



Wishing all our readers and advertisers a happy New Year

Family has a blast in aid of mum's support charity

A FAMILY from Ardrishaig has blown a charity fundraising target to smithereens.

John Johnston held a clay target shoot in November to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Mr Johnston's wife Vicky was diagnosed with cancer in August after fighting illness for the previous year. As she started her treatment for cancer, 36-year-old Vicky and her family benefited

By COLIN CAMERON
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

from care and support offered by Macmillan.

'Since Vicky was diagnosed, the level of care she has received from the Macmillan nurses at Mid Argyll Hospital has been outstanding,' said Mr Johnston. 'I just wanted to give something back and to feel useful.'

A member of Tarbert Gun Club, he ap-

proached fellow members and they were only too happy to help.

Plenty of first-time shooters were among 18 people who came along to Barmore on November 20, including the Johnston's two girls, Tamara, 17, and Alysha, 11.

John Weir took the high gun honours, but the big winner was the local Macmillan fundraising group. Generous shooters donated £1,650 on the day and between a 'guess the weight of the cake' competition and a cloutie dumpling raffle, the total shot up even further.

Mr Johnston continued: 'I had in my mind to raise a few hundred, but the result has been amazing. I want to thank everyone who helped with the shoot



Vicky Johnston, fifth left, looks on as the bigger of two charity cheques is presented at Mid Argyll Hospital. 06_a52macmillan02

and donated, including many local businesses. Their generosity is much appreciated.'

Not to be outdone by her dad, P7 pupil Alysha organised a bake sale at Ardrishaig Primary School, raising a further £100.

Bob McColl of Tar-

bert Gun Club joined the family and Macmillan supporters just before Christmas to see a cheque for £1,900 handed over to the charity. Alysha then presented her own cheque – bringing the total to £2,000. Vicky said: 'John and

the girls have done an incredible job and I'm so proud of them.'

Cathy Robertson, chair of the Mid Argyll Macmillan fundraising committee, added: 'We are very grateful to the Johnston family for their donations. It will be well spent.'

INSIDE YOUR ADVERTISER THIS WEEK

Tree trouble

MUCH-HERALDED storms were less severe than predicted, but did take their toll on two local landmarks.

Full story on page 3.

High notes

THE TALENTED young Argyll Brass players entertained at the band's Christmas concert.

Full story, page 4.

Test yourself

HAVE a go at our fun family quiz – all about Mid Argyll

Full story, page 7.

Festive frocks

HIGH school pupils donned their glad-rags for the annual Snowball extravaganza.

Full story, pages 8 and 9.

A look back

A REMINDER of a few sporting highlights of 2016 in the second part of our review of the year.

Full story, page 20.



Colette Morgan, Macmillan nurse specialist for Mid Argyll, accepts a £100 cheque from Alysha Johnston and friend and fellow charity baker Angel Rodger. 06_a52macmillan03

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Police warning after elderly woman conned in phone scam

AN ELDERLY woman in Lochgilphead has fallen victim to a telephone scam.

The woman received a telephone call at home from a man pretending to be from BT on Tuesday December 13. The man convinced the woman she had internet and computer faults and duped her into giving her bank details to pay for him to fix the issues. The woman later discovered a substantial sum of money had been removed from her bank account.

Sergeant Iain MacNicol, of Lochgilphead police station, said: 'These types of scams are all too common but the bottom line is for people not to trust unexpected callers

and not to be duped into giving out any bank details or letting anyone on the phone persuade you to give them access to your computer.

'Don't give out any personal or bank information and just end the call. If you want to check a bank or other company call was genuine, call the bank or company yourself, but first always make sure you hear a clear dialling tone before calling. Another good idea is to call a friend to check your phone will make outgoing calls. This is just in case the fraudulent caller has kept the line open and you end up speaking to another fraudulent caller who will pretend to be from your bank and tell you the first call was genuine.'

Accident blocks A83



South-bound cars queuing at West Loch Tarbert at 4.20pm.

A 19-YEAR-old man has been charged with dangerous driving following a crash on the A83.

The teenager was driving a black Vauxhall Corsa, near West Loch Tarbert, when a collision occurred involving two lorries.

No one was injured in the accident, which happened at about 2.30pm on Friday December 23.

Traffic was held up in both directions for more than two hours while police cleared the road. A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Scottish Field JANUARY ISSUE OUT NOW

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Police files

Drugs found

A DRIVER who was stopped and searched on Monday December 20 at 1.10am, in Front Street, Inveraray, was found with cannabis.

A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Car damaged

A BLACK Ford Focus was damaged when it was struck by an unknown vehicle between 4pm and 5.20pm on Saturday December 17, at Seaside Park, Ardrishaig.

Police are appealing for information.

Window smashed

A WINDOW was smashed at the house at the main entrance to Inveraray Castle sometime between 8pm on Monday December 19 and 11am on Thursday December 22.

Licence offences

A 31-YEAR-old driver was stopped by police on Thursday December 22 at 11.50pm, in Paterson Street, Lochgilphead.

The vehicle had no excise licence and the owner had failed to register it with DVLA. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Abusive behaviour

AROUND 8am on Saturday December 24, following a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner and assaulting a woman in Ross Crescent, Lochgilphead, a 57-year-old man was detained. He was arrested and 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 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Councillor John Armour
would like to wish everyone in South Kintyre a very happy Festive season and a prosperous 2017.

I can be contacted on 07766 970672 or email john.armour@argyll-bute.gov.uk

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Funding struggle ahead for projects

ELEVEN projects across Tarbert, Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig are battling for a share of a £3 million Argyll and Bute Council fund.

Councillor Aileen Morton, Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for sustainable economic growth, explained: 'The Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund offers an important opportunity to support community-led proposals which can help regenerate the Mid Argyll area and provide economic opportunities for the population.'

At its meeting on Wednesday December 7, Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee agreed that the projects recommended for possible further feasibility studies would be:

Tarbert
Improvements to the Barmore Road and Garvel Road junction; pavement and public realm improvements; indoor bowling facility and sports hub; improvements to harbour facilities.

Lochgilphead
Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead cycling link; Front Green improvements; improvements to Argyll Street; redevelopment of Mid Argyll Community Pool.

Ardrishaig
Improvements to north public realm; improvements to south public realm; redevelopment of Gleaner oil site.

The council's policy and resources committee had identified criteria that proposed projects had to meet to be considered for a share of the funding. This was incorporated into a scoring mechanism – including impact, affordability, deliverability and risk – and that is how the 42 projects initially put forward for consideration were whittled down to 11.

The committee, at its meeting on Thursday December 15, also approved development funding of up to £250,000 to carry out feasibility studies and initial design work – which will allow outline business cases to be developed for the shortlisted projects.

An update on the shortlisted projects will be provided to the area committee in April, to help decide which of the projects will be taken forward.



Nicknamed 'The Leaning Tower of Treesa', Ardrishaig's Christmas tree was left standing ... but only just.



Stormy seas crash against Ardrishaig pier.



Tarbert-Lochranza ferry MV Catriona tied up in Tarbert harbour to take shelter from the storms.

Mighty Inveraray beech falls in festive storms

MUCH-heralded storms Barbara and Conor took on Mid Argyll over the festive weekend but failed to live up to the dire predictions of forecasters.

Less threatening for Argyll than expected, Barbara nonetheless brought with her heavy rain that caused flooding on many roads. Strong winds caused ferries to be cancelled and trees to fall.

A fallen tree on the B8002 blocked the Ardfern road on the morning of Christmas Eve, panicking those who still had some last-minute shopping to do.

On Christmas Day, Conor blew in and took on some of Mid Argyll's landmarks, outdoing Babs with the addition of thunder and

lightning. The Christmas tree in Ardrishaig took a battering, leaving it at a precarious angle.

And the famous notice board beech tree in Inveraray, perhaps hundreds of years old, was toppled.

Inveraray residents

woke on Boxing Day to see the iconic tree at the top of the avenue blown down by the storm. Locals worked together to help clear the way and coned off part of the road that had been uplifted as the historic tree's roots snapped in the wind.



Inveraray's mighty notice board tree left toppled.

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Hear the brass band play

WITH instruments sparkling under the spotlight, Argyll Brass took to the stage. The audience eagerly anticipated a night of effortless talent and musical magic from this prize-winning band and they were not disappointed. The band's Christmas concert, held on Wednesday December 22, boasted a programme of traditional brass band music, some more contemporary arrangements and an entirely festive second half.



Jessica Tanner, Isaac Stanesby, Myrtle Turnbull, Isla Fowler and Orla Flanagan concentrate during the band's performance of *Highland Cathedral*.

The newly formed Argyll Brass Roots band, for younger players, was also keen to perform, showing just how far they have come as a band in less than a year together.

Eve Maxwell captivated the audience with her raved about performance of *Poor Wandering One* and Alistair Cupples and Jessica Tanner were also in the spotlight, both artistically performing solos.

Ending the night with *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* all who attended left full of Christmas cheer and ready for the holidays.

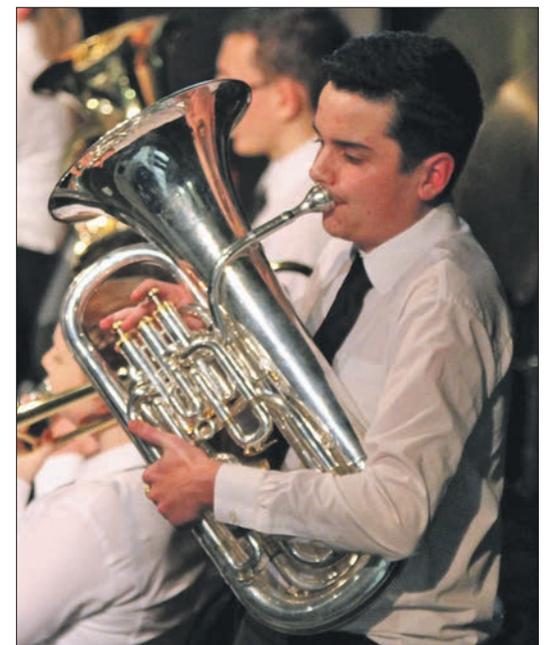
mas concert, held on Wednesday December 22, boasted a programme of traditional brass band music, some more contemporary arrangements and an entirely festive second half.



Argyll Brass with conductor Darren Tarn.



Sioned Phillips on tenor horn and Eve Maxwell on percussion.



Alistair Cupples performs *O Sole Mio*, better known to some as *Just One Cornetto*, accompanied by the band.

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Badden Farm Nursery nativity play

CHILDREN from Badden Farm Nursery were in great festive spirit during their end-of-term nativity play.

The pre-school children looked wonderful in their costumes and remembered their lines beautifully as they told the story of Christmas on Wednesday December 21.

tunes and remembered their lines beautifully as they told the story of Christmas on Wednesday December 21.

Great fun
Jean Evans, of Badden Farm

Nursery, said: 'Very well done to all the staff for all their hard work bringing the nativity together so well, and most importantly, making it all great fun for all the children.'



Ready for action, the children in their nativity costumes.

National park sets out vision for Arrochar developments

ARROCHAR will be a major part of a development plan within Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Named LIVE Park, the plan outlines a development vision for the park.

Arrochar is identified in the local development plan as having great potential for development. In a statement, the park authority said it is 'working with the local community to support their aspirations to improve facilities for visitors, infrastructure and housing'.

Proposed plans in-

clude the creation of a new village hub around the Three Villages Hall with a heritage centre, public space and car parking; 44 new homes across two sites in Arrochar and one in Succoth; enhancing the land at the head of Loch Long at Succoth; transforming the former torpedo range site into a tourism and visitor experience; and sites for potential new businesses.

There are also proposals outlined for Tarbet with improvement to the central village green, new homes, and a visitor experience de-

velopment at vacant sites around Loch Lomond side and on land west of the A82.

Across the national park the plan sets out an annual target to deliver 75 new homes to sustain communities and meet demand for smaller, affordable housing. It also identifies a number of sites for tourism and leisure development that the park authority believes will help grow and enhance the quality of the park as a visitor destination.

More information available at www.ourlivepark.com.



Santa with the excited after school club. 08_a53fynefam01

Fyne festive fun and frolics

SANTA made a last-minute stop before his busiest night of the year to see some of the children on the nice list.

Fyne Families' Lochgilphead after school club was delighted to have a surprise visit from Santa at its Christ-

mas party on Wednesday December 21.

Santa was generous enough to bring presents for each of the children and kept them entertained with some Christmas-themed jokes and a little dancing.

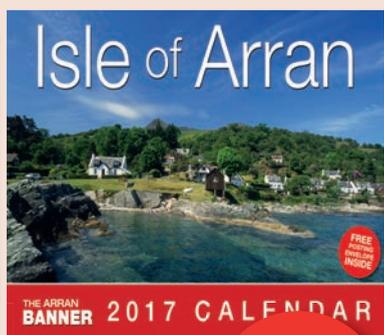
He even helped the club perform a very excited and enthusiastic rendition of *Jingle Bells* as the parents arrived.

Leaders of the club would like to thank Nigel Button for taking on the vital role and being such a 'cool Santa'.

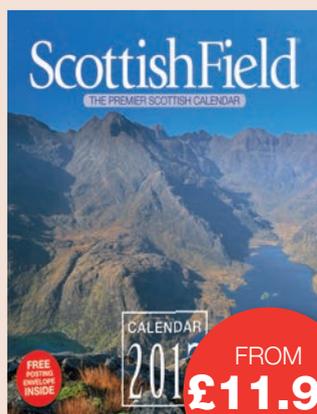
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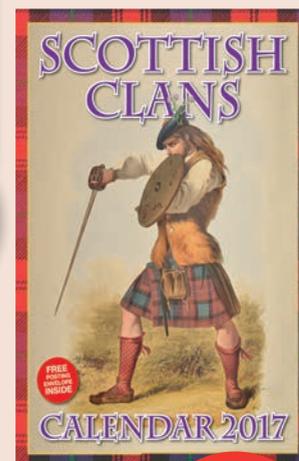


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Give a storm a bad name

ONCE upon a time we had weather. Just plain old weather - sometimes sunny, occasionally windy, usually wet. But now we have personalities visiting us from far-off climes.

The recent phenomenon of naming low pressure systems seems to make these storms - whether Desmond, Frank, Abigail or Conor - seem worse than they probably are in reality. Giving a spell of rough weather a title gives it some sort of weird personality and significance it barely merits.

Barbara and Conor veered to the north of their expected trajectories, leaving a vague and peculiar feeling of disappointment among some in Argyll that the seas weren't rougher, more trees hadn't been blown down and the disruption was little more than flooded roads and isolated power cuts.

The next visiting trans-Atlantic personality might have more manners and hang around long enough to let us get to know him or her. But let's hope not.

Captivating performance

CONGRATULATIONS to Argyll Brass on an entertaining evening of music at its Christmas concert.

Everyone performed really well, but one of the highlights was the captivating singing of teenager Eve Maxwell. You can enjoy a video snippet of Eve's magical voice by visiting the *Argyllshire Advertiser* Facebook page.

And finally...

WE HOPE you had an enjoyable Christmas and wish all of our readers and advertisers a happy and healthy new year.

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:

Wyvex Media
Lochavullin Industrial Estate
Oban
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Scotland's tax burden?

Sir,

It is interesting to note claims by the Scottish Conservatives and various commentators that Scotland will become the highest taxed part of the UK as a result of it not replicating the UK treasury's tax cut for higher earners.

This means taxpayers in this bracket will pay an extra £314 more than those in the rest of the UK.

It should be remembered, however, that this relates only to income tax and when it comes to other taxes, Scotland fares considerably more favourably than the rest of the UK.

For example, average band D council tax in England is £1,530 compared with £1,149 north of the border. While the average water and sewerage charge in England is £389, in Scotland it is £351.

In addition to this, what tends to be forgotten are Tory stealth tax proposals, including prescription charges and university tuition fees.

Prescription charges, currently £8.40 in England, are highly regressive and a tax on the sick, while the imposition of university fees of £6,000 would see a graduate on an average full-time salary paying 4p more in tax on every pound.

In Scotland, air passenger duty is also set to be cut by the end of this parliamentary term and business rates

have also been cut. The key issue here is not just to examine income tax alone, but to look at what impact the burden of all taxes is.

When one looks at the bigger picture, it is clear it is the Conservatives whose stealth taxes would become deeply damaging economically and it is more than a little disingenuous to describe Scotland as the highest tax part of the UK.

Alex Orr,
Edinburgh

The Sea Cadets challenge you

Sir,

Have you made your New Year's resolution yet? If the answer is no, why not consider taking on a challenge in aid of youth charity Sea Cadets?

For the first time, we are thrilled to have places available for a host of exciting charity challenges. The money you raise could really make a difference, as 93p in every £1 we receive goes directly to our valuable work with young people.

Sea Cadets helps 14,000 10 to 18-year-olds, in 400 communities across the UK, to see the world with confidence, to develop self-belief and skills for life.

Our charity challenges are a team effort between you and us - we offer you support as you prepare and train for your challenge, while you will be helping thousands of young people across the UK through your fundraising.

We have sporting chal-

lenges available such as the Prudential RideLondon and the Royal Parks Half-Marathon, both designed to push you to the limit.

The Snowdon Triple Challenge awaits those who fancy a tough and exciting multi-activity trial, while aspiring sailors may enjoy a day on the Solent with our Maritime Industry Regatta.

If you would like to make a trip abroad, take a look at the Zambezi River Challenge.

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If you are interested in any of these challenges and would like to help raise vital funds for Sea Cadets, email events@ms-sc.org.

Martin Coles,
CEO,
Sea Cadets



Singing tutor and choir conductor Sue Stubbs leads Simply Singing in a Christmas song. 06_a52choir03

Simply making shopping fun in Lochgilphead

THE STRESS of last-minute Christmas shopping was made just a little bit more bearable by the sound of music.

The foyer at Lochgilphead Co-op was the venue for the Simply Singing choir to entertain weary shoppers in aid of the Water Aid charity.

The group is linked to the

Mid Argyll Adult learning service and was formed just six weeks earlier.

Choir co-ordinator Sarah Wyatt, an adult learning worker, said: 'The group is funded through Health and Wellbeing and offers benefits such as relaxation, enhanced breathing and socialising.'

Letters to the Editor,

Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8NB

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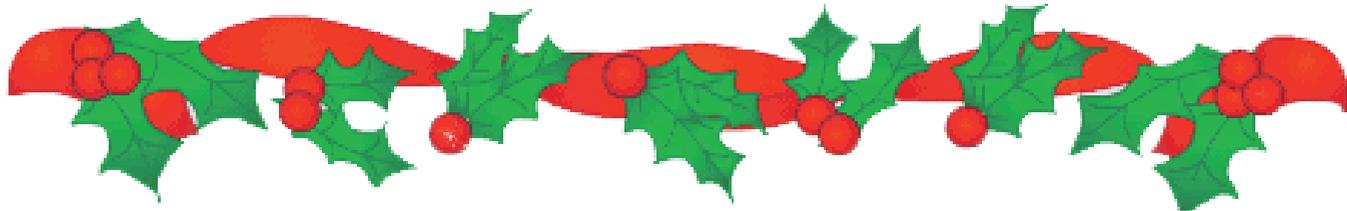
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The Editor reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses must be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, are also appreciated. 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.



Test your local knowledge with our fun family quiz

1. Which unusual building on the outskirts of Lochgilphead has been undergoing renovation during 2016?

2. How many steps must be climbed to reach the top of Inveraray Bell Tower?
 a. 140
 b. 282
 c. 176

3. What is commonly known as 'Britain's most beautiful shortcut'?



4. Name this unusual installation of quartz stones, and where can it be found? 06_a52quiz02

5. Which Argyll museum is currently raising funds for an ambitious £6.7 million redevelopment?

6. What does the Gaelic word 'Dochas' mean, as incorporated in Lochgilphead's coat of arms?



7. Where can this carved stone dedicated to famous Inveraray writer Neil Munro, creator of 'Para Handy', be found? 06_a52quiz03

8. Where in Mid Argyll could the Glendarroch Distillery have been found?

9. What length is Loch Fyne?



10. Where is this village, and from what location was the photograph taken? 06_a52quiz04

Answers

1. The Clock Lodge, a structure dating from around 1850.
2. 176 (c)
3. The Crinan Canal
4. The Tinkers' Heart, which sits at Ardno above Loch Fyne and close to the junction of the Hell's Glen road to Lochgilphead.
5. Kilmartin Museum
6. Hope.
7. On the Neil Munro monument, at the head of Glen Aray.
8. Ardshtag. The Glendarroch distillery was called this for seven years from 1870. It ceased production in 1937.
9. Loch Fyne extends inland 65 kilometres (40 miles) from the Sound of Bute to Glen Fyne, and is said to be the longest of the sea lochs.
10. The photograph is taken from Tarbert Castle, overlooking the village of Tarbert, Loch Fyne.



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Chloe Fairman, Tia Fisher, Iona MacNicol, Jody Gillen and Lianne McCready were ready to start dancing. 08_a53snowball03



Sixth-year pupils enjoyed their last Snowball. 08_a53snowball11



Ceilidh's Homet were on fire as they kicked off the ceilidh. 08_a53snowball08

There's sNOW b the Snowball

SEQUINS, sparkles and sharp suits donned, pupils of Lochgilhead were ready to put their dancing shoes on.

Held just before the Christmas break, on Wednesday December 21, pupils of Lochgilhead High School danced the night away at the school's annual Snowball.

All glammed up and ready to show off their ceilidh moves, pupils were excited as they

arrived at their favourite event of the year.

Ceilidh's Homet kept everyone right through the dances, trying to catch folk out as they sped up the tunes. And the sixth-year disco committee were on hand to keep the party going while the band took a well deserved break.

Celebrating the end of another term, pupils were reluctant to leave the dance floor when the lights came on.



'And swing your partner...' 08_a53snowball09

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The S6 disco committee kept the music playing. 08_a53snowball14



ball like



Fisher enjoyed dancing the Virginia Reel.

08_a53snowball10



Diane Corr and Brodie Cross. 08_a53snowball07



Isla Fowler, Savannah Smyth, Orla Flanagan, Abbie Williams and Rona Lockhart glammed up for the evening. 08_a53snowball04



Chloe Fairman and Lauren Callander really got in the swing of things during an Orcadian Strip the Willow. 08_a53snowball13



The boys looked smart – suited and booted: 08_a53snowball05



First-year pupils were excited to attend their first Snowball. 08_a53snowball06

THE ARGYLL INN

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BURGERS

CLASSIC MAINS

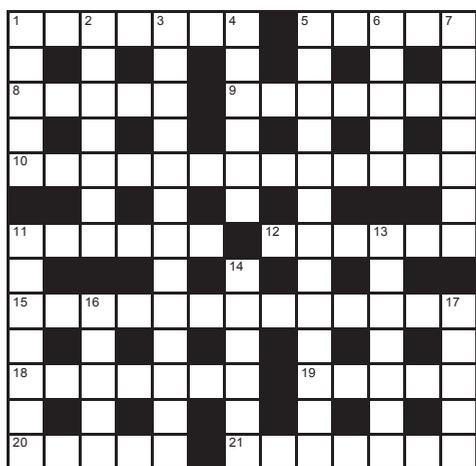
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Across

- 1 Man's mug (4,3)
- 5 Play guitar unskillfully (5)
- 8 Slime (5)
- 9 Celebrity work (4,3)
- 10 On the up (4,3,6)
- 11 Explosive (6)
- 12 Land on Lake Victoria (6)
- 15 Joining words to make another
- 18 Syrian seaport (7)
- 19 Desktop pictures (5)
- 20 Fowl place (5)
- 21 Agog (3-4)

Down

- 1 Bait (5)
- 2 Stiff cotton fabric (7)
- 3 Will do nicely! (4,3,6)
- 4 Fabric inserted for comfort (6)
- 5 Carried out completely (13)
- 6 Christmas card bird (5)
- 7 Lively Polish dance (7)
- 11 Worldly (7)
- 13 New words (7)
- 14 Riser of cakes (6)
- 16 Maxim (5)
- 17 Pondered (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION





Glenalmond College

2017 sees the start of an exciting new phase of development for Glenalmond College. Two new boarding houses will open in September, improving the provision for junior pupils and creating new places for girls within a new girls' house.

Cairnies, Glenalmond's new junior house, will provide boarding and day boys aged 12 to 14 with a level of pastoral support specifically suited to younger pupils. Close to the outdoor classroom, the woods, Glenalmond's

golf course and with its own playing fields, Cairnies will provide an excellent base for junior year groups.

The new girls' house, Goodacre's, also opens in September 2017, and will be home to girls aged 12 to 18. This house is in the very heart of the school and will enable Glenalmond to expand its girls' boarding and day provision to meet increasing demand.

The opening of these new houses is matched

by developments in the academic side of the school, centred on the Glenalmond Learning Project, which continues to raise academic attainment, ambition and excellence across the school.

New curriculum developments have included the introduction of Mandarin alongside GCSE and A Level computer science, and the timetable has changed to increase the time devoted to teaching and academic study.

Glenalmond College's warden (head teach-

er), Elaine Logan, said: 'Together, these developments mark an important new stage in the life of Glenalmond College, and herald a period of growth for the school.'



Opening September 2017

New junior house
for boys aged 12-14



Cairnies



Goodacre's

New girls' house
for girls aged 12-18



To arrange to visit Glenalmond College, to look round the boarding houses and meet our staff and pupils, please contact our **Head of Admissions, Mike Jeffers**, on **01738 842144** or registrar@glenalmondcollege.co.uk

www.glenalmondcollege.co.uk



Glenalmond College | inspiring learning

Scottish Charity SC006123

Why do parents send their children to independent schools in ever-growing numbers?

Parents choose to send their children to independent schools for many different reasons, including choice, diversity and excellence. Above all, they choose independent schools because they feel a particular school will best serve their child and his or her social and educational needs.

All independent schools in Scotland have their own unique ethos and values, but they share a common goal of encouraging each individual pupil to be all that they can be, and to make the most of their time at school. Independent schools enjoy a reputation for excellence, providing a broad curriculum, consistently good exam results, a positive learning environment and a wealth of co-curricular activities. Being independent gives each school the freedom to provide the best possible education for the benefit of its pupils. Consequently, many schools have developed individual

strengths that complement the excellence that is the hallmark of the sector.

The choice of mainstream schools is wide and there are also special schools that provide care and education for children with additional support needs.

The statistics are compelling – the Scottish Council of Independent Schools provides at least £47 million annually in fee assistance, with 26.4 per cent of all pupils receiving some form of assistance; 88 per cent of SCIS pupils go on to higher education, with 25 per cent continuing their studies outside of Scotland. According to numbers from SCIS and the Scottish Government, there is one teacher for every 8.7 pupils in SCIS schools, compared to one to 13.7 in state-funded schools.

SCIS schools educate more than 31,000 children of mixed abilities from diverse backgrounds. The focus of independent schools has always been, and remains, delivering individual educational outcomes for pupils of all abilities.

Kilgraston School is a leading boarding and day school for girls aged five to 18.

In November 2016, Kilgraston was named 'top performing independent school for Advanced Highers' by best-schools.co.uk. This comes after Kilgraston girls achieved an outstanding set of results in August 2016. At Advanced Higher, 90.5 per cent of grades were A-B against a national average of 59.3 per cent, 36 per cent of girls are now studying a STEM undergraduate course and 100 per cent of girls were accepted into their choice of university. Kilgraston has an exceptional reputation for girls gaining entry into top Scottish universities. In 2016, over 70 per cent of girls went on to study at universities in Scotland, including St Andrews, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Kilgraston has something to inspire every young woman. We are a school with traditional values but with a modern and forward-looking perspective on education. Education is not just about exam success – developing interests and talents, nurturing an understanding of different cultures, and emphasising our personal responsibility as global citizens are vital. As such, a Kilgraston girl benefits from a wealth of opportunities to extend and enrich her educational experience. We offer more than 50 extra-curricular activities, and enjoy modern, state-of-the-art facilities including a science centre, sixth form study centre, excellent boarding accommodation, 25m swimming pool, all-weather astro-turf pitches and Scotland's only school equestrian centre.

Kilgraston's first open day of 2017 is on Saturday February 4 between 11am and 2pm. Families are invited to join us, meet staff and pupils and tour our outstanding facilities.

To register or for further information contact Mrs Amanda Johnstone:

admissions@kilgraston.com | 01738 815523



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Saturday 4th February 2017

Open Doors Afternoon
Friday 17th March 2017, 2pm - 4pm

Open Doors Afternoon
Friday 28th April 2017, 2pm - 4pm

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EVERY parent knows childhood is a precious time and most agree that it's over far too fast. At Lomond School, we make every moment count.

Our dedicated staff deliver a traditional and rigorous academic programme, but that's just the start of the story. We know that children who are happy will work hard and achieve all that they can. Our rich and varied curriculum offers pupils special experiences which enthuse, build character and foster a love of learning.

Small classes ensure that pupils are challenged and supported by staff who know them well, ensuring that they not only get off to the best start but also that they develop memories and relationships that will stay with them for life. Our boarding house, Burnbrae, offers a home from home for pupils from Scotland, the UK and further afield.

Boarders are housed in modern, purpose-built facilities where they are looked after by a dedicated and professional pastoral team. Boarders play a key role in the life of the school and their weeks and weekends are busy and purposeful.

A great education should never be a race to the finish line; it is the journey which lays the foundation for your child's life ahead. For more information, please contact our registrar at admissions@lomondschool.com.



Dollar Academy

Founded in 1818, Dollar Academy is thought to be the oldest co-educational day and boarding school in the world, and has a reputation as one of the country's best performing schools.

Dollar is a full boarding and day school for boys and girls aged five to 18, set in 70 acres of sports fields and grounds. The many facilities include a swimming pool, rifle range and fitness suites, alongside auditorium venues, classrooms and specialised teaching areas for science, music and the arts. Enjoyment of learning is the ethos at the heart of this academic school, which aims to promote an environment where pupils gain real satisfaction from a commitment to study.

Firmly grounded in the strengths of a broad Scottish education, pupils at Dollar study the Scottish curriculum and work towards Highers and Advanced Highers. Exam results speak for themselves, with an excellent 86 per cent A-B pass rate at Higher and 96 per cent of leavers going on to university.

At Dollar, activities beyond the classroom are seen as highly significant in the development of young people and the school



is famous for its world championship-winning pipe band. More than 160 pupils practise the instrument and tuition is available at all levels, with the opportunity to participate in national competitions and perform around the world. The sight and sound of the pipes are synonymous with Dollar Academy – during the summer term, each day begins with the massed pipes and drums practising on the school lawns.

Dollar Academy is a popular option for Scottish families. Entry can be arranged at any stage in a child's education. Boarding scholarships and fee-assisted places are available for hard-working and ambitious children.



Assessment and Examination Dates for Entry 2017

Dollar is one of the UK's leading independent day and boarding schools for boys and girls aged 5-18 years.

Our 2017 entrance examinations and bursary assessments will be held on Saturday 28 January, 2017.

Applicants are welcome for every year group. To register, or for more information, contact us:

01259 742 511
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Strathallan – Green space, a home from home and an exceptional breadth of opportunities for boarders and day pupils alike

Located in the heart of Perthshire but with easy access to Edinburgh and Glasgow, Strathallan's green and leafy campus expands to more than 153 acres. It includes some of the best facilities of any school in Scotland and provides the setting for day and boarding pupils to take every advantage of the exceptional breadth of activities available to them.

At Strathallan, our ethos is to provide opportunities for every pupil to excel; in practice, that means ensuring that each individual, no matter what their passion or interest, is supported to do well, achieve their personal best and, importantly, enjoy their time at school. It is an approach which leads to a rich diversity of pupil experience and some exceptional achievements – academically, in sports, the performing and creative arts and other areas.

Across the school, pupils can choose from more than 80 activities which include everything from fencing to debating, clay pigeon shooting to dance. Strathallan has carved out an excellent reputation for sports, both traditional team sports but also in individual activities. Teams are frequently to be found on the podium and individuals have claimed medals in skiing, tennis, badminton, swimming, golf, karate and more, with many representing Scotland and GB. Music and the performing arts are flourishing too and are set to strengthen with the recent addition of a state-of-the-art dance and drama studio.

Strathallan is also a school with strong family values and a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, something that benefits enormously from the fact that the majority of staff live on site. Our day pupils are part of the same houses as the boarders, creating a solid foundation for developing friendships in and out of school.

From Riley, our junior house, upwards, our visitors tell us they get a real sense of Strathallan when they meet our pupils and see the school for themselves. We encourage you to do the same and welcome visits at any time of the year.



STRATHALLAN

Opportunities for *all* to excel

for ages 9 to 18



At Strathallan we motivate and inspire young people to make the most of their individual abilities and interests.

Enjoying a beautiful rural campus, less than an hour from Edinburgh airport.

Achieving excellent results - in academic work, in sports and the arts.

Extending a warm welcome from our community of staff, boarding and day pupils.

Open Morning

(Entry for ages 9+)

Saturday 4th March 2017, 10am - 1pm

Scholarships and Bursaries Available

For more information or to book a visit please contact our Admissions Department admissions@strathallan.co.uk 01738 815003

Registered in Scotland as a charity number SC006903

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'All independent schools in Scotland have their own unique ethos and values, but they share a common goal of encouraging each individual pupil to be all that they can be'



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Information about Scottish Canals and full details of the role, including the role description and hours of work, can be viewed on our 'Join Our Team' section of our website at www.scottishcanals.co.uk

To apply for the role, please send your CV and a Covering letter to recruitment@scottishcanals.co.uk

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Refusing to go with the flow

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Location: Ardtaraig Hatchery, Loch Striven, Dunoon

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We are currently seeking two Freshwater Operatives for our Ardtaraig Hatchery, Argyll. As part of a small team, they will assist their colleagues in building strong key relationships and ensuring a safe working environment for all.

The Role:

The successful candidate will find themselves reportable to the Freshwater Manager for Ardtaraig.

Qualifications/Skills required but not essential as full training can be given:

- 2 years' experience working in a Freshwater Hatchery environment
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- Good understanding of the aquaculture industry
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- Be a good team player but have the ability to work alone when required
- Inter-personal and excellent communication skills
- Clean UK driving licence

The ideal candidate will be committed to achieving the best results in a challenging environment and delivering the highest standards of performance possible. In return, we offer a highly competitive salary, employer pension contribution, company bonus scheme and salary sacrifice programmes.

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Set a safer driving New Year resolution

BEWARE the 28 per cent of motorists looking at their phone, not the road, warns *Exchange and Mart*.

New year is the perfect time for drivers to commit to keeping their eyes firmly focused on the road, not their mobiles. This is the warning from *Exchange and Mart*, after 28 per cent of motorists it surveyed admitted to using their phone while driving. With nearly one in three motorists knowingly flouting the law when it comes to 'device driving', the UK's roads are a hazard for all road users.

Of those motorists who admitted to using their mobile, five per cent said they didn't believe using a phone was any more distracting than adjusting the air-conditioning or tuning in the radio. The harsh reality is that mobile phone usage by drivers is the second most common cause of road traffic accidents in the UK.

Jim Murray Jones,

general manager for *Exchange and Mart* explains: 'Many drivers clearly still seem to think that using a mobile phone is harmless, and they have no consideration for the very real safety risks.'

'However, the government wants to put paid to this by make using your phone as socially unacceptable as drink driving.'

'In 2017, penalties will increase from three to six points on a driver's licence and the fine they pay increases from £100 to £200. In addition, newly qualified drivers could be made to retake their test the first time they're caught, which could apply to many of the people we surveyed.'

The latest survey from *Exchange and Mart* reveals the most common reason for phone use is making a call (61 per cent), using Google Maps (32 per cent), and texting, including checking



and *Mart* is helping to drive the message home, offering tips, advice and facts about safer motoring to ensure everyone enjoys a safer 2017.'

Most common reasons for using mobiles while driving
(Multiple answers were allowed)

Making calls	61 per cent
Google Map	32 per cent
Texting including messaging apps	32 per cent
Browsing internet	18 per cent
Selecting music	14 per cent
Checking social media	11 per cent
Playing gaming apps like Pokemon Go	4 per cent

www.exchangeandmart.co.uk/distracted-driving

WhatsApp, accounted for 32 per cent. Although 25-44-year-old drivers are more likely to use their phone while driving, 18-24-year-olds are more likely to text than make phone calls.

Worryingly, 18 per cent of motorists use their phone to browse the internet while driving, with 55-64-year-olds most likely to do this. A further 14 per cent select check their social media accounts. Gaming apps such as Pokemon Go are big distractions for four per cent of drivers, especially those aged 25-34.

Jim Murray Jones continues: 'Of those we

surveyed, 63 per cent are totally unaware of the proposed increase in penalties in 2017, if caught using a mobile phone. It's encouraging to know, however, that 69 per cent welcomed the increase, once told, and only four per cent thought the current penalties were too strict. We're urging people to add phone-free driving to their new year's resolutions.

'For those looking for advice on how to beat the most common distractions, including mobile phone use, we've launched www.exchangeandmart.com/distracted-driving. This addition to *Exchange*

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Mac.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God' (Matthew 5:8).

DEATHS

MACCALLUM - Peacefully at her home, 33 Brodie Crescent, Lochgilhead, on December 22, 2016, Mary MacCallum, née McBride, in her 88th year, beloved wife of the late Tommy MacCallum and much loved mother of Catherine, Mary, Margaret, Janette and Maureen, and a dear granny, great granny and great-great granny. A dear sister, mother-in-law, aunt and cousin to all the family. A good friend and neighbour to many. Funeral service was held in Lochgilhead Parish Church, on Thursday, December 29, 2016, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

MCDERMOTT - Peacefully in the Mid Argyll Hospital surrounded by his family on Christmas Day, Gerard, of 6 Rowan Park, Lochgilhead. Beloved brother of Denise MacLean and his seven brothers and sisters. Funeral Service will be held in St. Margaret's Church, Lochgilhead, on Wednesday January 4, 2017, at 10am, thereafter to Woodside Crematorium, Paisley at 3pm. Donations, if desired, to Mid Argyll Hospital & St. Margaret's Church Fabric Fund.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GOOD - Jeanette, Mark and George would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, visits and widespread expressions of sympathy following the sad loss of Clive. Sincere thanks to Rev Philip Wallace for a comforting service;

to David McEwan for his outstanding musical contribution; to TA Blair for their unrelenting guidance and support; to the Argyll Arms Hotel for its excellent purvey and to all those who travelled from near and far to attend the church and graveside. A retiring collection raised £813.10 in aid of the RNLI.

MUNRO - The family of the late David (Turbo) Munro would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, floral tributes, cards, phone calls, visits and baking received following their recent sad and sudden loss of David. Heartfelt thanks to Dr Ward, nursing and medical staff of Mid Argyll Hospital, and to the local ambulance crews for their unflinching care and attention to David, and also for the kindness shown

to our family at this time. Heartfelt thanks to Rev Hilda Smith for her uplifting, personal and comforting service and tribute; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for taking care of all arrangements with care and detail; to Morna for the beautiful floral tributes, and to the Stag Hotel for excellent catering. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at church and graveside to pay their respects. Your attendance was of great comfort to us. The retiral collection for Diabetes UK has raised over £400.

IN MEMORIAMS

CHISHOLM - In loving memory of Johny, who died on December 28, 2011.

Loved and remembered always.

- Netta and family at home and abroad.

MCLEAN - In loving memory of Betty, who died on December 30, 2011. A dear mum, gran and granny.

Your life touched this world in a way no other can

Leaving not only wonderful memories, but last imprints in our hearts

A mother's love is forever, for now and eternity

She'll be there with her arms outstretched on the day we meet again.

- Aileen, Gemma, Jamie, Craig and Conor.

MCNAUGHTON - In loving memory of David, who died January 1, 1987. A dear husband to the late Margaret, dad to Mhairi, Sandy, Carol, Robert and the late David. A loving grandad and great grandad.

Always in our thoughts.

- All the family.

TAYLOR - In loving memory of Nicholas (Nick), who died December 26, 2014.

Remember you always.

- Mum, David, Anne, Michael, Rose and Robert.

TAYLOR - Nicholas, died Boxing Day 2014. It is now 2 years since you passed, suddenly and unexpectedly. Still does not seem real. Still expect that unexpected phone call from you.

- Miss you, Robert.

TAYLOR - Thomas, died December 30, 1998. 18 years since your passing, but never forgotten.

- Forever in my thoughts, Robert.

CHURCH NOTICES

Highland Parish Church



SCO02493
Sunday 1st January 2017
'And so the year begins
God send you a
Happy New Year'
The service will be conducted by Rev Anne McIvor and will be held in the church at 11.15am
All welcome.

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SCO11686
Sunday 1st January 2017
11.15am Morning Service
Rev P Wallace



Campbeltown Corps Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009399
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
No evening meeting
Captains Ben & Ruth Russell
All welcome

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 1 January 2017
Start the year worshipping God
We are holding a short service with communion on New Year's Day at 11.00am.
Visitors welcome
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



George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 1st January
11.15am Worship Service
led by Angus MacKay
Wednesday 4th January
12.30pm
Bible Study and Prayer
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

New Year's Day, 1st January
Service 11am-12noon
All Welcome
Tuesday 3rd January
Praise, Word and Sharing
7.30pm - 9.30pm.

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday 1st January 2017
New Year Communion Service
'Be Still & Look Up'
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. KIERAN R.C. CHURCH ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN

SCO02876
Vigil Mass,
Saturday 6pm
(except the 1st Saturday of the month)
Holy Mass, every
Sunday 10am



Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church:
Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 1st January
Christmas 1
Morning Prayer 10.45am
followed by Theological Reflection
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion



LOCHGILHEAD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 1st January 2017
11.00am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome
More info. at www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilhead (Church of Scotland)
SCO16311

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

New Years Day Joint Service
with Tarbert Free Church
11.30am
- to be held in Tarbert Free Church
For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator
on 07826 235735
Everyone very welcome
Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622
Skipness SCO04280

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
Sunday 1st January 2017
'I am Making Everything New'
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

Christ Church
Bishopton Road,
Lochgilhead
(SC013787)
Sundays 11.00am
Eucharist & Coffee
St Columba's, Poltalloch
(SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month 9.00am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Father Simon Mackenzie
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILHEAD

Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday
12.30pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome (SCO002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 1st January 2017
Morning Worship
Kilmartin 11.45am
Rev. C. R. Acklam
All welcome
SCO 02121

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 1 January
Tayvallich Church 10 am
Morning Worship
Rev. C. Acklam
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.northknappdale.org

lochgilhead baptist church

Pastor Derek Gibson
All Welcome
Sunday 1st January 2017
Time of Sharing
Scottish Charity SC015187

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Sunday 1st January 2017
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 at 11.30 am
Cumlodden and Lochfyneside Guild
Wednesday 4th January
in Cumlodden Church Hall at 2.30 pm
ALL WELCOME

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



THE storms raged, the wind roared and the waves crashed on the shore, leaving the beach somewhere adrift in the ocean.

It was so good to come home after the last dog walk of the day, get all the waterproof gear off and the dogs dried.

One of the highlights of our time together over Christmas was watching the film *Paddington*.

What a delightful film it is and we all agreed it was one of the best we had seen in a long time.

It has a real feel-good factor and is a must see if you haven't seen it already.

Now I know *Paddington* is not real, but what a lovely story it is.

We have experienced a year which globally has brought much concern and sadness across our world.

We have seen images of people fleeing for their lives and children numbed with shock and fear.

We have witnessed rejection of those who are different.

At the end of *Paddington*, the family protect him because he is different and embrace him in that difference.

The father, who originally didn't want *Paddington*, says to those who would reject him: 'He might be different, but he is one of us - he is family.'

If only we could apply this in our lives - locally and globally till we are all included - all family, all one, and unaware of any difference.

On this Hogmanay, my prayer is the one Jesus prayed - 'that we would all be one'.

Let us extend that welcome to everyone and rejoice in our diversity and difference.

May you find many blessings waiting in 2017 and some lovely surprises.

KILMARTIN

Hidden treasures revealed

Ever wondered what treasures are hidden away in Kilmartin Museum's collection store? Well now is your chance to find out.

An illustrated talk by Dr Sharon Webb MBE, on Thursday January 12, will tell you all about the hidden artefacts, including real Vikings and Bronze Age treasure hoards.

The evening's talk will be held at Living Stones Christian Centre, Kilmartin, from 7pm.

More information can be found at www.kilmartin.org.

TAYVALLICH

Blow away the festive cobwebs

ESCAPE from the sofa to enjoy some fresh air in the new year.

Heart of Argyll Wildlife invite you to join them on a guided walk to dust off the festive cobwebs and get out and about in Argyll's nature on Tuesday January 3.

With it being decided that the bea-

vers shall stay, there is lots of beaver activity to see and discuss as you walk around Loch Barnluasgan and up to the Bellanoch Viewpoint.

This guided walk will also give you the opportunity to explore the new Heart of Argyll base at Barr an Daimh. For more information and prices, check out the Heart of Argyll Wildlife Facebook page.

LOCHGILPHEAD

Solstice celebrations

A SUCCESSFUL solstice celebration was held in the woodland grounds of the Argyll and Bute Hospital, Lochgilphead.

Held by Blarbuie Woodland Enterprise Ltd, the group gathered to celebrate the changing of the seasons on Wednesday December 21.

Helpful winter gardening tips were given and bat boxes, generously donated by Artmap Argyll, were put up around the site.

Keeping warm by the fire, the celebrations continued with hot soup before marshmallows were toasted over the flames.

KINTYRE

Kintyre benefits from windfarm funding

SINCE 2002 communities in Argyll and Bute have benefited from more than £1million of funding contributed by Scottish Power Renewables windfarms.

One of the key beneficiaries is the Kintyre Dialysis Campaign, which was launched in 2014 to raise funds to install a much-needed dialysis unit at Campbeltown Hospital.

In August 2015, the Kintyre Community Dialysis Unit opened, having raised the necessary £100,000 through various community-led fundraising initiatives and grants from local windfarm trusts.

Local windfarm benefit funds have also supported a variety of other projects, including Campbeltown cinema, supporting Campbeltown Cricket Club with the purchase of a new mower and practice nets, and the transportation of patients from rural areas to Caradale surgery.

Hogmanay happenings



Craignish

BRING in the new year in style by celebrating Craignish Village Hall's tenth anniversary.

The hall committee is inviting locals to mark the occasion at the Hogmanay party from 10pm with ceilidh, DJ and bar.

Tickets are available from Ardfern shop or on the door. Free entry to under-16s.

Lochgilphead

THE Argyll Inn will not only be catering for your sporting needs on Hogmanay but providing you with a chance to let your hair down as you bring in the new year.

Opening from 11am, the pub will be showing the Old Firm game and serving food until 6pm, before closing to get ready for the Hogmanay party.

Doors will open again at 9pm for the Hogmanay disco. A piper will bring in the bells and any kilt-wearing patrons will be given free entry.

Ormsary

GET your dancing shoes on for Ormsary's family ceilidh.

Kicking off at 8.30pm, Ceilidh's Homet will have you burling and twirling through the night.

Ticket prices include entry and food; £10 for over-16s, £5 for 12- to 16-year-olds and free entry for anyone under the age of 12.

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

Festive firing at Tarbert Gun Club



Winners Stewart MacAllister and Bob McColl with second place winners Malcolm MacDonald and Iain Winnard.

HOLDING its last competition of the year, Tarbert Gun Club's Christmas shoot was set to be a competitive one, especially with Christmas dinner turkeys up for grabs.

No fewer than 48 names went into the

hat to pair up the shooting partners on Sunday December 18, for the shoot that had a mixture of down the line and sporting targets.

As luck would have it, all the top shots were drawn apart and so pairings began on a relatively level pegging.

At the end of the day two pairings tied for top spot - Minard's Malcolm MacDonald and Ormsary's Iain Winnard, alongside Campbeltown's Stewart MacAllister and Tarbert's Bob McColl.

In the resulting shoot-

off, it was Stewart and Bob who took the winners' prizes.

The club would like to thank everybody for their support throughout the year and seasonal greeting for the festive season.

Results:

1 Stewart MacAllister and Bob McColl; 2 Malcolm MacDonald and Iain Winnard; 3 Niall Wilson and Andy Peden; 4 Andrew MacDonald and Jonathan Gargan; 5 Roy Laird and Matthew Peden, Craig Nicholson and Archie MacGilp.



Spectators stand back and admire the shooting.

Nomination open for golf awards

TIME is getting short to nominate your golf club or volunteer of the year.

Nominations for the Scottish Golf Club and Volunteer of the Year awards are open until Monday January 9.

The Club of the Year award recognises the efforts of those involved in developing all aspects of golf. And the volunteer award celebrates someone who has made a significant contribution to the sport at local, regional or national level.

Finalists will be invited to attend the 2017 Scottish Golf Awards

in Edinburgh where the winners will be presented with their accolade on stage.

The Club of the Year will also receive a grant of £1,500 to support a future club project or local initiatives.

The star-studded event takes place in February and celebrates the achievements of Scotland's golfers and golf clubs over the past 12 months.

For more information and to make your nomination go to <https://www.scottishgolf.org/who-we-are/golf-awards>.

Macaulay Cup draw

Artemis Macaulay Cup (South) - first round
 Oban Camanachd v Ballachulish Inveraray v Oban Celtic
 Aberdeen v Glasgow Mid Argyll Bute v Kyles Athletic

South - semi final
 Inveraray/Oban Celtic/Oban Camanachd/Balachulish v Bute/Kyles Athletic/Aberdour/Glasgow Mid Argyll

South - quarter final
 Inveraray/Oban Celtic v Oban Camanachd/Balachulish Bute/Kyles Athletic v

The final will take place at Mossfield Stadium, Oban, on Saturday August 19, 2017.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £3650

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.

To allow for the reduced postal service over Christmas and New Year Spot the Ball will run for 2 weeks - **this is week 2 of 2** all entries must be in by 10am on Tuesday 3rd January

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



Sports review of the year - part 2

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



Craig Gibson and George Morrison show off their trophies. 08_a30golf01

July

PLAYERS from Torrance, Blairmore, Lochgilphead and Dalmally golf clubs joined locals for the Inveraray gents' open.

George Morrison of the host club came out on top in the scratch competition, while Torrance member Craig Gibson won the net section.



Runner Tony Jones does the 'Mobot' as he crosses the line.

August

THE family-focused Tarbert 10k/5k running event was held over two August days.

Hundreds of runners of all ages took part, including 95 in the children's races. The 10k adult race was won by Stuart McGeachy, just ahead of Kieran Cooper in second. Kieran took first prize in the 5k event.

September

SCOTT MacLachlan was the best player on the pitch in shinty's Macaulay Cup final in Oban. The young Inveraray goalie was a standout despite his team going down 5-3 in a battling performance against a good Kinlochshiel side.

Later that month Kilmory put in a good second-half performance in the Bullough Cup final. Their three goals after half-time were not enough, however, to overhaul the four scores by Tayforth in the first half, and it ended in narrow defeat for the Mid Argyll side.



Scott MacLachlan pulls off another fine save in the Macaulay final.

October

LOCHGILPHEAD Red Star made progress in the West of Scotland Cup as they fired seven goals past Premier Division Inverclyde without reply.

Star went on to beat Milton away from home in the third round before seeing off Claremont in early December to win their fourth round tie. So it's cup footie past Christmas for Red Star.



Kieran Moore opens the scoring for Red Star as they routed Inverclyde in the second round of the cup. 06_a44RedStar01



The Mid Argyll Dolphins swimming team, with coach Rosalind Way, left, and Arlene Green.

November

NO FEWER than 17 young swimmers from Mid Argyll Dolphins

travelled to Helensburgh for the Scottish school trials.

They took home a

clutch of medals, and a remarkable 65 per cent of the times achieved were personal bests.



December

PERFECT weather greeted shooters at Tarbert Gun Club's winter league December leg. Ally McDonnell, who broke all 50 targets, won the event overall as Roy Laird's team increased their lead in the league. Winners aside, Lynn MacDonald has been shooting well during 2016 and managed to beat dad Norman on the day.

Enjoying a good day's shooting were (left to right) David Hay-Thorburn, Lynn MacDonald, Carradale's Bill Bidmead and Matthew Peden.

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