funding to help build houses for veterans.

Houses for Heroes is managed by Tarbert man Peter Minshall, who swam across the Corryvreckan last year to raise awareness of the charity.

The funding includes a Scottish Government grant of £1.3million and £1.94 million of LIBOR funding - a fund which awards cash to organisa-

tions that implement the objectives of the Armed Forces Covenant.

Peter, chief executive of Houses for Heroes, said: 'This means we shall be able to progress our building programme to house another 38 disabled ex-service personnel and there is hope that, subject to planning, this may include an area in Argyll.'

Other local authorities in Scotland have already donated land on which homes can be built.

Funding for First World War projects

COMMUNITY groups and young people who are carrying out projects relating to the First World War can apply for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The fund launched its First World War - Then and Now programme at

a special event in Edinburgh last week ahead of the 100th anniversary of the war.

HLF can provide grants between £3,000 and £10,000 to groups which aim to explore, learn and conserve the heritage of the First

World War.

Projects can range from researching war memoirs, photographs, letters, literature or speaking to people who were affected by the war.

To find out more on HLF go to www.hlf.org.uk/firstworldwar.

Pensioners could save £135 on electricity bills with Warm Discount Scheme

PENSIONERS who are finding it difficult to pay their energy bills could save £135 from their electricity bill through the Warm Discount Scheme.

The scheme is designed to help vulnerable people who are on a low income and include those on pre-pay and pay-as-you-go metres.

People can find out if they qualify by checking with their suppliers or by visiting www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme/eligibility or call the Scottish Government on 0845 039 439.

Apply now for a third sector grant

COMMUNITY groups and organisations are being encouraged to apply for Argyll and Bute Council's third sector grants for 2014/15.

The grant programme is aimed at supporting groups and vulnerable people by kick starting new projects and events.

More than 30 projects in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands were supported through the scheme last year, which included Tarbert Music Festival.

Application forms are available from www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/funding-and-support. The closing date for applications is Monday, February 3.

Information wanted

POLICE are appealing for information after a window was smashed on Union Terrace, Manse Brae, Lochilphhead, in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Anyone with information can contact the police on 101.



Phil Hemmings, left, Oly Hemmings, centre, and Pete Creech, enjoyed a warm cuppa after a guided walk through Kilmartin Glen. 06_a52museum01

Winter walk and buffet at Kilmartin

KILMARTIN Museum finished its season with a Winter Walk and buffet.

Brave souls

The wild weather on Sunday morning did not stop more than 50 brave souls turning up

for the walk through Kilmartin Glen, which was lead by Sharon Webb, curator of the museum.

The event was followed by a buffet in the museum's cafe where the walkers enjoyed

a warm cuppa and delicious homemade soup.

Fantasic year

Speaking about the museum's year, Sharon said: 'It has been a fantastic year. It could not have been done without the support

of all our volunteers at the museum who do an amazing job and thank you to all our staff.'

Closed

The museum and cafe are now closed for the winter and will reopen on March 1.

Windfarm appeal

Continued from Page 1 permission when balanced against the benefits of renewable energy the project can deliver.'

'RES has sensitively designed Freasdail Wind Farm through an extensive consultation process with the local community and statutory consultees.'

He added: 'Freasdail Wind Farm will bring significant benefits to those living locally, including a direct discount off their electricity bills of £235 every year.'

Whitehouse resident David Bridges, who faces having a turbine within 1,700 metres of his home, said the company's decision to appeal showed it had no consideration for the community.

'I am extremely disappointed by the decisions. This application has had no support from the very beginning,' he said. 'They have no interest in the well being of people living locally.'

A detailed Statement of Appeal has been lodged by RES with DPEA which will be available in the near future on the DPEA website.

Extension to Kilmartin Museum to cost £6.5m

AN EXTENSION to Kilmartin Museum, which aims to turn the museum into one of the area's biggest attractions, will cost £6.5 million, it has been revealed.

An initial design application, which will see the museum treble in size, has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

If approved by HLF in March financial assistance will be provided to take the project forward with a final design given to the funding body in 2015.

If that is approved, HLF would provide 60 percent of the entire cost and the museum would be required to raise 40 percent of the funds, which would be gained through grant applications and fund-raising

events. Designed by Reiach and Hall of Edinburgh, the extension would wrap around the existing two buildings.

It is hoped to include a state of the art education room, temporary exhibition centre, larger cafe, open storage space, bigger car park and an education room.

An open storage room is planned to allow relics recently found in Kilmartin Glen to be displayed in special drawers for research students to view.

Sharon Webb, curator of the museum, said it was an exciting time for the museum.

'If we are successful in March we will spend 18 months developing the project,' she said. 'This will include carrying out a community

consultation and working on the car parking issue, which we know is a big concern with local residents. If all goes to plan we expect the museum to be complete by 2018.'

It is hoped the museum will attract more students and tourists to the area, with local and national organisations already expressing an interest in the project.

Sharon added: 'The National Museum of Scotland and National Gallery of Scotland have both expressed their interest in bringing their exhibitions to the museum, which is fantastic for us.'

Organised by Mid Argyll Round Table, the sleigh stopped in dozens of streets, in Cairnbaan, Kilmichael, Tar-

bert, Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead.

Sharon added: 'The National Museum of Scotland and National Gallery of Scotland have both expressed their interest in bringing their exhibitions to the museum, which is fantastic for us.'

Santa pays a visit

LOCHGILPHEAD'S Alexander Cunningham and his dad Alex were just two of many to meet Santa on his sleigh when he travelled through Mid Argyll ahead of Christmas.

bert, Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead.



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Looking to the future

AS the end of the year approaches, this is often a time for reflection and looking to the future. Here in the Argyllshire Advertiser office as we flicked through this year's editions to put together the End of Year Review, it was difficult to pick just a handful of the most memorable stories.

Week after week our pages have been filled with inspiring stories from individuals and groups from across the area.

It is these stories of people who are going that extra mile that make a community newspaper and it has been a truly remarkable year.

There have been thousands of pounds raised for charity and people giving that bit more, when it would be so easy just not to bother.

Inveraray's fire fighters raised thousands for Yorkhill Sick Children's Hospital, Glasgow, Lochgilphead residents dug deep for the first ever Rainbow Valley Weekend and Vivienne Kerr battled with a life threatening illness to raise cash for the Lauren Curry Twilight Foundation. Dougie Moore and Carolyn McAlpine ran 100 miles in three days to raise more than £10,000 and teenager Lorna Unkles climbed Mount Kilimanjaro for Breast Cancer Awareness. But, these things would not happen if it was not for the inspirational people who had stories to tell - who face their problems with courage and strength.

As we prepare to welcome in 2014 we hope that the year will be as inspiring as ever.

We wish all our readers a Happy New Year and look forward to hearing from you all in 2014.

who's who at your advertiser

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Festive message from the Provost of Argyll and Bute

Sir,
The Christmas season is with us once again – for many, a busy but joyous time, filled with family, friends, fun and festive magic.

It is a time to look back on the events of the past year and to look forward with excitement and hope to a new year.

There is tremendous community spirit throughout Argyll and Bute and I am sure this will flourish even more at Christmas when people gather together to share in the festivities.

This spirit is evident in the way that our volunteers and local groups work so hard and give so willingly to help others.

It is evident in the way that our people cope so admirably with the challenges of rural life and in the vibrancy of our communities.

I would like to thank them all for the way they contribute to making Argyll and Bute a wonderful place to live, work and visit – not just at Christmas but all year round.

The holiday season can be difficult for many people and my thoughts are with them, along with my sincere wishes for a time of peace and hope for the year that lies ahead.

As 2013 draws to an end, and the dawn of 2014 approaches, I wish for everyone in Argyll and Bute a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Len Scoullar,
Provost of Argyll and Bute Council.

Time for reflection

Sir,
Christmas is a great time to reflect on what we hold dearest as a society. I have little doubt that our NHS is at the top of that list and the staff of Scotland's NHS are its lifeblood.

While we tuck into our festive fare, the doctors and cleaners in our hospitals, nurses and carers out in the community and the ambulance crews on call will continue to provide vital lifeline services to the people of Scotland.

These staff are sacrificing time with their own family to be with those in the most need and I would like to offer them my grateful thanks.

This past year has provided the chance to mark the 65th anniversary of our NHS.

It was a time to look back over how the NHS has developed and the world-class care it offers.

The ability of our NHS to deliver this world-class care is due to the commitment and dedication of staff. They are at the heart of our achievements – of which there are many.

It was only last month we saw how truly outstanding our emergency services are as they responded with amazing courage, skill and professionalism to the tragic Clutha helicopter crash.

The hard work and determination of the ambulance and NHS staff was clear as they worked around the clock in an extraordinary manner.

I never cease to be impressed by how highly patients speak of the compassion they receive from NHS staff, at what can often be their darkest moment, or a time of crisis.

I want to add my own personal admiration for the extraordinary work our NHS staff do every day and recognise how they improve and touch so many lives.

The festival period is also a time for looking forward and 2014 is already shaping up to be an extremely exciting year for Scotland as the country takes the global stage, playing host to the Commonwealth Games, Ryder Cup and the second Year of Homecoming.

These events offer us an exceptional opportunity to make our nation healthier and create a lasting legacy for the country. I know that NHS staff will support this goal.

To all health workers in Scotland, I wish you health and happiness across the festive period. I would like to thank you again for the invaluable work which you do all year round and I hope that wherever you are, you receive the respect and acknowledgement you deserve.

Alex Neil,
Health secretary.

Thank you from Barnardo's Scotland

Sir,
As the festive season gets into full swing and with Christmas been and gone I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mid Argyll residents and our supporters for helping to make this Christmas a huge success for Barnardo's Scotland store in Argyll.

Thanks to the generosity of members of the public donating to our shop in Dunoon their contributions have helped Barnardo's retail record a massive seven per

cent increase in donations.

As a result, our stores are packed full of great quality recycled clothes, toys and gifts for our customers to choose from.

We would also like to thank our customers for their support, without which, we would not be able to support local services in the area.

By shopping in one of Barnardo's stores your readers have helped our local services as the profits from retail go directly to support the charity's work with some of Scotland's most disadvantaged children and young people.

So thank you to everyone who has helped us this year and we look forward to their continued support in 2014.

Magdalene Davie,
Area business
manager
Barnardo's Scotland.

Sincere thanks

Sir,
I would sincerely like to thank everyone who supported and contributed to the success of National Adoption Week, which is run by the British Association for Adoption and Fostering (BAAF).

I would particularly like to thank those who felt inspired to come forward and potentially offer families to children in need of a secure and loving home.

If you are considering whether adoption is for you I urge you to contact your local adoption agency or visit www.nationaladoptionweek.org.uk for further information.

Aileen Campbell,
Minister for children and young people.

Letters to the Editor, Argyllshire Advertiser,
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PRESS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Preparing for a community dig at Tarbert Castle

The exact time frame will depend on funding as it is estimated one dig will cost £25,000

ARCHAEOLOGICAL experts will come together to help prepare a plan for a community dig at Tarbert Castle, which will take place next year.

Tarbert Castle Trust will sit with experts who specialise in a range of areas, such as metal, pottery and wood to decide what area should be the focus of the dig.

Excavation

Four potential sites have been identified for excavation by Kilmartin Museum's archaeologist Roddy Regan, who carried out a survey with local volunteers on the castle earlier this year.

The areas that have been identified as poten-

tial dig sites are: the old Royal Burgh that sits just outside the castle grounds; a section of the outer and inner walls; the well/cistern area and the kitchen area of the single storey tower.

Robert McPhail, a director of the trust, said it was an exciting time for the Explore Tarbert Castle project which began in 2005.

He said: 'We hope to meet with the experts early in the new year and hope to get the rubber stamp from Historic Scotland, which will be at the meeting.'

'The exact time frame for the dig will depend on funding as it is estimated one dig will cost

£25,000. I will be looking at various funding avenues for it.'

Robert said there was a strong sense in the community that any findings should remain on view to the public after the dig has been completed.

Public view

'Some dig areas are often filled back in again after the study is complete, but the feeling is that finds should be left on public view in some way,' he said.

'If suitable areas were exposed measures to consolidate or protect these would need to be implemented, but this would be part of the project planning.'



Ross Cowan, who appears in The Barber's Boys calendar, with Jane McCurdie chairwoman of Lochgilphead Phoenix Project. 06_a52cal01

Lads set pulses racing in charity calendar

A GROUP of Lochgilphead lads will set pulses racing in 2014 as they pose for a charity calendar.

The Barber's Boys calendar features 12 of the most handsome young lads from the local area, who have posed in their bare essential to help raise cash for the Lochgilphead Phoenix Project.

The lads who regularly get their hair cut at The Barber, Lochgilphead, were roped into the venture by Jane McCurdie.

Jane owns the shop and is chairwoman of the phoenix project, which is raising funds for the development of Kilmory Clock Lodge.

Photo shoot

She said: 'I originally wanted to do head shots of the lads and put them in my window and the idea just grew from there. I got some boys together and thought let's just do this, so the lads came in on a Sunday and did a photo shoot in the shop.'

She added: 'I would like to thank everyone involved in the calendar and to the boys for being such good sports.'

Ross Cowan, who will hang on people's walls during September, said: 'It was really fun to do. I had my arm twisted, but it is all in the name of a good cause and a bit of fun.'

The calendar is available from The Barber, Jodie's Hairdressing, The Square Peg and RS McColl.

Reminder from Scottish Water

SCOTTISH Water is reminding people to dispose of grease, fat and cooking oils responsibly during the festive season.

All fat should be placed in a suitable container to avoid drains blocking, which prevents waste water draining away and can cause internal sewage flooding or environmental pollution.

Nurse caught carrying cocaine

AN AUXILIARY nurse from Lochgilphead has admitted possessing cocaine after she was found drunk in Burnside Square, Campbeltown on a night out.

Admitted

Louise Bradley, 27, of 6 Sinclair Drive, admitted the charge when she appeared at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last Thursday.

The court heard that police had attended Camp-

beltown Hospital on August 25 this year after Bradley had been found in an intoxicated state in Burnside Square.

Nurses who had tended to her found a plastic wrap of white powder in her bra and contacted police.

Toxicology tests showed she had been carrying 0.3 grams of cocaine with an estimated street value of £10 to £15.

Bradley, who was representing herself, told the court her actions were completely out of character, adding: 'I don't know where I got the cocaine from.'

'One off'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC said: 'I hope this was genuinely a one off.'

Sentence was deferred for six months for Bradley to be of good behaviour.

Increase in number of school leavers moving into further education, training or employment

THE number of Argyll and Bute Council area school leavers moving on to further education, training or employment has increased to 92.5 percent - the highest percentage ever recorded for the authority.

The council's annual school leaver report revealed that 100 percent of pu-

pils from Tarbert Academy moved on to further education, training or employment for 2012/2013.

The report records 875 senior pupils leaving the local authority's 10 secondary schools. The council is now ranked 13th when compared to the other 31 Scottish local authorities.

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YOUR
paper...**

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Corran Singers wow Mid Argyll audiences

'The choir sounded as good as I've ever heard them'

AUDIENCES around Mid Argyll have been wowed by Christmas music at three carol concerts given by the Corran Singers during the festive season, which raised money for charity.

The choir performed in Lochgilphead's St Margaret's Catholic Church and the Christ Church, which raised £500 for the Philippines typhoon appeal.

The final concert was held in Furnace Village Hall, which raised funds for the Friends of Crarac Gardens.

The Corran singers tra-

ditionally mark the end of the year with free concerts of Christmas music and this year the group added a new selection of works alongside the traditional Christmas classics.

At each of the concerts the singers were accompanied by Philip Bowden-Smith.

Spring concerts

Chris Steadman, the musical director of the choir, said: 'The choir sounded as good as I've ever heard them. Joy and pathos were beautifully expressed. I am looking forward to the New Year as we start work on

the programme for our spring concerts.'

He added: 'Thanks are due to Father David Carruthers and Father Simon MacKenzie for the use of their churches at no charge to the choir and to the warm welcome from their congregations.'

The Corran Singers start rehearsals again on Wednesday, January 8 at Lochgilphead Community Centre.

All voices are welcome - no prior choral experience is necessary. Details can be found on the choir's website www.thecorransingers.co.uk



PUPILS at Ashfield Primary School entertained friends and family with their own adaptation of Hansel and Gretel. The youngsters retold the classic story, but added their own humour and original songs to the panto which they performed last Wednesday evening. 06_a52ashfield01

Choir members

KILMARTIN Museum is seeking members to join a community choir. The choir will perform at Temple Wood on Saturday, March 22. For more information telephone 01546 510 278

Christmas cheer at Tarbert Youth Group

THE ANNUAL Tarbert Youth Group Christmas party had an extra twist this year as young people were asked to bring a partner from another generation.

The inter-generational party was the idea of Tarbert Youth Group co-ordinator Heather Bellshaw, who is also involved with the village's Soup Group.

Opportunity

The party was an opportunity to build and strengthen community

relations, Heather said.

'A lot of older people feel very isolated in the winter time. The weather is dismal and the dark early nights mean some elderly people don't want to go out as much,' she said. 'Christmas is a time for the whole family and we wanted to throw a party where everyone would feel welcome.'

The party was full of home cooked food and baking that had been put together by the youth

group. There was plenty of fun and frolics and during the festive evening Santa stopped by for a visit.

Busy year

The party, which took place last Friday, is the final event of the Tarbert Youth Group 2013 calendar before it gears up for the busy year ahead.

Next year there are plans for regular kayaking sessions, photography and life skills classes along with a variety of community events.



CRAFTERS gathered in the Lochgilphead MS Centre to sell beautiful handmade goods to locals ahead of Christmas. Alison MacDonald, left, Helen Rhodick, Phyllis Cameron and little Sophie Maciver, were on hand to help raise funds for the centre. The fees from the craft holders stalls went to the centre while there was handmade Christmas cards and delicious waffles on sale.

06_a51mscentre01

Annual Hogmanay party to be held in Ormsary Hall

To conclude what has been a busy year, the Ormsary and District Social Club will celebrate the New Year with its annual Hogmanay party.

The event will be held in Ormsary Hall and will begin at 8.30pm. Performing on the night will once again be local band Ceilidh's Hornet.

The band will perform a mixture of

ceilidh and modern classics so there is sure to be something for all age groups to enjoy. The party is open to anyone who would like to go along and see in 2014 in Ormsary Hall.

Looks forward

The club would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and looks forward to a busy 2014.

Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau Volunteer Advisers Needed Now In Lochgilphead!

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Teenagers celebrate the end of term with 'snowballs'

TO CELEBRATE the end of term teenagers across Mid Argyll put on their favourite party outfits and danced the night away at their Christmas dances.

Pupils from Lochgilphead High School held their Snowball last Wednesday evening and youngsters from Tarbert Academy partied last Thursday night.

There was a mixture of traditional ceilidh music and the latest pop hits for youngsters to dance to as they celebrated the end of a busy term.



Tarbert girls put on their best dresses to celebrate the end of term. 06_a52tarbert05



Gabiella Holmes and Kerry-Anne Keenan were all smiles at Tarbert Academy. 06_a52tarbert04



Erin Smith, Shanon Macdonald, Lauren Lyon and Jodie Henderson at the Tarbert dance. 06_a52tarbert01



It was an evening of ceilidh dancing at Tarbert Academy for students. 06_a52tarbert07



Triona MacCuish, Jack Faulkner, Arron Lyon, Becky Wilkieson enjoyed an evening of dancing at Tarbert Academy. 06_a52tarbert03



From left: Lochgilphead pupils Lauren Callander, Courtney Stewart and Caitalin MacDonald. 06_a52loch02



Lorne Harvey and Jaime Wilson put on their kilts to mark the end of the school year at Lochgilphead. 06_a2loch03

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PICTURE HOUSE

HISTORIC CINEMA

Saturday 27 December

Frozen (PG)

Showing: Fri 27 at 8.00pm 2D Sat 28 Matinee at 1.30pm 2D
Showing: Sat 28 at 8.00pm 3D Sun 29 at 8.00pm 2D
Mon 30 at 8.00pm 3D Cinema Closed 31 Dec, 1 and 2 Jan

Please note children under the age of 9 must be accompanied by an adult of 18 years or over

Coming Next: Saturday 4 January

Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs 2 (U)

Coming Soon

Gravity

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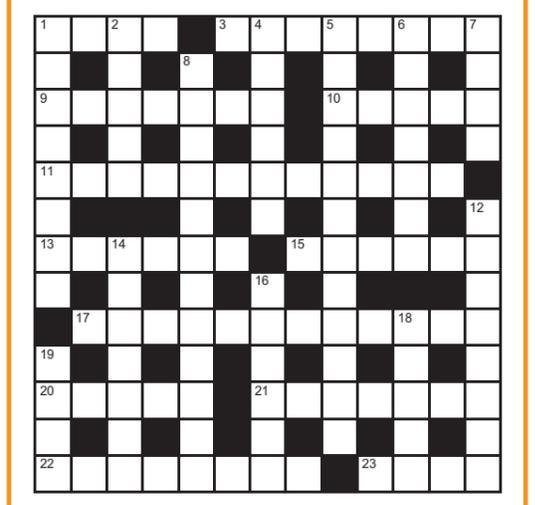
SYNOPSIS

Synopsis: Frozen. Anna, a fearless optimist, sets off on an epic journey - teaming up with rugged mountain man Kristoff and his loyal reindeer Sven - to find her sister Elsa, whose icy powers have trapped the kingdom of Arendelle in eternal winter. Encountering Everest-like conditions, mystical trolls and a hilarious snowman named Olaf, Anna and Kristoff battle the elements in a race to save the kingdom.

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Slightly open (4) 3 Egg-laying fish (8) 9 Urbanised (5-2) 10 Flexible (5) 11 Folk movement (7,5) 13 Make waves (6) 15 Sea inlets by cliffs (6) 17 Swimming costumes (7,5) 20 Old rope fibres (5) 21 Bouillon drink (4,3) 22 Potassium carbonate (8) 23 Mimic (4) | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Long-fin tunny (8) 2 Farewell in France (5) 4 Yellow fruit (6) 5 Settled in (4-8) 6 Siren (7) 7 Psychic (4) 8 Mansion (7,5) 12 Equilibrium of the earth's lithosphere (8) 14 Closure for women? (7) 16 Cannot (6) 18 Foreword, for short (5) 19 Masterstroke (4) |
|--|--|

Last week's solution

T	M	S	O	E
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A	R	U	I	T
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R	E	A	D	I
X				
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U	O	B	O	E
O	S	G	U	L
E	N	T	N	T
S	M	U	D	G
E	S	D	X	T

Review of the Year

FEBRUARY



Shona Anderson, left, and Karen Robertson rallied support for the Mid Argyll Show last summer. a33petition01

FEBRUARY: A PUBLIC campaign secured the future of Mid Argyll Show as Argyll and Bute Council bowed to public pressure over the use of the land at Kilmory Show Field. The show was put in jeopardy in 2011 when the council identified the

field as a potential site to build 200 homes in the draft local area plan. The authority reversed its decision in the wake of a public outcry that saw 1,000 people sign up to a Facebook campaign and a further 500 sign a petition.

MARCH



MARCH: THERE were smiles all round at Furnace Primary School when the official Glasgow Commonwealth Games mascot Clyde stopped by to see pupils. Nicola and Samantha Knight were just two of the youngsters who enjoyed an afternoon of fun and games when he visited as part of his Scottish schools tour.

06_a10clyde02



MARCH: FIREFIGHTERS in the Royal Burgh raised £5,600 for the Schiehallion Ward at Yorkhill Sick Children's Hospital in Glasgow.

Inspired

Dubbed the Great Inveraray Head Shave the crew were inspired to raise cash for the

ward after the local lass Rosie was blastic Leuk admitted to has been att

06_a12hair01

MARCH: MARTHA Payne continued her incredible story by meeting the president of Malawi Dr Joyce Banda and received an invitation to visit her Excellency in the State House in Malawi.

The Lochgilhead Primary School pupil and her father met the President Banda at a series of events held to celebrate the birth of Scottish missionary David Livingstone.

The youngster, who raised almost £130,000 for Mary's Meals, was also named Young Scot of the Year 2012 back in February.



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MARCH: TARBERT couple William MacFarlane and his partner Kirsty Pilne, who have been together for 14 years, were delighted to win £10,000

on the People's Postcode Lottery. The pair, who have a five year old daughter, planned to take a trip to Disneyland with their winnings.

MAY



MAY: KIND hearted Lochgilheadents raised £6,500 at the first Relay Weekend.

Organiser of the event MacLean, left, Angela MacVica

- January to June

APRIL

APRIL: PATRICK Stewart, Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, acting on behalf of the Queen, presented Jenny Campbell with the British Empire Medal.

Jenny was awarded the medal in recognition of the work she has done with the Red Cross for 60 years.

The 82 year old was the first lady in Argyll and Bute to be awarded the medal since it was reintroduction last year.

06_a16jenny02



They heard how important it was Rosie Blythe. diagnosed with Acute Lymphocytic leukaemia last November and was in hospital for five weeks and ending twice a week ever since.



APRIL: VIVIENNE Kerr, centre, with Audrey Callander, left, and her sister Yvonne Litster ran 20k to raise cash for the Lauren Currie Twilight Foundation and Diabetes Scotland.

Vivienne was diagnosed with a rare

type of vasculitis, which causes the body's immune system to malfunction and attack its own organs.

The ladies raised £3,036 which was split between the two causes.

06_a17frontpic03



lplead resi-ainbow Val-rgaret Ma-r and Yvie

Young joined in with all the fun across the weekend. The charity aims to make real the dream of Johanna MacVicar, to create a centre where people affected by cancer can go for help and advice.

06_a19rain18

APRIL: INVERARAY'S Lesley MacFadyen smashed the Crinan Puffer 8.5 women's record by an impressive six minutes.

She put in a record breaking performance with a finishing time of 51 minutes and 12 seconds.

The victory was the runners second win of the week as she finished first in the Balloch Half Marathon the previous weekend.

06_a17puffer07



JUNE



JUNE: RED Star Football Club under 16s became the first team in the club's history to ever win the double.

The side emerged the winners of league 1A and lifted the Dumbar-tonshire Development League Cup.

JUNE: PROUD pooch owner Roseann Allison, from Kilmichael, saw her prize winning dog Scruffy crowned the cutest pet at the year's Glassary Gatherings. Dozen of locals battled it out on the race track to win the

06_a20redstar01



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of research that shows single-sex education helps young girls and boys perform better than a co-educational approach. Our teachers teach in a way that boys like to learn; and boys are able to compete on a level playing field with their peers.

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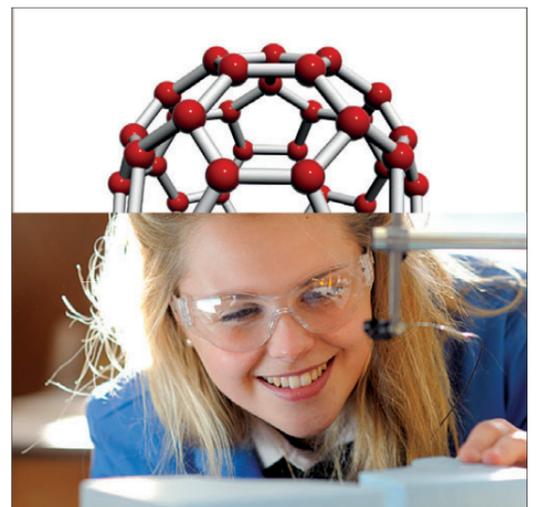
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"Around 31,000 children of mixed abilities from diverse social backgrounds are educated at independent schools in Scotland with around 20% of pupils receiving some financial assistance from the schools."

Choosing a School

Parents choose to send their children to independent schools for many different reasons but above all, they choose independent schools because they feel a particular independent school will best serve their child and their child's social and educational needs.

All independent schools in Scotland have their own unique ethos and values but they share a common goal of encouraging each individual pupil to be all that they can be and to make the most of their time at school. The choice of mainstream schools is wide and there are also special schools that provide care and education for children with additional support needs.

Meeting the Cost

Fees vary widely between independent schools. Schools are sensitive, particularly in the current economic climate, to the sacrifices that many parents make in order to afford school fees. All schools provide some level of fee assistance, usually awarded on the basis of financial need. This is done to enable children from lower income households, who otherwise would not have the opportunity of an independent education, to benefit, and schools welcome applications for fee assistance.

Boarding in Scotland

Scotland's Boarding Schools welcome students from all over the UK, Europe and the rest of the world. All 18 boarding schools in Scotland are situated in safe, spacious and idyllic surroundings: from large city boarding schools to smaller rural locations, there is something for everyone. For further information on Scotland's boarding schools visit www.scotlands-boarding-schools.org.uk/

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Dollar Academy



One of Scotland's leading Independent Schools, Dollar Academy welcomes girls and boys aged five to eighteen. With a Prep School, Junior School and Senior School, and three large boarding houses, all sited within a beautiful campus, Dollar provides an outstanding education all the way through to university. The annual list of leavers' destinations produced by the school is truly impressive.

The recent HMIE report stated that, "Dollar Academy provides pupils with a very high standard of educational experience" and there is no doubt that the strengths of this school lie in high-quality teaching and the wide range of subject choices on offer. Dollar

focuses exclusively on the Scottish curriculum, with all pupils studying for Highers and Advanced Highers, and their academic achievements speak for themselves. Individual talents, interests and ambitions are encouraged and pupils leave very well prepared for life at university and beyond.

But it is what goes on outside the classroom that really makes this school stand out...

Dollar offers a jam-packed boarding experience with a superb programme of sport, art, music, drama and activities in the afternoons, evenings and weekends. Involvement in this out-of-classroom programme is central to the school's philosophy. There is a great deal of care taken to ensure that every child has the opportunity to shine, and Dollar pupils can talk proudly of their accomplishments in debating halls, auditoriums, music halls, art studios and on the sports fields. Their continued successes as Former Pupils are testament to the passion for encouraging a lifetime of enthusiasm, ambition and achievement.

This is an excellent school with an astounding range of activities on offer and a genuine sense of community. Dollar pupils and parents really value and enjoy the all-round experience this school offers, and Former Pupils speak fondly of their time growing up here: "I loved being at Dollar. I look back and can't imagine anywhere better".

Thinking about choosing an independent school?



Think SCIS

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COURIER RECRUITMENT

PUBLIC NOTICES

Creggan Wind Farm Limited
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2000

Notice is hereby given that Creggan Wind Farm Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Burcote Wind Limited), company registration number 06850950, 15 Pitreavie Court, Queensberry Road, Dunfermline, Fife, KY11 8UU has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent to construct and operate a wind farm to the north-east of Glenbarra on the Kintyre Peninsula within the Argyll and Bute Council area (central grid reference NR 693 381). The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be around 62.7MW comprising 19 wind turbines with a ground to blade tip height of up to 125 meters.

Creggan Wind Farm Limited has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for inspection, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Argyll and Bute Planning and Building Standards Office, 67/69 Chalmers Street, Ardershaig, PA30 8DX	Campbeltown Library, Kinloch Road, Campbeltown, Argyll and Bute PA28 6EG
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The Environmental Statement can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

Copies of the Environmental Statement (ES) may be obtained from Creggan Wind Farm Ltd (tel: 01383 749645). Volumes 1 and 3 of the ES are available at a charge of £195 per hard copy, Volume 2 of the ES (the Figures) is available at a cost of £255 per hard copy and the short non-technical summary is available free of charge. CD copies of the whole ES are available at a cost of £10.

Any representations to the application should be made by email to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at: representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

or

by post to The Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation, not later than 5 February 2014.

Representations should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to the address stipulated will receive acknowledgement.

When initial comments from statutory consultees are received further public notices will give advice on how this information may be viewed by members of the public, and how representations may be made to Scottish Ministers. During the consideration of the proposal, Scottish Ministers may formally request further information to supplement the Environmental Statement and this will also be advertised in such a manner.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following receipt of all views and representations, Scottish Ministers will determine the application for consent in one of two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- Reject the proposal

Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government Energy Consents and Deployment Unit process applications under The Electricity Act 1989. During the consultation process letters of representation can be sent to Scottish Ministers in support of or objecting to these applications.

Should Scottish Ministers call a Public Local Inquiry (PLI), copies of these representations will be sent to the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals for the Reporter to consider during the inquiry. These representations will be posted on their website with personal email address, signature and home telephone number redacted (blacked out).

Copies of representations will also be issued to the developer on request, again with email address, signature and home telephone number redacted.

You can choose to mark your representation as confidential, in which case it will only be considered by Scottish Ministers and will not be shared with the Planning Authority, the developer, the Reporter (should a PLI be called) or any other third party.

If you have any queries or concerns about how your personal data will be handled, please email the Energy Consents and Deployment Unit at: energyconsents@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or in writing to Energy Consents and Deployment, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU.

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

MID ARGYLL

Refuse and paper/card recycling collections due on Wednesday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 28th December.

Refuse collections due on Thursday 26th December will be collected on Sunday 29th December.

Refuse and paper/card recycling collections due on Wednesday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 4th January.

Refuse collections due on Thursday 2nd January will be collected on Sunday 5th January.

Lingertown Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25/26th December and 1st/2nd January.

KINTYRE

Refuse collections due on Wednesday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 28th December.

Refuse collections due on Wednesday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 4th January.

Refuse collections on all other days will be as normal.

Roading Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25/26th December and 1st/2nd January.

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

To find out more about living and working in argyll & bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk



PLANNING

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

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
13/02878/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse involving alterations in ground levels and upgrading/formation of vehicular access/driveway	Land South East of Castleton Farmhouse Castleton Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8RU	Ardrishaig Area Office

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
13/02808/PP	Demolition of existing extension, alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and erection of decking (dwellinghouse to be achieved by conversion of two flats)	1 Kilmartin Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute PA31 8RN	Ardrishaig Area Office

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

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Whitegates Office Whitegates Road Lochgilphead PA31 8SY.

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

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

Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

A Meeting of the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee will be held in the Town Hall, Main Street, Campbeltown At 10.30am - Wednesday 8th January, 2014

Members of the public are welcome to attend and a public question time will take place for 30 minutes during the meeting. Questions can be asked on the day or can be submitted in advance to the Area Governance Manager, 22 Hill Street, Dunoon PA23 7AP. Telephone: 01369 707134.

The Agenda for the meeting is available to view at the Servicepoint, Burnet Building, Campbeltown and at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Douglas Hendry, Executive Director - Customer Services

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

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

BIRTHS

CAMPBELL MAGUIRE

Ross and Hayley are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Liam Ross on Sunday, December 15, 2013. A wee brother for Kyle! Thanks to Campbeltown Maternity Unit.

DEATHS

DOUGLAS - On December 21, 2013, peacefully at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital Lochgilhead, Alexander (Alec) Walter Douglas, formerly of MacBrayne's Buses, in his 91st year, beloved son of the late Alexander and Jessie Douglas, dear brother of Molly and Walter and a dearly loved uncle. Funeral service at Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 11am, interment thereafter at Achnabreac Cemetery to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, collection if desired for Ardrishaig Parish Church.

GALBRAITH - Peacefully at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow on December 21, 2013, Janet McDougall Martin (Jessie) in her 85th year, 46 Ralston Road, Campbeltown, formerly of Peninver and the Dhurrie Farm, dearly beloved wife of the late John Barbour Galbraith (Jack), a loving mother to Agnes, and grandmother of Carolyn and Peter. Service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown on Saturday, December 28, at 11.00am. Funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of The M.S. Society.

LAMBIE - Peacefully at her home, 64 Highbank Park, Lochgilhead with her family by her side, Jessie Lambie, nee Bruce, in her 89th year. Beloved wife of the late Bobby, and loving mother of George, John and Christina. Dear mother in law of Heather, Norma and Donald. A loving granny of Andrew, Jennifer, Alison, Lauren, David, Bruce and Morven. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Lochgilhead Parish Church today, Friday, December 27, 2013, at 11am, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Marie Curie Cancer Care and Mid Argyll Hospital.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JACKSON - Marleen and family would like to thank all family and friends for all calls, flowers, cards and letters of support following the sudden death of Alex. Special thanks to Tarbert District Nurses, especially Sarah for her continuous care and support during and after Alex illness. Thank you to Rev. Tommy Bryson for his visits, touching service and kind words and to Stan Lupton funeral directors. Finally, to everyone who attended the service and gave generously to the collection for Tarbert Nursing Aid.

SINCLAIR - Ross, Scott, Adele, John and their families would like to thank all relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues for their many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards and phonecalls received following their recent sad loss of Louisa. Our grateful thanks to Dr. Helliwell and local ambulance crew for their efforts and care and kindness to the family at a very difficult time. Our thanks are also extended to Rev. David Carruthers for a comforting and uplifting service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral directors for caring and efficient services; to the Grey Gull Inn for excellent purvey. Finally, our thanks to the many who attended at Church and Graveside to pay their respects, especially those who travelled a great distance. The retiral collection realised over £1050.00.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL - Treasured memories of Marion McKenzie, who died December 19th, 2009, a much loved and missed wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

We little knew that morning that God

Would call your name. In life we loved you dearly in death we do the same

It broke our hearts to lose you you didn't go alone

for part of us went with you the day God called you home

You left us peaceful memories,

Your love is still our guide and though we cannot see you

you are always by our side.

Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same

but as God calls us one by one

The chain will link again.

CHISHOLM - Treasured memories of a loving husband, dad and papa, Johny, who died on December 28, 2011.

Forever loved and greatly missed.

Netta and family at home and abroad.

DUFFY - In memory of Craig, a dear friend and fellow fisherman, tragically taken too soon.

Always remembered, The TT Boys.

MACFARLANE - In loving memory of Dugald, Mary, Angus and Donald, who passed away. Loved and remembered everyday

- Euphie and Eric

- Mhairi

Goodnight Grampa Tom Lorimer

- From Mhairi, Eilidh and Tom

MCLEAN - In loving memory of Betty, who died on December 30, 2011. A dear mum, gran and granny. Your life touched this world in a way no other can. Leaving not only wonderful memories, but lasting imprints in our hearts. A mother's love is forever, now and eternity.

- Aileen, Gemma, Jamie, Craig and Conor.

CHURCH NOTICES

Scottish Episcopal Churches

Christ Church Bishopton Road, Lochgilhead

Eucharist service Sundays 11 am St Columba's, Potalloch, nr Kilmartin

1st Sunday of the month 9.00am 3rd Sunday of the month 3.00pm

Scottish Prayer Book Father Simon Mackenzie

Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran 01546 602315

SC013787



LOCHGILHEAD PARISH CHURCH

SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER 2013

11.00 am Worship Service, Rev. Hilda Smith All Welcome

Further information (01546) 606218 Lochgilhead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 29th December 11.00 am "It's the thought that counts - Think Jesus"

All age Family Service followed by tea & coffee We meet in the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road

www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

Campbeltown Community Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Scotland SC043322

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

NOW ONLINE

Advertise your unwanted items in either The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupons on this page or visit the website and input your details there

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PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Baby Pink and Baby Blue colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

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SOLID SPACIOUS WOODEN DESK w60" d36" h28", leather top, two towers with 7 drawers, good condition, £55 Telephone 01631 567462.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER

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BLACK ROCK GROWERS pullets and layers, genuine, free range reared, ready to go. Big sale of ex display poultry/waterfowl housing. 30% off all equipment, books, Kintaline Farm, Benderloch. farm@kintaline.co.uk Telephone 01631 720223.

MAIL ORDER

SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS, featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of

Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Glentworth and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

OBAN WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbeltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

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WANTED

SCRAP METAL all types of scrap metal, we uplift scrap cars, call Mr Cook, West Coast Scrap Metals. Telephone 01499 500638 or 07787 991636.

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown

Sunday 29th December 2013 4pm - Service at Lome Campbell Court

For details & other enquiries contact The Church Secretary 01586 551237

www.springbankchurch.co.uk

SCO14646

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity Number SC001002

Sunday 29 December Tayallich Church 10 am Morning Worship Rev. Cliff Acklam

All welcome Enquiries 01546 606926 www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

free church of scotland

George Street, Campbeltown

Sunday 29th December 12.45pm Worship Service

All Welcome

Scottish Charity Number: SC009980

Highland Parish Church

SCO02493

Sunday 29th December 11.15am Mr. M. Ramsay

Tuesday 31st December No Badminton

Everyone very welcome

THE SALVATION ARMY

Burnside Street, Campbeltown

Sunday 29th December 10.30am Morning Worship No evening meeting Lt. Mark Scouling

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church



Argyll Street, Campbeltown

St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown

Scottish Charity No SC023277

Sunday 29th December

The First Sunday after Christmas

10.45am Holy Communion

All Welcome

Details of services are on the church door

Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141

The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH

LOCHGILHEAD Holy Mass Sunday 10am

ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm

Fr. David Connor 01546 602380

All Welcome (SC0002876)

TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 29th December 2013

Tarbert Service 11.45am to be held in Tarbert Free Church Rev. Tommy Bryson

For all church enquiries and pastoral care Telephone 01880 821012

Everyone very welcome SC002622

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"

Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

Sunday 29 December 2013 11.00am

Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch

Speaker: Graham McLean "A New Day is dawning"

All Welcome

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

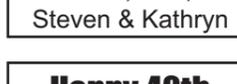
Scottish Charity Number SC011686

Sunday 29th December Morning Worship 11.15 am

Mr. W. Crossan

PERSONAL NOTICES

HAPPY 21st LAURA



Love From Mum, Dad, Steven & Kathryn

Happy 40th Birthday Daddy on New Year's Day



Lots of Love Ella & Jack xxxx

MAISE MCKINVEN wishes family, friends and neighbours a Happy New Year

MERRY CHRISTMAS & BEST WISHES FOR 2014 to all my friends & family from Alex Galbraith.

MILTON - GOODWIN Both families are delighted to announce the engagement on December 20, 2013 of Sophia, only daughter of Susan and the late Ronald Milton, stepdaughter of Andy Hay, Lochgilhead, to Richard, eldest son of Lesley and John, Minard.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Funeral Directors Blair, MacDonald & Lupton please turn to page 16.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



AS I write this in the last ebbing days of 2013, the storm is relentless with gales and rain once again battering our coastline.

This is always a time to reflect on the past year and think once again about what the new year has in store for us.

We look back on the good times and the bad, the storms and the sunshine in our lives.

Sometimes the storms seem to dominate and we wonder when the calm will come.

We are past the Christmas rushing and feasting and all the busyness that has filled these last weeks and we await the start of 2014.

At this time I wonder about those across our globe who will spend the days of the new year on simply trying to exist, on feeding their family for another day, and on basic survival.

So many pleas come in from so many charities asking for help to help the helpless, that we might be forgiven for saying we can't help them all.

Yet we have just celebrated the birth of one who was a refugee, of one who depended on the hospitality of strangers and of one 'who had nowhere to lay his head'.

We have just celebrated the birth of one who said, 'when you feed the hungry and take in the homeless you do it for me'.

We have just honoured the one who called us to be the voice of the voiceless.

I wonder if the whisper of the Christ child is lost in the roar of our own materialism as the adverts tell us to buy yet more things we do not need.

Let us not leave the Christ child in the manger of our lives for if we do our faith will never be weaned.

2014 has possibilities to be different – and so have we.

Every blessing to you all.

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Ladies from the Ardrishaig Social Club Committee enjoyed an evening of musical entertainment and food with local residents. 06_a52party07

Christmas celebrations for Ardrishaig pensioners

Party gets into full swing

LAUGHTER and music could be heard in Ardrishaig last Friday evening as the annual pensioners party got in full swing.

More than 60 villagers gathered in the Grey Gull to enjoy a festive meal and an evening of musical entertainment, which was provided by Fyne Folk.

Also performing on the night were pipers Alasdair McLean, Abbie Williams and Craig Lang, from Mid Argyll Pipe Band.

Organised by Ardrishaig Social Club, the meal is funded by donations made at the monthly whist drives held in the village.



Derek Meredith and his wife Elma were in the party mood. 06_a52party01



Jean Sayers with Seumas McSparran. 06_a52party06



Shirley MacIver, Anne Aitchison and Mary McGuinness. 06_a52party03



Sonya McSparran and Mauren Meachan celebrate Christmas amongst friends. 06_a52party04



Margaret MacInnes, Iain Martin, centre, and Neil MacInnes enjoyed a night of entertainment at the Grey Gull 06_a52party02



From left: Libby Crawford, Ray Phillimore with his wife Jenifer and Sanders Stewart. 06_a52party05

Final shoot of the year at Tarbert Gun Club



Members of Tarbert Gun Club competed for a turkey in their Christmas shoot.

TARBERT Gun Club held its last shoot of the year on Sunday, December 15, which was its Christmas competition.

There were 53 shooters all trying to win a turkey for their festive dinner.

All the shooters put their names into a hat and picked a partner to shoot with and the draw kept all the top shooters apart, which made it an open contest.

Two pairs ended up ahead of the field with Brian Baird and Malcolm Weaver beating Bob McColl and Archie MacGilp Junior by a single point to win the overall competition. Norman and Andrew MacDonald finished in third.

Proposal for long term improved facilities at joint campus

Plan would suit all major sports in Mid Argyll

A PROPOSAL that could see all major sports in Mid Argyll played competitively at Lochgilphead Joint Campus was put forward at the recent meeting to reform Mid Argyll Sports Trust.

A lack of appropri-

ate facilities for some sports clubs in Mid Argyll dominated much of the discussion at the meeting.

Graham Whitefield, chairman of Lochgilphead Soccer Centre said: 'You will all be aware of the petition Peter Laing

has done as a referee. He sees that what we have at the Ropework and what they put at the school isn't suitable for development training for football, shinty or rugby.

'We could change the 2G pitch to a 4G, take

one of the grass pitches and change that to 2G, which would meet the requirements for hockey, the school and tennis. The final grass pitch could be kept as it is and used by the school and athletics club.'

The proposal, backed

by the majority of people at the meeting, would allow the most popular sports in Mid Argyll – football, shinty, rugby, athletics, hockey and tennis – to be played and competed at the required levels. The talks about all weather facilities

came after a petition was launched urging Argyll and Bute Council to upgrade the 2G pitch at the joint campus to a 3G surface and Mid Argyll Athletics Club unveiled plans to have all-weather jump facilities installed there



WIN £2550 JACKPOT

All you have to do

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

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

centre of the ball.

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

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown,

Argyll PA28 6AE by 12noon on Monday 30th December.

You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

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

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

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

The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.

To allow for the Christmas holidays spot the ball will run for 2 weeks



Entries must be in by 12noon Monday 30th December

SPOT THE BALL COMPETITION



I enclose £1 (note) 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**

Name _____

Address _____

Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE



Eight young footballers that trained with Lochgilphead Soccer Centre and Red Star have been snapped up by professional youth teams. 06_a51youth02

Red Star youngsters breaking into professional teams

Lochgilphead Soccer Centre earning reputation for producing first class players

RED STAR Football Club and associated Lochgilphead Soccer Centre has become a hunting ground for professional football teams keen to pick up young talent.

There are currently eight footballers between the ages of 12 and 17 who are playing at a pro-youth level, all of whom have been trained by coaches in the town. Kyle Selfridge, Coll McCallum and Keir Whitefield are all playing for Dumbarton Football Club under 17s, while Joseph Harper and Cammy Williamson were signed for the club's under 13 side last year.

Ciaran McPhie and Craig Millar currently

play with Partick Thistle at under 15 and under 12 respectively, while Rhys Casci is playing with Hamilton Accies' under 12s.

'The boys' individual success and the growing success of Star's youth teams in the Dumbartonshire Football Development League has made scouts stand up and pay attention,' Graham Whitefield, chairman of Lochgilphead Soccer Centre, has said.

'Scouts will still not come up here,' he said. 'It is us getting involved in leagues in Dumbarton that has got these boys noticed. It is that and the under 13 age groups going to tournaments in the central belt. That's

how Craig Millar was picked up.'

Explaining how the club's reputation for developing first class players was growing, Graham added: 'The under 17s went to play a team in Hamilton and they knew that we had players at that [pro-youth] level so word really does get around. Before people would have said Lochgilphead, that's in the back of beyond, that's not going to be a strong side.

'The profile of the club has definitely been raised.

'I know the scout at Dumbarton really well and he is always asking me if I have any players... he will certainly

come and watch our teams. Dumbarton will take them on trial for a few weeks and decide if they are at a level to play with their teams.

'There are a few lads that have had trials that haven't been snapped up but really weren't far away. Five additional players had trials at Dumbarton in the last year.'

A number of footballers have also been selected to play at regional level. Josh Coates is playing in a team that represents Argyll and Bute, Dumbartonshire and parts of Stirling, which Coll McCallum had played for last year, alongside Fergus Galbraith.

Asked what is the secret of the soccer centre's success, Graham said securing the quality mark from the Scottish Football Association (SFA) had helped, as well as a strong commitment from coaches.

He said: 'We have some very good, keen coaches who will improve themselves by going on coaching courses. There are people like Willie Luke for example, he has more coaching badges than Alex Ferguson.'

The eight local boys who are playing professional football are a great example to other youngsters who are hungry for success. However, Graham says

local coaches are determined to make the Red Star teams at all age groups a success in their own right.

He said: 'We [coaches] want them all to go as far in football as they are capable of. It is a loss to our teams if they move on but as coaches we want the boys to do their best and they are not going to hold them back.'

'The under 17s are

suffering a bit this season because boys have gone to Dumbarton but the coaches will carry on and do their best with the team.

'I am lucky that my boy has been involved in professional youth teams for about four years but I get as much pleasure seeing the other boys doing well week in week out, whether that's individually or together as a team is great.'

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