



Merry Christmas to all our readers and advertisers

# FREE INSIDE

Your 2017  
Argyllshire Advertiser  
wall calendar



# Holiday 'hoolie' ahead as Storm Barbara heads in

SANTA had better hold on to his hat because forecasters predict the stormiest Christmas in years this weekend.

A succession of deep low pressure weather systems – dubbed Storm Barbara – charging in from the Atlantic is set to bring severe storms and wintry rainfall to the West Coast, Argyll included, until Boxing Day at the very least.

The Met Office has issued yellow (be aware) warnings for today, Friday. Gusts of 60mph to 70mph are possible in Mid Argyll until Saturday morning, with westerly gusts to 80mph or 90mph expected in parts of the West Coast.

A Saturday lull is expected to be short-lived and amber (be prepared) Met Office warnings have been issued as another low pressure system brings

By **COLIN CAMERON**  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

gale force south-westerly winds – just as Santa is delivering his presents – through until Boxing Day morning.

Deputy chief meteorologist Chris Tubbs said: 'Storm Barbara, forming in the west Atlantic, will pass close to the northwest of the UK during Friday, bringing very strong winds and heavy rain, especially across the north and west of Scotland. This brings the potential for some structural damage, disruption to power supplies and travel, with restrictions on bridges and disruption to ferries likely.'

'The disturbed conditions look like continuing through the Christmas weekend with another vigorous low pressure system waiting in the wings.'

Ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne is advising customers to pay close attention to weather forecasts and to plan accordingly.

CalMac's operations director Drew Collier said: 'As ever, we will do everything we can to safely deliver our services across the 200 miles of our network, but, at the moment, it seems significant disruption is highly likely.'

'Customers are strongly advised to pay close and regular attention to weather forecasts, as well as regularly checking online.'

Power company Scottish and Southern Energy has boosted the number of standby personnel and is moving engineers, plant and welfare services to areas expected to be impacted by the storm.



## New drama group's panto curtain-raiser

New youth drama group Acting Up Argyll pulled out all the stops for its first production with an all-singing, all-dancing performance of *Aladdin*. Pictured above are Joey Luxmoore as evil villain Abanazar and David Hubbard's new alter ego Widow Twankey. But look out – mischievous Nobby the panda, played by Luke Grattan, is behind them. Full story on page 5.

### INSIDE YOUR ADVERTISER THIS WEEK

#### An honour

AN INFLUENTIAL figure has joined the board of Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative.

Full story on page 3.

#### 'Tis the season

YOUNG and old enjoy the festive season across Mid Argyll.

Full story, pages 4 and 5.

#### Treat for fans

AN ARGYLL band's much-anticipated debut album is on the horizon.

Full story, page 9.

#### Talent on show

IT WAS a real talent showcase at Lochgilhead High School Christmas concert.

Full story, page 14.

#### League leaders

RED STAR youngsters are top of the league as they take a well deserved Christmas break.

Full story, page 27.

#### Ask the family

TEST your memory with our quiz looking back over the year.

Full story, page 8.

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# Council should see the light after switch-on 'mistakes'

EARLY discussions with the local authority will be needed to avoid a repeat of this year's Christmas lights problems, according to community councillors.

Volunteers behind

festive lights switch-on ceremonies were left scratching their heads in Lochgilphead and other Argyll towns until council contractors arrived just before events started.

At the December

meeting of Lochgilphead Community Council, the local authority came under fire for its handling of the situation – and over the quality of Christmas tree light displays.

Community council

convener Andy Buntin said: 'There have been a number of complaints with some folk saying the Christmas tree lights look as if they were just flung on.'

'But the big problem seems to have been a lack of communication with the organisers.'

Councillor Dougie Philand explained: 'The same questions have been asked by councillors. We have asked for reports to come back from officers.'

Mr Buntin said the community council would speak to council officers next autumn to ensure that plans for festive lights are on



**The council contractor left it late to put up Christmas tree lights.** 06\_a52xmastree01

track to avoid a repetition of events.

'The contractors did a reasonable job,' added Councillor Donnie MacMillan. 'All we can do is learn from our mistakes.'

## Police files

### Cars vandalised in Ardrishaig

THREE cars in Upper Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig, were vandalised sometime between 7pm on Monday December 12 and 9am on Tuesday December 13.

Police are appealing for any information.

### Overtaken log lorry on A83

A FULLY-LADEN log lorry left the road and came to rest on its side on the A83 at Mid Kames, Lochgair, on Thursday December 15 at 10.20am.

Emergency services attended and the driver, a 43-year-old man, was taken to hospital with a suspected fracture to his back. Traffic controls were put

in operation until the lorry and load were recovered.

The road was fully opened again at 2pm.

### Disorderly conduct

TWO MEN behaved in a disorderly manner towards each other in a licensed premises in Lochnell Street, Lochgilphead, on Sunday December 18 at 1.40am.

Police are investigating and both men, aged 20 and 27, will be issued with police warnings.

### Drunk driver, 48, charged

A 48-YEAR-old pickup driver was stopped in Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig, and charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol on Sunday December 18 and around 11.05am.

A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Man arrested in Furnace

FOLLOWING a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner and assaulting a boy in Furnace on Sunday December 18 at around 6.30pm, a 32-year-old man was detained.

The man was later arrested, charged with assault and abusive behaviour and held for court.

A report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

**Anyone with information in relation to the above, or to any incident, should contact police on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.**

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# Generosity stuns Tarbert pub landlady

TARBERT'S big-hearted villagers have once again dug deep to help support two charities following a successful race night in the Corner House.

The hugely popular event raised an incredible £3,260 which will be split between Parkinson's (UK) Scotland and Myaware, the

name of the Myasthenia Gravis Association. Both charities are close to the heart of the Corner House management team – and each will benefit to the tune of £1,630.

Event organiser Margaret MacNeill was overwhelmed by the generosity of the village.

'To say thank you isn't enough,' Margaret said. 'We're humbled by just how fabulous this village is, especially at this time of year.'

'I'd like to thank the sponsors, the people who donated money and raffle prizes, and, of course, everyone who came along to support the event.'



Margaret MacNeill is joined by local builder Kenny McGlynn, who sponsored a race at the event, and by Hugh Fraser from Starfish Rooms, who bought one of the horses.

Photograph: Janet West.

## Trust model on cards for leisure centres and libraries

PLANS to create a charitable trust to deliver Argyll and Bute Council's leisure and library services have taken another step forward.

Councillors have approved a business case prepared by Ernst and Young and agreed a move towards a charitable trust model.

The Ernst and Young report concludes that a trust could save the council a maximum of £636,000 through non-domestic rates and VAT.

### Services

The council's policy lead for community and culture, Councillor Robin Currie, said: 'By creating a trust to deliver library and leisure services in Argyll and Bute, it will provide an opportunity to deliver even better services and deliver savings without any negative impact on frontline services.'

The facilities in Mid Argyll that would fall under the proposed scheme include Mid Argyll Sports Centre, Lochgilphead Community Centre and the libraries in Lochgilphead and Tarbert.

## Duchess accepts honorary role in Argyll tourism co-op

ELEANOR, Duchess of Argyll, has taken on the role of honorary chairperson of Argyll and the Isles Tourism Co-operative (AITC).

The duchess, who lives in Inveraray Castle with her husband Torquil, 13th Duke of Argyll, and their three children, said she was delighted to be asked to be AITC's ceremonial head.

AITC chairman Gavin Dick said: 'We are extremely fortunate to be able to take this



Eleanor, Duchess of Argyll, at Inveraray Castle.

key step forward with someone who understands the importance of our work, is passionate about Argyll and

the Isles, and who has the vision and credibility to speak on behalf of the tourism co-operative.'

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# Seasonal social held at Ardrishaig



Seasonal smiles from, front, Neil MacInnes and Margaret MacInnes, and, back, Margaret MacKinnon, John MacKinnon, Shirley MacIvor and Andy Aitchison.

08\_a52GGdinner03



Derek Meredith, Janette Rowatt, Iain Rowatt, Sanders Stewart and Helen Gray were full of Christmas cheer.



Craig Lang, of Mid Argyll Pipe Band, kicked off the entertainment.

08\_a52GGdinner04

ARDRISHAIG Social Club enjoyed the festivities at its annual Christmas meal and got in the swing of things with some live music and a sing-a-long.

More than 40 folk filled the Grey Gull's restaurant for the musical meal on Friday December 16.

Crackers pulled, a delicious dinner de-

voured, the chatter subsided as piper Craig Lang began. With feet tapping, the group were delighted when he came back to play a second set.

Traditional folk musician Alex MacFie also kept the group entertained. Telling tales of his inspiration and musical travels, between showing off on guitar, buttonbox and bodhrán, he kept all amused and his traditional songs had many singing along.

The evening of festive cheer helped bring many together to celebrate this time of year.



Alex MacFie performed music from all over the world on his buttonbox.

08\_a52GGdinner02

# Festive activities



Pupils delighted the crowds who had gathered outside Lochgilphead Parish Church.

## The Spirit of Christmas at Lochgilphead

LOCHGILPHEAD Primary School pupils have been learning about the meaning behind Christmas and have been sharing their Christmas cheer with the community.

The children in primary 5/4 and primary 6/5 have been working on an interdisciplinary topic entitled The Spirit of Christmas.

As part of this topic, they have been looking at the Christmas story and the

values behind it. While studying The Spirit of Christmas, the pupils decided that they would like to give something back to both their own community and a community abroad, where people are perhaps less fortunate than themselves.

For their selected community abroad, the youngsters have been knitting squares, with support from the local Knit and Natter group. Each of

## Santa comes to Tarbert



Connor, Caley and Kaya are looking forward to Christmas.

CHRISTMAS came early for youngsters in Tarbert as Santa arrived in style, thanks to Tarbert's firefighters.

Swapping his reindeer and sleigh for Tarbert's fire engine, Santa made a tour of the village before heading to his grotto at the village fire station on Saturday December 17, where he welcomed children of all ages, while parents and grandparents enjoyed tea, coffee and homemade cakes.

Watch manager Aggie Dennis was delighted with the turn-out, saying: 'It was great to see so many people here today, with lots of happy faces. We'd like to thank all the children who made the event so enjoyable and, of course, Santa for taking the time out of his very busy schedule to visit it.'

'We hope everyone has a very safe happy Christmas and New Year.'



Elizabeth Blair and Ishabel MacIullich also enjoyed meeting Santa.

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sh Church. 08\_a52lpscarns01

## Lochgilphead Primary School

the knitted patches will be combined to make a blanket that will be sent to children in Malawi.

### Traditional carols

And, here in Lochgilphead, they performed the traditional carols they have been learning for the public at the café in Lochgilphead Parish Church hall and again outside the church to make sure as many folk as possible heard them.

Gathered outside the church on Wednesday December 14, the pupils gave an enthusiastic performance of carols and other Christmas songs. With actions and sleigh bells, it was hard for those watching not to have smiles on their faces, especially during a well rehearsed performance of *Jingle Bells*.

The children were obviously enjoying the festive fun and some who had stopped to watch even joined in.



Acting Up Argyll were raring to go before the matinee performance. 08\_a52aladdin02

## Far from a Wishee Washee performance

ACTING Up Argyll's first production proved a hit as audiences packed out Ardrishaig Public Hall for three shows.

The young group performed a pantomime version of *Aladdin* that had crowds roaring with laughter.

The drama group for creative youngsters is not only for performers but those hidden away behind the scenes. Productions are led by the youngsters themselves, leaving them in charge of all production aspects, including directing, costume and stage design, and sound

and lighting. Working together, they have taught each other new skills in the lead up to last weekend's performances.

Telling the story through song, dance and comedic lines, audiences were enthusiastic to get involved – booing at evil villain Have-a-banana, or rather Abanazar, and clapping along to Widow Twankey's dazzling dances.

Members of Acting Up Argyll were keen to impress with their first production and they did just that, producing a panto to remember.



Man, I feel like a woman – David Hubbard's performance of a Shania Twain classic had crowds roaring with laughter. 08\_a52aladdin05



My time to shine.



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## Stay safe this Christmas

IN THE words of an 1980s classic, it's Christmas time – there's no need to be afraid. Or is there? The weather is forecast to be pretty wild over Christmas as Storm Barbara pays a visit along with Santa.

In fact, Prancer, Dancer, Donner, Blitzen and their mates might end up somewhere over Norway while trying to land on the lums of Knapdale if the weather forecasters are correct.

We are, though, getting pretty used to wild, mild and wet weather as a regular feature of our winters, so it remains to be seen whether Barbara is any more severe than Frank, Desmond or Gertrude were in years gone by.

Some wise men (and women) out there in cyberspace are advising people on the West Coast to cook the Christmas turkey by Saturday, when Babs arrives.

But, whatever you do, it will pay to take a few simple precautions to make sure any loose outdoor items are secured, knowing where the torch, candles and lighters are located in case of power cuts, and simply keeping warm.

There is, indeed, no need to be afraid as long as we are prepared.

It might just give us the opportunity to coorie in with a winter warmer and play a few board games with the family while Babs blows herself out. Or is that simply a recipe for more storms – of the domestic variety?

Whatever you get up to over Christmas, have fun and stay safe.

Happy Christmas from everyone at the *Argyllshire Advertiser*.

## who's who at your advertiser

Argyllshire Advertiser  
Argyll Street  
Lochgilphead  
Argyll PA31 8NB  
Tel: 01546 602345

### Chief Reporter:

**Colin Cameron**  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

### Trainee Reporter:

**Rachel Carruthers**  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

### Advertising Sales

**Lisa Smith**  
adverts@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

### Head Office:

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# opinion

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**Provost Len Scoullar.**

## A seasonal message from the Argyll and Bute provost

Sir,  
This year's festive season is well under way. All across Argyll and Bute, preparations have been in hand for celebrations, for festivities and for spending time together with loved ones after a very busy few weeks of activity.

Despite all that 'busyness', it is a time which can bring much joy and happiness, and I hope also that for everyone it brings even just a little welcome peace and quiet after a challenging year.

There are those for whom the festive season is less joyful, though, for many different and often difficult reasons; and, as always, my thoughts and prayers are with them at this time especially, in the hope that they too will find some comfort and peace.

Inevitably, over the festive season, as each year draws to a close, amid busy times we may take a moment to reflect on the months just passed.

2016 has been a year of much change and many challenges, but as we reflect on that, we can also take comfort on the fact that the new year ahead offers us fresh hope, a new start and an opportunity to make changes for the better wherever and however we can.

At this special time I wish everyone across Argyll and Bute the best possible Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

**Provost Len Scoullar,**  
**Argyll and Bute Council.**

## Sky high thanks

Sir,  
As we approach the close of another busy year for Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA), I and the crew want to thank the people in this area who continue to raise vital funds to keep this unique service in the air. Throughout 2016 we have been honoured to deliver paramedic care and provide rapid transport in your name to those seriously ill or injured anywhere in Scotland.

Helimed 76 is now flying huge distances, as far as the Orkney island of Sanday to the Borders in the south and from the east coast to the remote Western Isles.

SCAA – fuelled by your giving – has flown vital help to the heart of communities everywhere.

The crew has fully utilised our upgraded aircraft that

came into service just over a year ago, responding to almost 400 emergency call outs in this year alone.

We have also been able to make valuable use of the extra seat on board to carry parents, guardians or escorts with our patients, providing great comfort to both family and friends of those being transported. None of this would have been possible without your continued support.

The crew is always humbled by the number of patients who come to visit after their recovery and to thank all who were involved in treating their illness or injury – from bystander to ambulance crew.

Many of our patients have gone on to raise money for SCAA so that they too can help someone else in similar circumstances.

SCAA's professional and expert crew can provide the frontline time-critical response that will continue flying help and hope across Scotland – but it is the people in every family, community and every region of this country that will ensure we stay in the air.

Your continued invaluable contributions funds this amazing charity and will fuel it into the future, so that myself and the crew of Helimed 76 can continue to be there for those most in need.

**John Pritchard MBE**  
**MCPara,**  
**Lead aircrew**  
**paramedic,**  
**Scotland's Charity**  
**Air Ambulance.**

## Good Samaritans at Christmas

Sir,  
My car broke down last Saturday outside on Potalloch Street, Lochgilphead.

When I was sitting there, unable to move, the police arrived and the officers were great, pushing my car along to the parking space outside the Bank of Scotland.

Shortly afterwards, Stuart from Semple's Garage came along with another mechanic. They fixed my car for me and would take nothing for doing it.

Through the pages of the *Argyllshire Advertiser*, I just wanted to say thank you to them for their help, and for getting me out of a very sticky situation.

**Billy Mundie,**  
**Lochgilphead.**

## Your views from the Advertiser's social media channels

Kate Macaulay, Inverneill, got in touch this week via the *Argyllshire Advertiser* Facebook page.

She wrote: 'The story in last week's *Argyllshire Advertiser* about the Christmas tree on the shore, known as the Inverneill Tree, has intrigued me since moving to the area five years ago.

'I have never seen the baubles go on or come off, but it is an absolute delight when car lights pick up the shiny tree baubles.'

**Letters to the Editor,**  
**Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8NB**  
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## PRESS POLICY

We at The Argyllshire Advertiser endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk; telephoning our senior reporter on 01546 602345 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt 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 either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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.

# Former soldier offers veterans free holidays in Argyll

FORMER soldier Philip Heard is playing Santa by offering his stunning Argyll holiday home to veterans from all over Britain for free holidays.

Ex-Grenadier Philip, 84, who is originally from Devon and moved up to Scotland 31 years ago, became a farmer after leaving the army.

Philip has built a beautiful house next to his home at Glenbarr, with stunning sea views, and is offering it to military charities for use by service personnel, veterans and their families.

He explained: 'My father was left disabled after World War 1 so Help for Heroes is a cause that is very close to my heart. I built this house for service personnel and veterans and their families to get a much-needed break.'

'I have 12 families booked in from Help for Heroes. They are coming from all over the country, but I would like to see it used by more Scottish veterans. It is in a beautiful part of Scotland and would suit anyone of any age. I am keen to share the quiet, beautiful surroundings Glenbarr has to offer.'

Afghanistan veteran Johnathan Lee has just enjoyed a week's holiday with wife Dawn and children Hazel, aged 3, and 11-month-old David.

Johnathan, who lost a leg after being caught in a roadside blast in Helmand province in 2007, said: 'Glenbarr is a beautiful place and what a very nice gentleman Philip Heard is to give us this offer. There were lots of lovely places to visit nearby and the children particularly enjoyed the beautiful beaches.'

Philip has set up the

holiday home as a charity, Island View Forces Respite Association.

He does not charge for use of the property, which sleeps eight to ten people, with the

only charge being a £25 per week cleaning fee.

The house is accessible downstairs but also has two bedrooms upstairs. Philip is looking for support from a sup-

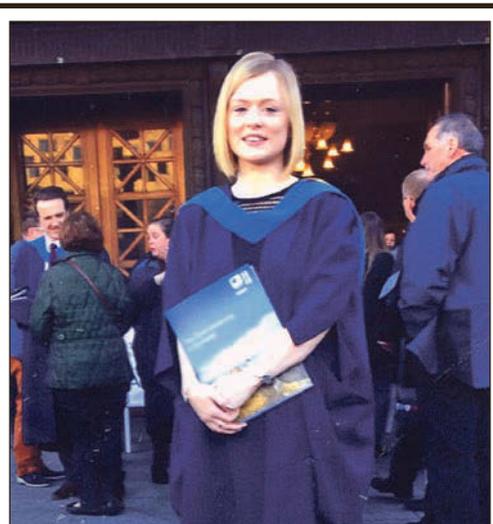
plier or manufacturer who can donate a stairlift to allow wheelchair users to use the upstairs rooms.

Philip Heard's holiday home.



Dawn Lee with Hazel and David enjoying their recent stay in Glenbarr.

## GRADUATION



### DONNA MCMILLAN

has recently graduated from The Open University with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sport, Fitness and Coaching. Donna is the daughter of Alan and Katie, sister of Craig, and granddaughter of Neil and Helen.

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# The Advertiser Festive Quiz of the Year



**1 TV crews flocked to the Rest and be Thankful in early January - but what unusual event caught their interest?** 06\_a52Rest01

2 Which well-known Tarbert couple were given the Tarbert Citizen of the Year accolade for charity work during 2015?

3 A Lochgilphead-based charity celebrated 20 years since its foundation during the year. Name the health-related organisation.

4 Name the rural youth organisation revived in February after many years in abeyance.

5 The Advertiser carried a story about Japanese mountain

goats being imported to control Japanese knotweed. On what day was the article published?



6 Inveraray landmark 'Arctic Penguin' was on the move in the spring ahead of a planned refit on Bute. But where did she end up? 06\_a52arcticpeng01

Test your memory with our fun quiz about stories contained in the pages of the Argyllshire Advertiser during 2016.



8 Name the well known gent featured in a June article as he contemplated retirement after seven decades as a piano tuner. 06\_a24billgray02a

9 What is the name of the Scottish adventurer who visited Mid Argyll in July as part of his 'Wild About Argyll' challenge?

10 What species of animal won the overall championship at the 2016 Mid Argyll Show? And for a bonus

point, can you remember her name?

11 What items were hidden in shops around Lochgilphead ahead of the festive season in a challenge run by the Baptist Church?



12 A mystery Dalek-like creature was spotted loose in Lochgilphead in November. What was the purpose of its tour round the town?

## Festive Quiz of the Year Answers



- 1 The blasting of a 150-tonne rock high on the slopes above the Cairndow
- 2 Margaret and Dug-ycyclist, TV personality
- 3 The Lochgilphead MS Centre, on Campbell Street.
- 4 Mid Argyll Young Farmers' Club.
- 5 April 1 - coincident and duck to win the crown.
- 6 The ship moved from the stone quay to the end of Inveraray Pier. She is still there.
- 7 At a site beside the Fyne Ales brewery.
- 8 Bill Gray, Ardrish-slightly.
- 9 Mark Beaumont - a cyclist, TV personality and intrepid explorer.
- 10 A Clydesdale mare bred by David and Callum MacPhail from Campbeltown. She beat caltra Sweet Chloe, a mare bred by David and Callum MacPhail from Campbeltown. She beat a champion sheep, dog and duck to win the crown.
- 11 Small knitted sheep.
- 12 To highlight the Dalek's belief that Argyll and Bute Council will introduce car parking charges at the Lorne Street Car Park.

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### Christmas community gathering

THE Lochgilphead Christmas community gathering will be taking place again this year.

As reported in last week's *Advertiser*, big-hearted volunteers have been working hard to organise the popular event that aims to help combat loneliness at Christmas.

This year's Christmas day lunch and party will be taking place at the Mid Argyll Youth Development Services hall on Union Street and a meal delivery service for those unable to leave the house will be provided.

#### Party

Organisers are appealing for small gifts, drivers, any extra volunteers and, in particular, entertainers who could spare half an hour on Christmas day to get the party going with a swing.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to join the gathering as a guest, or if you would like to volunteer or make a donation, then contact Lynda Syed on 01546 606808 or 07493618437 or email [lynda@argylltsi.org.uk](mailto:lynda@argylltsi.org.uk).



Heron Valley in their natural environment – on the festival stage – featuring, left to right, Nick Hamilton, Euan McNab, Arlene Mackechnie, lead singer Abigail Pryde, Alex Mackechnie and Callum Cronin.

## Heron Valley hatching debut album for 2017

ONE OF Argyll's hottest young trad bands has a treat in store for fans in the new year.

Festival favourites Heron Valley are hard at work recording a much-anticipated debut album, hot on the heels of releasing a popular online video shot on location in the hills above the Rest and be Thankful. Multi-talented instrumentalist Alex Mackechnie from Strachur – normally to be seen playing the Heron Valley fiddle – said it had

been a long time coming. He continued: 'We are constantly asked if we have CDs for sale at all of the festivals we play in the summer months.'

With a few days of recording left to do, Alex added: 'We do not have an exact release date yet, but we should hopefully be looking at a release in around April or May. This will also give us enough time to have our CD available for people at all of our summer gigs.'

## #5hunnermile good deed challenge

WILL you accept the good deed challenge to help beat isolation, loneliness and poverty in Scotland?

Communities are being challenged to take on a good deed this festive season. From donating to a food bank, offering

a helping hand or taking the time to visit someone who may be lonely this Christmas, no act of kindness is too small.

The challenge also hopes to get people active, so each deed ideally will involve taking a minimum of 500 steps.

You can log your steps on the challenge's website [www.livingitup.scot/tools-services/tools/community-challenges/2016/11/5-hunner-challenge](http://www.livingitup.scot/tools-services/tools/community-challenges/2016/11/5-hunner-challenge). Post photos and videos using the hashtag #5hunnermile.

### Argyll Inn public bar serving food

THE ARGYLL Inn, Lochgilphead, is now serving food in its public bar.

Although children are currently not permitted in the public bar, work has been taking place this week to get the Snug restaurant up and running.

The licensing of this part of the Argyll Inn allows under 18s.

**THE ARGYLL INN** Friday 23rd  
**Office Dwellers and Teachers End Of Season Party**  
 with DJ E.Mac - 5pm till late

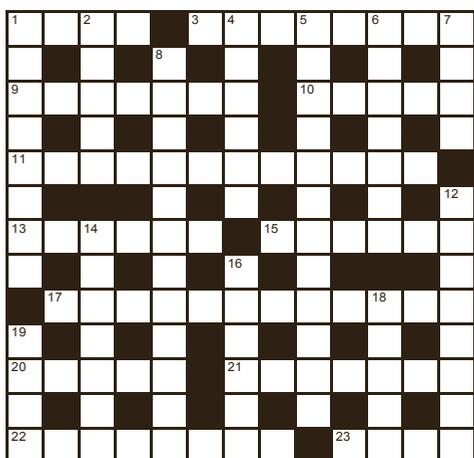
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#### Across

- 1 Band instrument (4)
- 3 Group of three dimensional wv (8)
- 9 Assistant (7)
- 10 Ant (5)
- 11 Old unit in Germany (8,4)
- 13 Cook for too long (6)
- 15 Fish eagle (6)
- 17 Perfumed toilet water (3,2,7)
- 20 Bind (5)
- 21 Spartan (7)
- 22 where funds are kept (8)
- 23 One worshipped (4)

#### Down

- 1 Pendant gem shape (8)
- 2 Small and exquisite (5)
- 4 Irritated (6)
- 5 To keep your cuppa hot (7,5)
- 6 One who looks with pleasure (7)
- 7 Abominable Snowman (4)
- 8 Partial (3-9)
- 12 About marriage (8)
- 14 Analyze (7)
- 16 Cream cake (6)
- 18 Avarice (5)
- 19 Burst of wind (4)

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION



# Merry Christmas

**Fyne Flowers**

Thank you to everyone who has supported me in my new venture with Fyne Flowers. Have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! Best wishes for 2017! Keli xx

40 Hillfoot Terrace (behind the school), Tarbert  
Tel: 07493 545607 email: fyneflowers@yahoo.co.uk  
www.fyneflowers.co.uk

Best wishes for 2017!  
From all the team at Jewson's.



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**WISH ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Our Campbeltown, Lochgilphead, Rothesay and Dunoon Offices will close at 4pm on Friday 23rd December 2016 and re-open at 9am on Thursday 5th January 2017

The 24-hour Freephone Emergency Number will of course continue to operate throughout this holiday period

**REMEMBER – 0800 592276**

**Christmas Holidays** - Closed Monday, Tuesday – 26th./ 27th. December  
Re-open Wednesday 28th. December 2016.

**New Year Holidays** – Closed Monday, Tuesday – 2nd./ 3rd. January 2017  
Re-open Wednesday 4th. January 2017

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our customers and suppliers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

3 Range Road, Campbeltown, PA28 6LL  
(workshop at Limecraigs, Campbeltown)  
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Email: marchfieldfarm@btinternet.com

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WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS

All the team wish everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2017!

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**GS Insurance Services**  
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Tel 01586 553433

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He can be contacted on 01586 820 209  
E-mail: rory.colville@argyll-bute.gov.uk



**G McNaughton & Son (Plant Hire) Ltd**

would like to wish all their customers a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

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Cafe 35 wishes all customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2017.

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We wish all our customers past and present a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**ARGYLL BOOK CENTRE**

Lorne Street,  
Lochgilthead  
Tel 01546 603596

James and Carol of **The Feathers & Fiddler's Inn**

would like to wish all their staff and customers A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!



# Merry Christmas



**Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from the Port Ban Team and the Sheldrick/Jackson Family.**

We would like to thank our local customers and suppliers for their support over the past 50 years and invite all to come and celebrate with us in our 50th anniversary year - 2017

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**Our offices will be closed on Friday 23rd and Monday 26th December and Friday 30th December and Monday 2nd January 2017**

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**Efric M McNeil**  
efricm.mcneil@dunlopca.co.uk  
[www.dunlopca.co.uk](http://www.dunlopca.co.uk)

We would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas

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Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from all at the Gigha Hotel!

Thank you for visiting us throughout the year and we look forward to your visits next year!

Best Wishes for 2017!

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# from your local business!

**Councillor Anne Horn**  
 wishes everyone in Kintyre and the Islands a Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year



**Telephone 01880 820496**

**THE GLEN BAR & RESTAURANT CARRADALE**  
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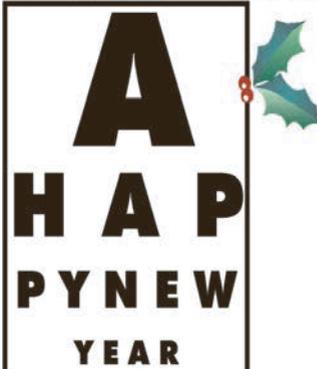
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**COWAN & MACBRAYNE LTD JOINERS & BUILDERS LOCHGILPHEAD**  
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 Telephone: 01546 603851

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



58 Longrow Campbeltown  
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**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS 2015**  
 Close Friday 23rd at 4pm.  
 Open Wednesday 28th & close again Friday 30th at 4pm.  
 Open again Wednesday 4th Jan.

**Campbeltown Motor Company**

The Management and Staff of Campbeltown Motor Company wish all customers the compliments of the season. Thank you for supporting us and we hope to be of service to you during 2017.

Tel: 01586 552030 / 553200



Campbeltown Motor Company  
 Snipefield, Drumore, Campbeltown

**RIVERSIDE FILLING STATION**  
**Festive Opening Hours**

Open as normal (6am-11pm)  
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our customers

*There for you* Riverside Filling Station  
 Oban Rd, Lochgilphead. Tel 01546 603858

# High school festive concert a night to remember

THE LIGHTS dimmed and the crowd hushed as Eve Maxwell took to the stage.

A sense of anticipation captivated the audience as she stunned them with a rendition of *O Holy Night*.

With such an entrancing performance to open Lochgilphead High School's Christmas concert on Thurs-

day December 15, it was apparent the evening was going to be one to remember.

The packed out school hall was not disappointed.

The concert was a showcase of the incredible and natural talent of pupils from

every year.

A dance recital from Fusion, the school's dance group, performances by the school and staff choir, solos, duets, ensembles and audience participation in a few carols, made for a fantastic programme.



The clarinet ensemble could not wait to perform. 08\_a52LHScncert05



53 pupils take to the stage for the big finale. 08\_a52LHScncert09

For the first year, the audience was also treated to a short play - a comical take on the nativity story by S2 pupils.

The high school pipe band, led by Stuart Liddell, were accompanied by some primary pupils and could not be missed as they



The choir lead the audience in song, accompanied by the band. 08\_a52LHScncert03



Orla Flanagan has the woodwind X-factor. 08\_a52LHScncert04

marched into the hall. Harry Adair, Cameron Kidd, Piers Gritten and Abbie Williams played tribute to fellow piper, Lewis Wilson, with an uplifting performance of a slow air called *Never Forgotten*.

Orla Flanagan was one to watch, performing a solo, duet, in ensembles and with the band her talent seemed endless. And a foot-tapping flute en-

semble's interpretation of *All I Want for Christmas is You* had a vague *Love Actually* feel to it.

The event, hailed by head teacher Ann Devine as 'the most exciting event of the

school calendar', was praised by audience members who took the time to thank the head of the music department Fiona Simpson, as they left. Some even said it was 'the best Christmas concert yet'.



Pipers perform *Never Forgotten*. 08\_a52LHScncert07



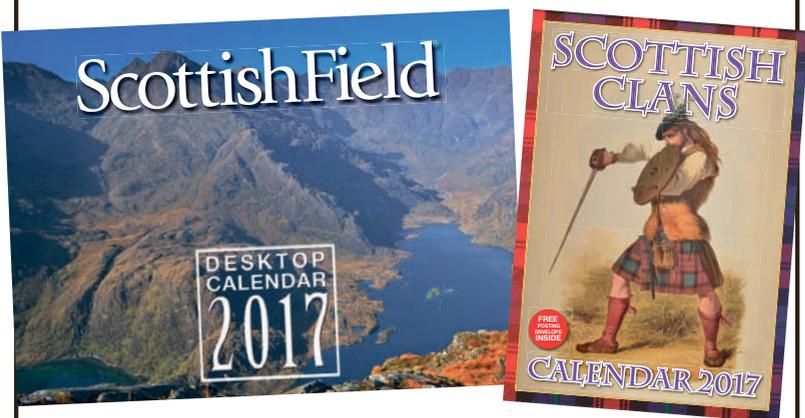
The festive flute ensemble had the audience dancing along. 08\_a52LHScncert08

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\*Minimum one year subscription. Print subscriptions only. Calendars issued January. Calendar type may vary.

argyllshire  
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## GRADUATION



### CLARE MARGARET WALLACE

Graduated on 16<sup>th</sup> November at the University of the West of Scotland, Paisley with a BSc in Adult Nursing (with Distinction). Clare is the daughter of David and Linda Wallace, Campbeltown and the granddaughter of Robert and the late Margaret Wallace, Campbeltown and of the late John and Betty McIvor, Machrihanish. Clare has recently started work at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow as a staff nurse in the Theatres and Recovery unit.



Highland Homeware's creator Catherine Bloy shows off her puffin pillows. 08\_a52MACfair01



Kerry-Anne Campbell of Lush Thirty Three with daughter Kaitlyn. 08\_a52MACfair02



Lochgilphead Joint Campus dinner ladies are ready to take on the Christmas food preparation.

## Dinner ladies take on Christmas

CHRISTMAS can be a stressful time, especially when it comes to preparing Christmas lunch. But spare a thought for Argyll and Bute Council's schools catering staff, who will serve around 120 turkeys over the festive period.

School dinner ladies across Argyll and Bute will ensure pupils do not go hungry when they cook over

725kg of carrots and 340kg of Brussels sprouts to accompany their traditional Christmas lunch.

Pupils will also feast on almost 9,500 stuffing balls and will enjoy a massive 13,500 pigs in blankets.

No Christmas meal would be complete without a cracker or two either, with pupils pulling more than 19,500.

# Pool's first fair a success

THE FIRST MACPool Christmas fair proved a big success with festive shoppers on the lookout for a last-minute gift.

Local artists and small businesses had set out their stalls at the pool last Friday night, December 16.

Among the highlights were a Touch of Glass Studio selling decorations and framed work, pampering products from Neals Yard Organic and Lush Thirty Three, a handy sewing

booklet from Needle-Smith and delicious delights from Cake-a-Way.

Leanne Williams, who will be leading new fitness classes in the new year, was on hand to take those brave enough through the half-hour taster sessions for Hourglass Aqua Class, Pump It or Young at Heart.

Keep an eye out for information about when the classes start to kick your new year resolutions into action.



Linda McCullough of Cake-a-Way shows off her reindeer gingerbread biscuits. 08\_a52MACfair03



Leanne Williams is ready to give everyone a taste of her upcoming classes. 08\_a52MACfair04

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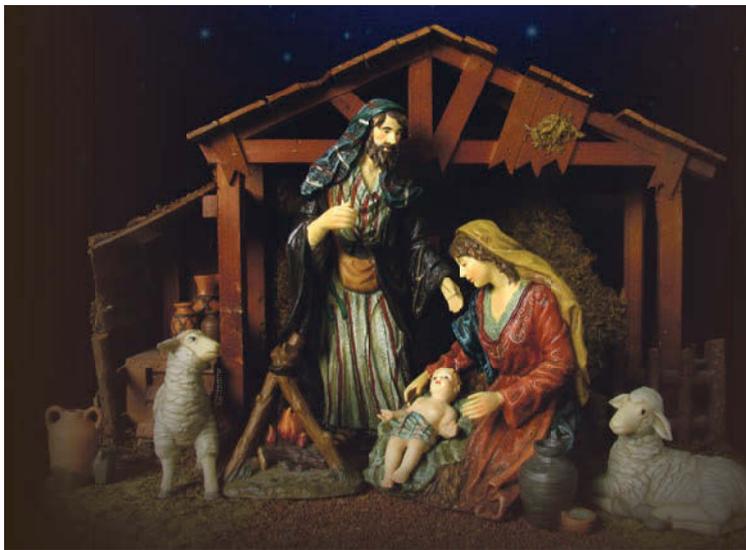
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# 'Jesus - He's the reason for the Season'

## MID ARGYLL

### ARDRISHAIG and SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

**Sunday 18th December**  
*"Count the Stars, if You Can"*  
 (Genesis 15)  
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am  
 Achahoish at 12:30pm

**Christmas Eve**  
*"Stars in their Eyes"*  
 Carol Service  
 Achahoish at 7:00pm  
 Watchnight Service  
 Ardrishaig at 11:30pm  
 (Carol Singing from 11.15pm)

**Christmas Day**  
*"Today in the City of David..."*  
 Ardrishaig at 10:00am  
 (No Service at Achahoish)

**Sunday 1st January 2017**  
*"I am Making Everything New"*  
 Ardrishaig at 11:00am  
 Achahoish at 12:30pm

### SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

**Saturday 24th December**  
 11.30 pm MIDNIGHT MASS  
 Christ Church, Lochgilphead

**Sunday 25th December**  
 9am St Columba's, Poltalloch  
 Holy Communion  
 11am Christ Church,  
 Lochgilphead  
 Carols & Eucharist of Christmas

Father Simon Mackenzie  
 01546 602315

### ST. MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilphead  
**Christmas Eve**  
 Midnight Mass  
 Carols from 11.30pm

**Christmas Day**  
 Service at 10am  
 Fr. David Connor  
 01546 602380  
 All Welcome  
 (SCO002876)

### 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

**1 JANUARY 2017**  
 11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE  
 Rev. Hilda Smith  
 More info. at [www.lpchurch.co.uk](http://www.lpchurch.co.uk)  
 Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland)  
 SC016311

### NORTH KNAPDALE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

We wish you a Happy Christmas and God's blessing in the year to come. We invite you to join us in our worship this festive season.

**Sunday 18 December**  
 Tayvallich Church 11:30am  
 Lessons and Carols

**Saturday 24 December**  
 Tayvallich Jubilee Green  
 Carols on the Green 4 pm  
 (In the church if it's raining)  
 Tayvallich Church 11:15pm  
 Watchnight Service

**Sunday 25 December**  
 Bellanoch Church 11 am  
 Christmas Day Worship

**Sunday 1 January**  
 Tayvallich Church 10 am  
 New Year's Day Worship  
 SC001002

### SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT, LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Tarbert -  
**No Watchnight Service**  
**Christmas Day Family Service**  
 11.30am

**New Years Day Joint Service**  
 with Tarbert Free Church 11.30am  
 - to be held in Tarbert Free Church

Kilberry -  
 Christmas Eve Service 7pm

**Skipness -**  
 Christmas Eve Service 7pm  
 Christmas Day Service 10am  
 For all church enquiries and pastoral care  
 Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator  
 on 07826 235735  
 Everyone very welcome  
 Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622  
 Skipness SCO04280

**Church of Scotland WEST LOCHFYNESIDE**  
 Minister:  
 Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell

**Watch Night Service 24th December**  
 Cumlodden Church at 7.30 pm.  
 Glenaray and Inveraray Church at 11.30 pm

**Christmas Day Service 25th December**  
 Cumlodden Church at 10.00 am  
 Glenaray and Inveraray Church at 11.30 am  
 All welcome

## KINTYRE

**CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**Sunday 18th December**  
 "Gifts for a King"  
 A presentation by the Sunday School children with Campbeltown Brass Ensemble followed by coffee & mince pies

**Sunday 25th December**  
 All Age Service  
**Sunday 1st January 2017**  
 New Year Communion Service  
 "Be Still & Look Up"  
 All our services start at 11.00 am and are held at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road  
[www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
 SC043322

**LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH**  
**Sunday 18th December**  
 All Age Service 11.15am

With Choir items, Next Generation, Gen 1, Triple C and BBs  
 Creche  
 Rev P Wallace  
**Saturday 24th December**  
 Watchnight Service 11.30pm  
 Tea and Mince pies in the Church Hall from 10.45pm  
 Rev P Wallace  
**Sunday 25th December**  
 All Age Christmas Day Service 11.15am  
 Rev P Wallace

**SOUTHEND PARISH CHURCH**  
**Friday 16th December**  
 7.30pm Coffee and Carols in Dunaverty Hall  
**Sunday 18th December**  
 11.45am Morning Worship  
**Saturday 24th December**  
 11.30pm Watchnight Service  
**Sunday 25th December**  
 11am Christmas Morning Worship  
**Sunday 1st January**  
 11.45am Morning Worship

**SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
*Christmas starts with Christ*  
**Saturday 24th December**  
 Christmas Eve 6.30pm  
 Carols by Candlelight  
**Sunday 25th December**  
 Christmas Day  
 A short communion service starting at 11am  
 All welcome to all events  
 "For to you a Child is given"

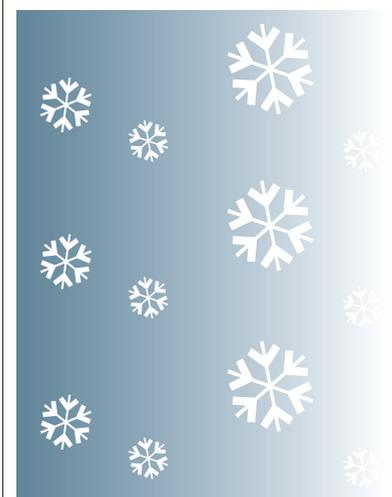
**ST. KIERAN R.C. CHURCH**  
 SCO02876  
*Advent 4*  
**Saturday 17th December**  
 Blessing of the Crib & Rorate Mass 6pm  
**Sunday 18th December**  
 Holy Mass 10.00am  
*Nativity of the Lord*  
**Christmas Eve**  
 Midnight Mass with carols from

11.30pm  
**Christmas Day**  
 Mass of Christmas Day 10.00am  
*Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*  
**Saturday 31st December**  
 Holy Mass 6.00pm  
**Sunday 1st January**  
 Holy Mass 10.00am

**GIGHA AND CARA LINKED WITH KILCALMONELL LINKED WITH KILLEAN AND KILCHENZIE**  
 Interim Moderator  
 Rev Catriona Hood

**Christmas Eve**  
 Kilcalmonell - Service of Lessons and Carols 7.30pm - led by Elders  
**Killean and Kilchenzie -**  
 Watchnight Service 11.30pm - Ms Marilyn Shedden (Tea/coffee mince pies in Hall from 10.30pm)  
**Gigha -** Watchnight Service 11.30pm - led by Elders  
**Christmas Day**  
 Joint Service in Killean and Kilchenzie (A'Chleit) at 11.30am - Rev Catriona Hood

**New Year's Day**  
 Kilcalmonell - Service in Church at 10.00am - Rev Catriona Hood  
**Gigha -** Service in Church at 11.00 am - led by Elders  
**Killean and Kilchenzie -**  
 Service in Church Hall at 11.30am - Rev Catriona Hood



To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



**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](http://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
16/03199/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant	Land Adjacent to Little Dalrioch Campbeltown Argyll and Bute	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011**

**NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 18**

Planning Application Reference Number: 15/03057/PP

Proposed development at Beinn An Tuirc Windfarm Phase 3

Land at Meall Buidhe and South of A'Chruach, West of Saddell, Kintyre, Argyll

Notice is hereby given that additional information in relation to an environmental statement has been submitted to Argyll and Bute Council by Scottish Power Renewables UK Limited relating to the planning application in respect of: Erection of 19 no wind turbines (17no. @ 126 metres and 2no. @ 106 metres high to blade tip), formation of access tracks, erection of control building, sub-station and associated compound, 2 no anemometer masts, 5 no borrow pits and associated infrastructure, notified to Argyll and Bute Council.

A copy of the additional information together with the environmental statement and the associated planning application may be inspected during office hours in the register of planning applications kept by the Planning Authority, at 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD, and by logging on to the Council's Website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and going through the 'Online Planning Application Information' system during the period of 28 days beginning with the date of this notice.

Copies of the environmental statement may be purchased from Scottish Power Renewables UK Limited, 2nd Floor New Building, North Wing, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE at a cost of £150.00 (including vat) for a paper copy or £15.00 for a cd.

Any person who wishes to make representations to Argyll and Bute Council about the environmental statement should make them in writing within the period to: Planning Services, Development and Infrastructure, Argyll and Bute Council, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RD.

Mr Richard Kerr, Principal Planning Officer  
12 December 2016

Closing date: 20.01.2017

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

**Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003**

**Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011**

**Application for Authorisation**

**Dounie Marine Cage Fish Farm, Sound of Jura, Argyll**

An application has been made to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) by Kames Fish Farming Limited for authorisation to carry on a controlled activity at, near or in connection with Dounie Marine Cage Fish Farm, namely:

Description of controlled activity	Waters affected	National grid reference
Discharge of trade effluent from marine cage fish farming of salmon or trout with a maximum biomass of 2500 tonnes including residues arising from medicines and sea lice treatments	Salen Mor Bay Sound of Jura	NR 7523 9188

SEPA considers that the above controlled activity may have an impact on the water environment and on the interests of other users of the water environment.

A copy of the application and any accompanying information may be inspected free of charge, at the SEPA Registry below, between 9.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (except local and national holidays). Alternatively, the application may be viewed on SEPA's website at: <http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/consultations/advertised-applications-under-car/>

Any person affected or likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the application may make representations to SEPA in writing within 28 days beginning with the date of this advertisement, at the following address, quoting reference number CAR/L/1152438:

**Registry Department, SEPA, Dingwall office, Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV15 9XB.**

Written representations received by SEPA within 28 days of this advertisement will be taken into consideration in determining the application. Any such representations will be placed in a public register unless the person making them requested that they should not be. Where such a request is made SEPA will include a statement in the register indicating that representations have been made which has been the subject of such a request.

When ready to determine the application, SEPA will serve notice on any person who has made a representation within 28 days of this advertisement, informing them of SEPA's proposed determination and giving them the opportunity to notify the Scottish Ministers in writing that they object to SEPA's proposed determination within 21 days of the notice being served.

Before determining the application, SEPA will:

- assess the risk to the water environment posed by the carrying on of the activity or activities.
- assess the indirect effects of that impact on any other aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected;
- consider any likely adverse social and economic effects of that impact and of any indirect environmental effects that have been identified;
- consider the likely environmental, social and economic benefits of the activity;
- assess the impact of the controlled activity or activities on the interests of other users of the water environment;
- assess what steps may be taken to ensure efficient and sustainable water use; and apply and have regard to relevant legislation.

SEPA will then either grant or refuse to grant the application.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

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**REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS**

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR 2016/2017**

**Kintyre Roadings Recycling and Civic Amenity Site**

Roadings Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25th/26th December 2016 and 1st/2nd January 2017.

Tuesday 27th December 2016 open 10.00am - 4.00pm

Wednesday 28th December 2016 normal hours resume

Tuesday 3rd January 2017 open 10.00am - 4.00pm

Wednesday 4th January 2017 normal hours resume

**KRL Collections**

The West Road kerbside that is scheduled for Monday 26th December 2016 will be collected on Thursday 29th December 2016

The East Road/Carradale kerbside that is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd January 2017 will be collected on Thursday 5th January 2017

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

**Foresters Friendly Society**

Court meetings will now be held in the Ardshiel Hotel, Campbeltown on the first Tuesday of every second month commencing on Tuesday 7 February 2017.

All optical and dental claims should be submitted direct to:

Malcolm Bannatyne  
Court Secretary, Tralee  
Fort Argyll Road  
Campbeltown PA28 6SN  
Chief Ranger

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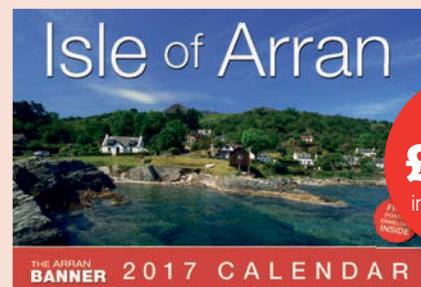
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## Scottish Calendars 2017



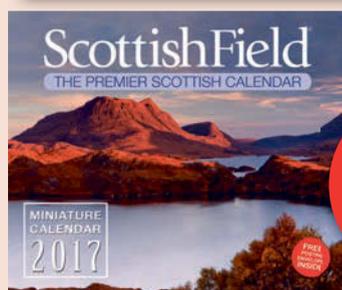
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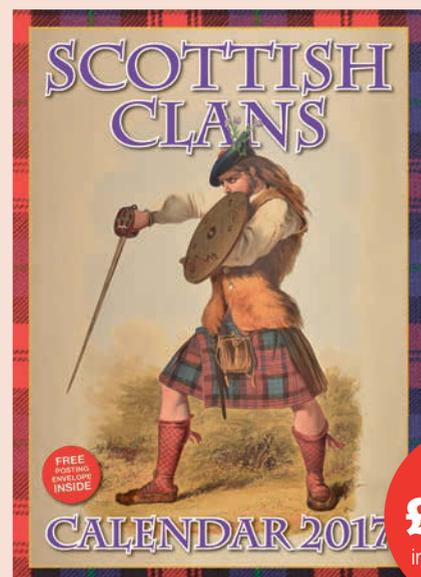


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# Your Personal

## Christmas Greetings

**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year**

to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Cathie McPhee, Millknowe.



**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year**

to all my relatives & friends from Donald M Gillies.



**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

James McKerral thanks everyone who sent cards & good wishes. 3d Hillside Road.



**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

to all our relatives, friends & neighbours from Lizzie Galbraith & David.



**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year**

Lucy Cunningham, Catriona & David Vick & family of 54 Kirk Street, Campbeltown wish all relations, friends & neighbours, far & near, a Merry Christmas & a Happy, Prosperous, Peaceful & Blessed New Year.



**PEGGY WAREHAM 5 CASTLEHILL COURT**

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



**RON MEAD**

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



1. Mitten 2. Present 3. Bell 4. Star  
5. (across) Snowflake 5. (down) Santa  
6. Fireplace 7. Cookie 8. Snowman  
9. Tree 10. Hat 11. Ball 12. Candle

1. Unicorn 2. Sheep 3. Elf 4. Dress 5. Robot  
6. Berry 7. Plane 8. Watch 9. Gorilla 10. Scooter  
11. Santa 12. Celebration

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If you are unable to access the website contact the Recruitment Team:

**Tel 01546 605917 or email [recruitment@acha.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@acha.co.uk)**

**Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 30 December 2016**

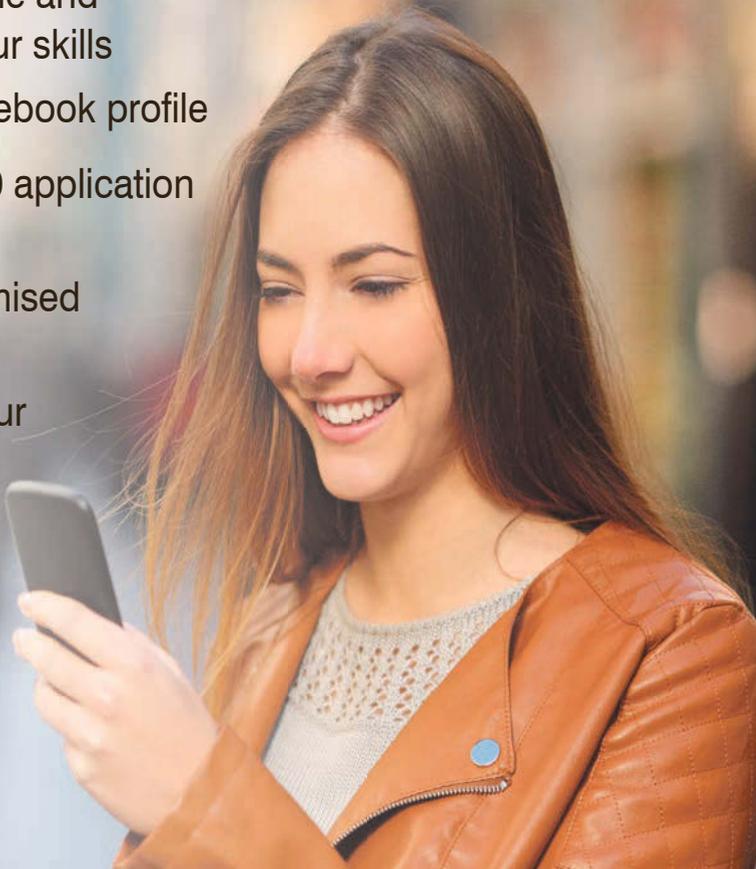
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Please note applications are requested by CV and covering letter.

**Angela Gibson, HR officer,  
The Scottish Salmon Company  
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8HB  
Tel: 01499 600 430 [angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com](mailto:angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com)  
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# Names in the hat for top three union posts

SIX candidates will contest the top roles within National Farmers Union Scotland at the union's forthcoming AGM and annual dinner in Glasgow early next year.

Elections for the positions of president and its two vice presidential posts will take place at the union's council meeting at the Radisson Blu Hotel on Tuesday February 7. The union's AGM, conference and annual dinner will be staged at the same venue the day before.

Current president Allan Bowie and sitting vice presidents Rob Livesey and Andrew McCornick will all contest the presidential position.

The two vice presidential roles will be decided between Forth and Clyde Regional

chairman Tom French, Less Favoured Areas Committee chairman Martin Kennedy and Dumfries and Galloway Regional chairman Gary Mitchell.

The presidential position is held for two years and a president can serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms. Under the terms of the constitution, those elected to the position of vice president will initially serve for two years before the post reverts to an annual election.

A series of hustings meeting around the country will take place in January, giving members the opportunity to hear from all candidates on their priorities for the union.

Commenting on the prospect of an exciting election campaign, NFU Scotland chief executive Scott Walk-



Current office-bearers are vice-president Andrew McCornick, president Allan Bowie and vice-president Rob Livesey, all of whom will be running.

er said: 'It is hugely encouraging for the future of NFU Scotland and indication of the strength of the organisation that such a strong line up of candidates want to be involved in the union at the highest level.'

'With Brexit decisions looming and future ag-

ricultural policy in the UK and Scotland up for debate, we need the right people in place to drive forward policies that are in the very best interests of our farmers and crofters.'

'The decision the membership must make is who should lead this union for the next 24

months as we negotiate some of the most challenging times faced by the union in its 104-year history.'

The Argyll and Islands husting will take place during the regional board AGM in Stonefield Castle, Tarbert on Friday January 13.

## 'Scrum'ptious food – all the way from Argyll

IF YOU happen to be lucky enough to have a ticket for the Boxing Day derby match between Scotland's two pro rugby teams, the biggest scrum will be among the food sellers.

Followers of the oval ball game will be desperate to enjoy the delicious tastes offered by our Food From Argyll producers.

The Edinburgh v

Glasgow 1872 Cup match will see the Argyll producer group return to Murrayfield, where they can be found in the north area of the stadium on the day.

Making the journey to Edinburgh will be Loch Fyne Oysters, Winston Churchill Venison and The Real MacKay Stovie Co from Inveraray.

## New law will aid crofting election

THE Scottish Parliament has approved legislation that will help ensure next year's Crofting Commission elections run smoothly.

Covering the election of commissioners – the regulatory body for crofting – the approved legislation covers who should be able to stand for election, absent and proxy votes, the maximum amount and process for election expenses, and the process of appointing a new commissioner, should a vacancy arise before 2022.

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity Fergus Ewing said: 'Electing commissioners has helped give crofters a stronger say in how they are regulated.'

'Elected members can bring valuable local knowledge and experience, and are needed to help safeguard a strong and vibrant future for crofting.'

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## Scottish tatties could be in abundance for Christmas dinner

THERE could be more Scottish tatties on Christmas dinner tables across the UK this year.

While there was a five per cent drop in UK production this season, 2016 was a better year for potatoes in Scotland.

Production is up nine per cent on 2015 with export figures also looking very healthy. Early Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA) data shows non-EU seed exports from July to November up 40 per cent.

Scottish yields per hectare were above the GB average this year – 46.4t/ha compared

to 44.9t/ha. However, this year's Scottish average is still down on the last couple of years (tonnage per hectare was 47.8 in 2015 and 46.9 in 2014). The increase in production can be attributed to an increase in planted area, up to 26,300 ha from 23,600 ha, resulting in output of 1,223,000 tonnes.

Agriculture and Horticultural Development Board (AHDB) potatoes analyst Arthur Marshall said: 'With the smaller GB crop this year, prices have already reacted and are at higher levels than last year. So, for example, Scottish grade 1 pack-

ing whites were averaging £208/t ex-farm in the first week of December, compared to £155/t in the same week a year ago.

'Also, the price differential between Scottish and English packing whites, and Maris Piper, is widening. While Scottish prices have been rising, English prices have been rising faster. The wider the difference gets, the more likely Scottish supplies are to head south as English-based buyers are more likely to look towards cheaper Scottish supplies.'

After Maris Piper, the most popular pota-

to planted in Scotland this year was Hermes, which is generally destined for more exotic locations.

SASA data shows that more than 54,000 tonnes of Scottish seed has been shipped to non-EU countries so far this year, up on around 39,000 in same period last year (July to November). The majority of Scotland's seed potatoes are exported to Egypt with over 50,000 exported there last year. However, AHDB is keen both to open new markets and increase volumes going to existing markets to ensure we are less dependent on Egypt for export in-

come.

Alistair Melrose, chairman of AHDB's seed and export committee, said: 'Trade dialogue has ensured that our largest export market, Egypt, continues to increase GB seed imports year on year. However, we are exporting seed to over 50 countries and better utilising those markets offers opportunities for our export community to spread risk and capitalise on varietal requirements and climate/season differences. I'm pleased the new strategy is getting more Scottish seed out to these existing markets, and to opening new markets.'

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condition. Photo available. Buyer collects, £30 Telephone 01499 302674.

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## CAMPBELTOWN CAT RESCUE

*Would like to thank everyone for their support at the annual coffee morning. The event raised £1276. Thanks also to all who have donated cat food via our drop off boxes in the Coop and Tesco Stores. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.*

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## Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



I WAS totally intrigued by our neighbour's lights.

I just couldn't work them out at all. They covered the house and even went over the roof with not a wire in sight. A million lights danced and glistened in the darkness but nothing was visible in daylight.

It was a mystery. Then someone explained to me that it is all done by projection and they are not real lights at all.

I love the Christmas lights.

Light in the darkness is central to the Christmas story.

Jesus is born in the deepest darkness – in the middle of the night at the winter solstice.

This is not historical time – not a historical fact about the date of Jesus's birth. It is parabolic time, metaphorical time, sacred time, symbolic time.

Nobody knows the day, the month or the season of the year of Jesus's birth.

But the symbolism is perfect.

In the time of deepest darkness, in the middle of the night, in the middle of winter on the longest night of the year, Jesus is born.

He is the light of the world.

Imagine darkness before we had any artificial light. Imagine the dark months of winter where there were just a few daylight hours to do all that was necessary before the cloak of darkness enveloped the world and its people once again.

When night fell, it was dark, very dark. Wintered souls longed for light.

So let us project the true light this Christmas and shine its rays into the dark corners of the world where hope may be born again.

Have a peaceful Christmas and may the Christ light guide you through this coming year.

### HELENSBURGH

#### Outdoor museum shortlisted for award

HELENSBURGH'S innovative outdoor museum has been shortlisted for a prestigious Arts and Business Scotland Award.

The museum will be judged in the Enterprising Museum category, which recognises an innovative or entrepreneurial project that has delivered an ambitious high-impact museum experience in 2015-16.

Councillor Ellen Morton, Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for infrastructure, said: 'It is a real achievement to be shortlisted for the award. Many people deserve the recognition for making this project happen.'

The council's regeneration of Helensburgh's town centre has already won three other awards – including a Scottish Design Award.

### KILMELFORD

#### Kilmelford couple set up studio bookshop

MS MULTIPLE Sclerosis Therapy Centre – Mid Argyll staff were delighted when centre member Hafrun Taylor and her husband, Alex Tweedly, decided to open the studio in their Kilmelford home to visitors as a second-hand and local art bookshop to raise funds for the MS centre.

Karen McCurry said: 'This is a wonderful, unique way to raise funds and awareness for the work of the centre and I would like to thank Alex and Hafrun for their kind offer.'

If anyone would like to donate books or art work, the MS centre will be able to pass on these donations.

The bookshop will open on Sundays, Tuesday and Fridays from 2pm-4pm and all money made will go to the MS centre.

### TIGHNABRUAICH



Stall traders were kept busy at Craignish Village Hall.

## Not so bleak midwinter . . .

CRAIGNISH'S ever popular mid-winter night market saw visitors tackle their last-minute Christmas shopping.

Young and old artists and craft-makers sold framed prints, winter woollies, jewellery and much more,

while Bea's Kitchen kept everyone well fed on Friday December 9.

#### Festive cheer

And if visitors needed even more festive cheer, there was mulled wine and carols to get everyone in the Christmas spirit.

### KINTYRE

#### First UK wind turbine factory to open in Argyll

CS WIND has announced it will build the first factory in the UK capable of manufacturing towers for offshore wind turbines in Campbeltown.

The development is the result of a multi-million-pound investment by DONG

Energy and safeguards 70 jobs.

Lindsay Roberts, senior policy manager at Scottish Renewables, said: 'The announcement of this significant industrial development is fantastic news for CS Wind and for Campbeltown.'

'The company is a significant employer in Argyll and this latest investment safeguards high-value skilled jobs at the site, as well as demonstrating that Scottish supply chain companies can successfully compete in this global market.'

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**TEXT FOR THE WEEK**

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God' (Matthew 5:9).

**DEATHS**

**MACBRAYNE** - Peacefully at the Lorne and Islands District General Hospital, Oban, on December 15, 2016, Colin MacBrayne, in his 58th year, 19 Meadows Avenue, Campbeltown, loving son of Colin and Flora MacBrayne, much loved brother of Jane, Robert and Marie and a kind and loving uncle to Shaun, Jeff, Sophie, Alice and Walter.

**MACMILLAN** - On December 7, 2016, peacefully at home, Donald MacMillan, in his 89th year, beloved husband of the late Eva MacDonald, much loved father of Margaret, John, Neil and the late Yvonne, a dear father-in-law and grandpa of Yvonne Young. Funeral service and interment was held at Glen Shira Cemetery, Inveraray, on December 14. Special thanks to Rev Roderick Campbell for officiating, Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services and to all who paid their last respects.

**NEILL** - Peacefully, at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, on Wednesday, December 21, 2016, Marion, cherished wife of Derek, much loved sister and aunt of all the family. Fortified by rites of Holy Church RIP Reception immediately prior to Mass, at St Conval's RC Church, Linwood, on Friday, December 30 at 10.00am. Thereafter to The Linn Crematorium (St Mungo), Lainshaw Drive, Glasgow, due 12.00pm.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**LOW** - Duncan and Isobel Matheson would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy following the death of his sister, Helen. Special thanks also to the doctors and nursing staff of Mid Argyll and Lorne and Islands Hospitals for their care. Thanks to Rev Hilda Smith for her lovely service, to everyone who attended the church and graveside and to the Stag Hotel for the purvey and a final thank you to Roddy and his staff for all their advice and support.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**ANDREW** - In loving memory of Bill, a much loved husband, dad and papa, died December 24, 2015.

Deep in our hearts Your memory is kept To love, to cherish Never to forget.

- Love always, Jessie and family xx.  
Miss you Papa.  
- Love, Hannah, Liam and Charley xxx.

**DUFFY** - Treasured memories of Craig, a much loved grandson. When someone you love becomes a memory, The memory becomes a treasure.  
- Love from Granny Tottie.

**FERGUSON** - Treasured memories of my beloved husband, Charles, who passed away December 27, 2015.

A heart of gold stopped beating Two willing hands lie still The one who did so much for me Is resting at God's will. Loved and remembered always.  
- Dadie.

**FERGUSON** - Treasured memories of our wonderful father, father-in-law and papa, Charles John Ferguson, taken suddenly on December 27, 2015. Our hero.  
- Love always, Charles, Fiona, Lorna, Andrew, Cameron, Ewan, Holly and Anna xxxx.

**GATNER** - In loving memory of Andy, died December 22, 2005. Loved and remembered always.  
- Love, Sarah, Rita and Andy.

**GILLIES** - In loving memory of John, our dear dad, grandpa and father-in-law, who was sadly taken from us on December 24, 2015. Gone but not forgotten.  
- Love all your family.

**GRAHAM** - In loving memory of my dear dad, Campbell, who passed away on December 27, 2006.

Sorely missed every day of these past ten years.  
- Mary.

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

**SELFRIDGE** - In loving memory of my dear husband, Fred, who died on December 26, 2013. Never a day goes past when I don't think of you. Miss you lots.  
- Myra.

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

**SELFRIDGE** - So many memories. Every time I think of you "I Smile"

- Carol, Ali, Colin, Siobhan and Rebecca.

**TAYLOR** - In memory of Nicky, who died on December 26, 2014. Missed every day.  
- John and Kieran.

**WATSON** - In loving memory of our dear mum, June. A special mother-in-law, granny and great granny who died December 24, 2006. Close to our hearts she will always stay Loved and remembered every day.

- Love, Duncan and Morag, Joanne and families.

**COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHURCH NOTICES**

*Highland Parish Church*



SCO02493

**Sunday 25th December 2016**  
"Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord"  
The Christmas service will be conducted by Rev William Crossan and will be held in the church at 11.15am All welcome.



Campbeltown Corps Church and Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009399  
Burnside Street, Campbeltown  
01586 552046  
**Sunday Services**  
10.00am Morning Worship  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME  
No evening meeting  
Captains Ben & Ruth Russell  
All welcome

**ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES**

**Christmas Eve**  
"Stars in their Eyes"  
Carol Service  
Achahoish at 7:00pm  
Watchnight Service Ardrishaig at 11:30pm (Carol Singing from 11.15pm)  
**Christmas Day**  
"Today in the City of David ..."  
Ardrishaig at 10:00am (No Service at Achahoish)

**LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN**  
**Sunday 25th December Christmas Day**  
Service 11am-12noon  
All Welcome

**SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**



75 Longrow, Campbeltown

**Sunday 25th December 2016**  
We are holding a short service with communion on Christmas Day at 11.00am. Visitors welcome. Gordon Cosgrove will lead this service.

**Saturday 24th December**  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT  
- a family friendly event

**Sunday 1st January 2017**  
Family Communion service with Songs of Praise 11.00am  
Join us this Christmas  
**What is missing from CH CH? UR**

For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 01586 551237.  
www.springbankchurch.co.uk  
SCO14646



Argyll Street, Campbeltown  
St Kieran Episcopal Church:  
Campbeltown  
Scottish Charity No SC023277

**Sunday 25th December**  
**Christmas Day**  
Holy Communion 10.45am  
**Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141**  
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

**CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**Sunday 25th December**  
All Age Service  
**Youth Fellowship**  
6.30 pm - 8.00 pm  
Every Sunday (term time only)  
**Mainly Music**  
10.00 - 11.30 am  
every Thursday (term time only)  
Registration required  
Pastor Chris Holden  
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road  
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk  
SCO43322

**ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD**

**Christmas Eve**  
Midnight Mass  
Carols from 11.30pm  
**Christmas Day**  
Service at 10.00am  
Fr. David Connor  
01546 602380  
All Welcome (SCO02876)

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH**

**Saturday 24th December**  
Watchnight Service  
Kilmartin 11.30pm  
Rev. C. R. Acklam  
All welcome  
SCO 02121

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES**

**Christ Church**  
Bishopton Road,  
Lochgilphead  
(SC013787)

**Saturday 24th December**  
11.30 pm MIDNIGHT MASS

Christ Church,  
Lochgilphead  
**Sunday 25th December**  
9am St Columba's,  
Poltalloch  
Holy Communion  
11am Christ Church,  
Lochgilphead  
Carols & Eucharist of Christmas  
Father Simon Mackenzie  
01546 602315

**ST. KIERAN R.C. CHURCH**

SCO02876  
**Nativity of the Lord**  
**Christmas Eve**  
Midnight Mass with carols from 11.30pm  
**Christmas Day**  
Mass of Christmas Day 10.00am  
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God  
**Saturday 31st December**  
Holy Mass 6.00pm  
**Sunday 1st January**  
Holy Mass 10.00am

**lochgilphead baptist church**

Pastor Derek Gibson  
All Welcome  
**Sunday 25th December**  
Christmas All Age Service  
Kids brings a toy or your favourite book  
Morning Service 10.30am  
Scottish Charity SC015187

**SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Saturday 24th December**  
**Watchnight Services**  
Kilberry 6.30pm  
Skipness 7pm

Both Congregation led  
Please note no Watchnight Service in Tarbert

**Sunday 25th December**  
Christmas Day Services  
Skipness 10am  
Tarbert 11.30am  
Rev. Walter Ritchie

For all church enquiries and pastoral care  
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator  
on 07826 235735  
Everyone very welcome  
Tarbert & Kilberry SC002622  
Skipness SC004280



**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  
More info. at www.lpchurch.co.uk  
Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland)  
SCO16311

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE**

**Sunday 25th December 2016**  
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair

Charity No. SC016097  
Minister:  
Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell  
Morning Service  
in Cumlodden Church at 10 am  
**Glenaray and Inveraray**  
Charity No. SC016665  
Morning Service  
in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**WATCHNIGHT SERVICES**  
in Cumlodden Church at 6.30 pm  
in Inveraray Church at 11.30 pm  
ALL WELCOME

**NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH**

Charity Number SC001002  
**Saturday 24 December**  
Tayvallich Jubilee Green  
Carols on the green 4 pm  
Mulled wine and mince pies.  
In the church if it's raining  
Tayvallich Church 11:15 pm  
Watch night service  
Dr. John Morrison OBE  
Retiral offering for Embrace  
**Sunday 25 December**  
Bellanoch Church 11 am  
Christmas Day Worship  
Rev. C. Acklam  
All welcome  
Enquiries 01546 606926  
www.northknappdale.org

**free church of scotland**

George Street, Campbeltown  
**Sunday 25th December**  
11.15am Worship Service  
led by Calum Ferguson  
**Wednesday 28th December**  
12.30pm  
Bible Study and Prayer  
All Welcome  
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk  
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

**ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Happy diners at the Lunch Bunch Christmas special

THE AROMA of turkey mingled with a tantalising hint of warm mince pies greeted diners at last week's Mid Argyll community Lunch Bunch Christmas special. Prepared and served by hard-working vol-

unteers, the two-course meal with veggie options was warmly received by everyone who came along to Lochgilphead Community Centre on Friday. One of the diners, Margaret McGlynn, echoed the sentiments of many. 'The volunteers work so hard,' she said, 'and the meal was really lovely.'

One of the organisers, Lynda Syed of Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI), said:



**Volunteer Heather Bellshaw in festive mood at the Christmas special.** 06-a52LunchBunch04



**The weary but cheery Lunch Bunch volunteers.** 06-a52LunchBunch03



**Happy diners Isobel MacFarlane, Kay Miller and Etta Clark enjoy a wee cuppa after their meal.** 06-a52LunchBunch02

'We have had people of all ages in to enjoy a Christmas meal, and it's been great.'

She added: 'The Lunch Bunch is all about making new friendships, and it of-

fers a fantastic reason to come out and socialise. The club meets every third Friday in the month and, apart from lunches, we also run two or three trips away to various places

each year for members to enjoy.'

To find out more about Mid Argyll community Lunch Bunch email [lynda@argylltsi.org.uk](mailto:lynda@argylltsi.org.uk), or call 01546 606808.

## Christmas carols at Crarae

VISITORS to Crarae Gardens enjoyed an evening of music at a fundraising carol service.

The event, which

helped raise funds for the garden's operator, the National Trust for Scotland, ignited Christmas cheer in all who attended.



**Dalriada Singers were in fine voice.**

Dalriada Singers entertained the audience with some well rehearsed arrangements and led them in the carols. A piano duet of *Jingle Bells* by conductor John Marsden and choir accompanist, Bruce Weir, had feet tapping and festive readings, refreshments and a raffle were enjoyed by all on Thursday December 15.

A total of £360 was raised for the charity that aims to preserve the natural and human heritage of Scotland.

## Santa gets a-Round Mid Argyll

SANTA made sure visiting Mid Argyll was a



**'All I want for Christmas is a stick to chase' – Santa meets a furry pal.**

priority last weekend with a little help from the elves of Mid Argyll Round Table.

Travelling from Tarbert on Thursday, all the way to Inveraray by Sunday night, Santa made sure to stop off and see as many folk as he could and even some furry friends along the way.

With help from the Mid Argyll Round Table, Santa managed to not only make sure he had everyone's wish-lists right before the big day but he also

helped raise £1,500 for the Round Table, all of which will go towards

the bonfire night fireworks display and local charities.



**Santa with his volunteers. Front: Paul Miller and Ian Parker; middle: Calum Charwood and Colin MacFarlane; back: Stephen Maccormick and Santa.** 08\_a52roundsanta01

## Argyll enterprises among the best in rural business

NO FEWER than nine Argyll businesses are among the finalists in the 2017 Scottish Rural Awards.

The awards showcase the enterprise, skill and innovation of those who live and work in rural areas.

### Categories

A shortlist spanning 10 categories celebrates all aspects of rural life – from artisan food and tourism, to education, conservation and agriculture.

Shortlisted in the Business Start-Up category, open to companies trading for less than two years, are Lord of the Isles at Craobh Haven, Craine Communications in Oban, and creative agency Brandfire, based in Campbeltown.

The Wee Isle Dairy, on the Isle of Gigha, has made the finals in both the Business Start-Up and Artisan Food categories.

Coligin Chalets and the

Barn Bar, by Oban, and the Puffer Bar and Restaurant at Easdale have been shortlisted in the Rural Hospitality category, while the Oban Winter Festival has been shortlisted for a Rural Tourism award.

### Shortlisted

Joining them is the Oban Phoenix Cinema, which is a finalist in the Rural Enterprise category, and the Farm Stall in Bellochan-

tuy, which has been shortlisted in the Agriculture category.

Now in their third year, the Scottish Rural Awards are partnered by *Scottish Field* and the Scottish Countryside Alliance and backed by a number of sponsors for 2017, including Aldi, the Bank of Scotland and Subaru.

More than 200 nominations for businesses were made since launching at the

beginning of August, spanning locations from the Outer Hebrides to the Borders, and Shetland to Fife.

Those who have made special contributions to the Scottish countryside will also be honoured with two separate accolades – the Rural Hero award and the Lifetime Achievement award.

### Unveiled

The winners will be unveiled at the Scottish Ru-

ral Awards and gala dinner on March 16 at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh.

Richard Bath, editor of *Scottish Field*, commented: 'More than ever before, Scotland's rural communities are displaying a quite remarkable amount of energy, innovation and imagination as they diversify existing businesses and create new and exciting opportunities from scratch.'

# Reindeer are on the run

FANTASTIC festive fun in the castle grounds was had on Sunday December 18 by seven young local youngsters competing in the Inveraray Reindeer Dash.

The one-mile route was speedily completed by Erin Naisby, Alexander McKinley,

Ally MacIntyre, Tilly Cunningham, Eilidh Cameron, Ashley Lindsay-MacDougall and Kayden McKinley.

Eilidh was first over the finish line, with newcomer Kayden as first boy finisher soon afterwards.

All runners received a medal and a fabu-

lous balloon reindeer fashioned by local jog-leader Paul Honey.

Leaders Fee Corner, Janet Riddoch and Jane Kemp were on hand to accompany the runners on their festive dash.

Very well done indeed to all runners and a merry Christmas to you all.



Kayden McKinley, Alexander McKinlay, Ally Macintyre, Eilidh Cameron, Ashley Lindsay-MacDougall, Fiona Corner, Tilly Cunningham and Erin Naisby all took part in the Reindeer Run.

## Lottery numbers

THE numbers in this week's Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery draw were 6, 15, 18. There were no winning lottery tickets so the jackpot will rollover to £400 next week. There were four lucky winners in the extra Christmas draw, all winning £50. They were M Mather, J McCheyne, S Bell and R Burgess.

At the Kilmory Camanachd Club's lottery draw on Monday, the numbers were 7, 11, 15. The £200 jackpot was won by L MacBrayne, so next week the prize money will return to £100.

Note: Tarbert Football Club's lottery draw will start again in the new year.

## Star kids top the league over Christmas

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star 2004s round-

ed off the first half of the season with a

couple of convincing league wins.

The youngsters did lose their unbeaten record after going down 6-7 away to Drumchapel Amateurs in the Central Region Cup. While disappointed to go out, the kids put in a spirited performance, coming back from 4-0 down.

Despite pushing Drumchapel Amateurs close, they couldn't quite recover the initial deficit.

In the league, an impressive second half performance saw them eventually ease past Haldane away from home on December 11. Last Sunday December 18, the youngsters secured a comprehensive victory at home to Helensburgh 2003s.

These results leave Red Star on top of the league as they head for the Christmas break, although Renton Craigandro have games in hand.



The Red Star team ahead of their victory against Haldane.



Ally Macintyre got in the festive spirit, keeping his head warm with a Santa hat.



Ashley Lindsay-MacDougall had great fun on the run.

**This is YOUR paper...**  
Send your photos and stories to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

## SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £3650

To allow for our Christmas deadlines Spot the Ball will run for 2 weeks all entries must be in by 10am on Tuesday 3rd January

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

L Galbraith, 11 Woodside, Carradale

Callum MacPhail, Gargal-Fra No3, Moy, Campbeltown

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

**Entry will be void if crosses overlap.** Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries. If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

### Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Ball' Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 10am on Tuesday 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)**

## Sports review of the year - part 1

A festive look back at some 2016 sporting highlights from the pages of *The Argyllshire Advertiser*.

### January

TWIN girls from Lochgilphead stole the show at Mid Argyll Athletic Club's indoor competition.

Jemma and Jorja Macdonald, aged seven, took joint first place in their age group.

Jorja inched out her sister in the foot races, while Jemma had the upper hand in the jumping events, setting a new Argyll age record in the standing long jump with 1.45metres.



**Jemma and Jorja shone at the indoor competition.** a05\_athletic06

### February

ALLAN Weir stood down as manager of Red Star.

The Lochgilphead man dedicated nine years to the football club, the last six-and-a-half as manager.

Red Star chairman Douglas Moore said: 'I

would like to take this opportunity to thank Allan for the last nine years and wish him all the very best for the future.'



**Allan Weir gave nine years to the club.**

08\_a17weir01

### March

THE SPORT Relief fun run was enjoyed by pupils and staff at Lochgilphead Joint Campus.

There was a five kilometre route for older pupils and staff, while primary pupils took on a one-mile challenge.



**First pupils home in the 5k race were Ciaran McPhie and Eoghan Condie.** 08\_a13run05

### April

THE COURSE at Achnashelloch was in great condition for round two of the Scottish Scrambles Championship.

Veteran twinshock and monoshock bikes - two-stroke, four-stroke and many other classes besides - screamed around the track at Kilmichael Glassary in an exciting day of racing.



**High flying action from round two of the Scottish Scrambles Championships.**



**Dara O'Malley and the Seaword crew celebrate.** Photograph: Marc Turner.

### May

THE SILVERS Marine Scottish Series saw hundreds of sailors descend on Tarbert to race in Loch Fyne.

The event featured some exciting,

fast racing and tight finishes. In the Hunter 707 class Dara O'Malley and Seaword finished the weekend with a near-perfect scoreline, winning the Silvers Marine Scottish Series Trophy.

### June

MARGARET MacKinnon won the ladies championship at Lochgilphead Golf Club.

Scores of 79 in the first round and 82 in the second were enough to stay just ahead of club captain Kathleen Young who came second.



**The Duncan's Shield is presented to Margaret by club captain Kathleen Young.**

**Look out for part two of our sporting review in next week's edition.**

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