



Hardy dippers give New Year a cold embrace ...

Tough Campbeltonians brave the freezing cold chasing charity cash in the third Dalintober 'Dip for Dosh'. The New Year's Day fancy dress swimmers helped collect more than £2,000 for the Dalintober Beach Regeneration Group. Turn to the back page for more on this story. 25_c02dip01 Photo by Geraldine Davey

Wee Toon in hyperdrive for spaceport future

THE STAR engineers fronting the UK's race to space will hear Campbeltown's claim for the final frontier at a London conference.

Jeff Cole, the man at mission control for Discover Space UK, the spaceport arm of Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC), will tell delegates from major companies such as Virgin Galactic, Deimos Space UK and the Westminster government about the opportunities in Kintyre.

Mr Cole, who has worked as a consultant

with Discover Space UK from its inception, will talk on Wednesday February 3 at The Royal Aeronautical Society's (RAeS) Space Group's conference, 'Spaceport UK - A New Frontier for Growth and Enterprise'.

The UK government hopes to have a spaceport operational by 2019.

Great chance

Mr Cole said: 'The conference is a great chance for the main contenders to hang out their stalls and explain what a spaceport is all about and why it is so vital.

by MARK DAVEY
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

This year could be make or break because the UK wants to get the plans sorted within this parliament.'

The RAeS hopes to broaden awareness of the opportunities and challenges associated with the establishment of a spaceport in the UK.

The event will bring together stakeholders, including the public sector, investors and potential future spaceport operators and users, as well as those having ex-

perience of on-going initiatives in the United States.

The conference chairman is Royal Society fellow (FRAeS) Phil Davies, the managing director of Deimos Space UK.

His introduction will be followed by a keynote government speaker, as yet unconfirmed, possibly from the Department for Transport (DfT), which ultimately will decide the preferred location for the coun-

try's first spaceport.

There will be a section on 'Launch Capabilities', featuring Jonathan Firth, Executive Vice President of spaceport and programme development at Virgin Galactic. He will be followed by Jay Gibson, the Chief Executive of Lynx Space planes, and Andy Bradford from Firefly Space Systems.

Mr Cole will speak during the second session of the day titled 'Candidate Locations'.

'I will explain why Campbeltown is the best site, including the long

runway already twice approved for space flight,' added Mr Cole, 'I will reinforce the idea that a spaceport is about jobs, high-tech engineering and social benefit.'

Criteria

Last week the Department for Transport (DfT) published a list of criteria for any site bidding.

Key points included a flight path north, over the sea, into a polar orbit, and a coastal location with low population density.

These demands put

the Scottish contenders, Campbeltown, Stornoway and Prestwick, ahead of competitors in England and Wales.

A further Scottish site has recently been added to the list, with Fife Council promising to fly the flag at the conference for former Royal Air Force base at Leuchars.

Leading architects Foster and Partners' senior executive Grant Brooker will talk on spaceport design and there will be two speakers on commercial spaceport business models.



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Wee Toon's only dry cleaners to close its doors on January 29

A KIRK Street business will press its last suit after more than 48 years serving Campbeltown.

Dry cleaning firm Kintyre Kleeners, currently run by husband and wife team, Peter and Pam Tolmie, will close at the end of business on Friday January 29.

Mr and Mrs Tolmie plan to retire and with a silent partner have the business up for sale with MacTaggart for £60,000.

They have failed to find a buyer despite offering three months training on

the current equipment, which includes a Bowe 12kg dry cleaning machine bought at a cost of £18,000 a decade ago.

Mrs Tolmie, 62, has worked in the business, started by her father Eddie Dunn, since leaving Campbeltown Grammar aged 17.

Retired

The Tolmies took over when Mr Dunn retired in 2000.

Mrs Tolmie said: 'The business has been for sale since July and there has been some interest. The price is low as

the building requires some work. It is not just a matter of coming in and starting work. I would be prepared to teach someone how all the equipment works.

'We are retiring, I will miss meeting all the people but it will open a new chapter in our lives and hopefully we will see a bit more of our twin grandchildren who are in Glasgow.

'It would be good if all items could be collected by the day we close or we will have to dispose of them.'

Increased profit at Loganair

AN AIRLINE facing turbulent skies about the reliability of its services has reported an increased profit.

Loganair routes include lifeline links to island communities, and the company increased profits to £7.2m from £5.8m in the year to March 31, 2015.

It said a 13 per cent rise in passenger numbers to more than 650,000 has been a factor. However, customers, politicians and the pilot's union Balpa have been critical of the Scottish air-

line's reliability. Loganair's newly-released annual results show that turnover increased from £87.3m to £93.6m.

The company, which operates in Flybe livery, said it was investing £15m in a programme of improvements and upgrades.

Loganair said that £4m would be used to buy two 50-seater Saab 2000 aircraft, £1.5m on purchasing a 31-seater Dornier 328 turboprop and £3.5m on upgrading its fleet.



Kintyre Kleeners in Kirk Street. 25_c02kleeners01

Police files: Christmas Eve assault

A MAN was arrested for an alleged minor assault in Glenside, Campbeltown.

Following the incident, on Christmas Eve, a report about the 44-year-old was sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Electricity theft

POLICE following up a suspected electricity theft in Davaar Avenue arrested a man aged 50.

A report about the theft on Wednesday of last week was sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

New Year's Day drugs arrest

DRUGS allegedly found on a 35-year-old man at Smith Drive in the early hours of January 1, led to his arrest and a report being sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Kintyre's best young musician

KINTYRE Rotary Club has put a call out to find the most promising young musician of 2015.

Nominations are being sought from members of the public. Nominees should be a person still in full time education, and can be a person involved in any branch of music.

Anyone who knows such a person should complete a form, which is available from George McMillan's shop in Main Street.

The Norman and Phyllis Milne Fund presents a trophy and £200 to the most promising young musician of 2015.

Dazzled driver who hit woman fined

A DELIVERY driver dazzled by the sun failed to see a pedestrian crossing in front of his van, Oban Sheriff Court heard on Tuesday.

Alan Thomas Penman, 43, of 69 Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown, pleaded guilty to driving without due care and at-

tention, and failing to see a 63-year-old woman crossing the entrance to the BuildBase yard off Lynn Road, Oban, on September 3 last year.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said the woman was struck by the van and fell to the ground,

striking her head.

She was kept in hospital for observation for two days, had to undergo an x-ray and a CT scan because there were fears about bruising to the brain; she also had a cut on the back of her head and had to take three weeks off work.

Penman was 'attentive and apologetic' at the scene, the fiscal added.

Mr Thornton, defence agent, said Penman, a driver with AM Transport had a clean licence and had been employed by the firm for 10 years, and was described as a 'steady and reliable driver'. He had just made a delivery to Tesco and was making another to BuildBase; he was driving very slowly and he was dazzled by the sun and unaware of any pedestrian as he turned into the entrance Mr Thornton added.

Penman was fined £300 and had six points added to his driving licence.

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No more 'patch and mend' on Rest and Be Thankful

EXPLOSIVE experts planned to destroy a potentially dangerous boulder after a Lochgil- phhead woman was nearly killed at the A83's Rest and Be Thankful.

They tackled the 150 tonne rock 175 metres above the road on Wednesday, in a bid to prevent another accident, such as the one experienced by Jane Else.

She was taken to Pais-

ley Hospital with severe bruising and a hairline fracture to her sternum after her hatchback was nearly shunted off the road on December 30.

Mrs Else, 50, said: 'One minute the road was clear, the next all this debris was coming towards me.'

'I tried to swerve, but there was absolutely no way, it was terrifying.'

'It was really quite

scary as it was not the barrier stopping the car from sliding down, it was a snow pole.

Killed

'If that had not been there, I would have slid down the embankment and could have been killed.'

Michael Russell, Argyll and Bute MSP, said: 'Last year, as a result of the Scottish Government's acceptance of

the principle of continuous access, and because of the money already spent, over £40 million on the A83 in total so far, there were fewer closures than in previous years.'

Argyll First Councillor Donald Kelly said: 'As we have continually said the current sticking plaster solution to the Rest problems are totally unacceptable.'

'As a result of the ongoing saga, Argyll First councillors have written to the transport minister Derek Mackay requesting that he reconvenes the A83 Taskforce as a matter of urgency.'

Lack lustre

'We only have to look at how quickly the Scottish Government can resolve problems such as the Forth Road Bridge, compared to the lacklustre approach here.'

Former MP Alan Reid said: 'The cheap patch and mend solution has clearly failed.'



An engineer checking the boulder which closed the A83 this week.

Farmers pale as milk price plunges

KINTYRE dairy farmers face an uncertain New Year as nearly another penny is drained from the milk price.

This week Glasgow based farmers' co-operative First Milk cut another 0.25pence per litre (ppl) on top of the 0.43p reduction imposed in December and paid to dairies supplying Campbeltown Creamery.

This takes the total reduction over the last two months to 0.68ppl.

First Milk's average Scottish Mainland A and B annual price was 17.21ppl in 2015, well below the 30 - 32ppl it is widely accepted dairy farmers need to profitably produce milk.

First Milk's interim chairman Nigel Evans said: 'The market backdrop remains extremely tough. Sustained oversupply of milk, especially in the EU is driv-

ing up stock levels and putting downward pressure on prices.'

'With returns for our cheese business set by a basket mechanism, announcements from other processors of price drops for January have had a direct impact on First Milk returns.'

Local First Milk farmer representative Sandy Pirie, who produces about 1.3 million litres a year in Machrihanish said: 'We have the lowest price of all the regions but it is out of First Milk's control.'

'First Milk have a local meeting in Janu-

ary. Highland and Islands Enterprise are doing a feasibility study about the long term future of Kintyre dairies and there was a meeting with some farmers at the Ardshiel Hotel on Wednesday evening for a close look at their costs.'

Sound man will not have to attend pre-trial hearing

A SOUND of Kintyre man accused of sending threatening letters and text messages will not have to attend pre-trial hearings due to the cost.

Joseph Carson, 57, of Sound of Kintyre, Machrihanish, faces two charges of sending threatening communications to his mother's partner and a neighbour.

When the case against Carson called in Paisley

Sheriff Court last month defence solicitor Terry Gallanagh said he denied the allegations.

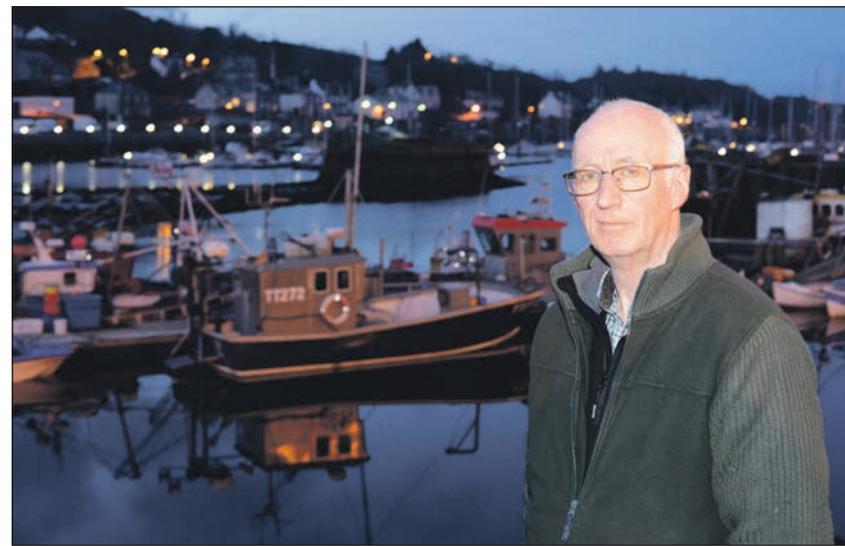
Mr Gallanagh asked Sheriff Robert Fife to excuse Carson's attendance at a pre-trial hearing in February due to the amount of time and expense it takes him to get to court from his home in Argyll.

The lawyer explained: 'It costs him over £200

to get here from Campbeltown - he has to travel up and stay the night.'

After Sheriff Fife adjourned the case, excused Carson's attendance at the pre-trial hearing and continued his bail, Carson said from the dock: 'It is always a long journey but it is worth it to save my own mother.'

A trial is due to take place in March.



Kenny MacNab with his boat in the background at Tarbert harbour.

25_c02macNab01

MBE man says 'it is the fishermen who deserve the recognition'

A TARBERT fisherman was 'chuffed' to be awarded the Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to the fishing industry in Scotland.

Kenneth Ian MacNab, 60, is a fifth-generation fisherman from the area, and is now in his third tenure as chairman of the Clyde Fisherman's Association.

The association aims to protect the interests of fishermen on the Firth and adjacent shores, with his grandfather a founder member in 1934.

Kenneth, who is now semi-retired, said: 'I was chuffed as hell when I got the letter through five or six weeks ago. I've not got a clue who nominated me as I've been involved with so many guys in the industry over the

years. I've also done quite a bit for charity too.'

'I was quite surprised, but I have done quite a bit of work for the fishing industry over the years. This is my third time as chairman of the association. But really, I think it's the fishermen themselves who really deserve the recognition.'

Representing

Describing himself as 'Tarbert born and bred', Kenneth left school to become a fisherman in 1970, and began representing the industry at a local level in 1976, with the Tarbert branch of the Clyde Fishermen's Association.

He and wife Elizabeth still own a boat, but he employs a skipper, giving him a chance to devote more spare time to his work with the association.

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Round Britain trekkers Adam Short and Richard Long.

FEBRUARY – A pair of round Britain trekkers – Adam Short and Richard Long cooled their heels in early February. They met at Campbeltown war memorial in the middle of their epic charity walks.

The first rumblings of a budget problem for Argyll and Bute Council made headlines this month, with Helensburgh councillor James Robb saying the council failed to ‘make any substantial savings to date’. It was revealed that the council had a budget of £237 million and wages bill of £134 million, up £4 million on 2014.



Mad March hares appear to be boxing.

MARCH – This month the Courier reported that Kintyre cheddar made at Campbeltown Creamery was unavailable at Tesco or the Co-op as it was classed as a high end product. The supermarkets were urged to support Kintyre’s dairy farmers.

Machrihanish’s Seabird Observatory warden Eddie Maguire and Iomhar McMillan spotted some mad March hares near Drumlemble and photographed their mating antics.

A mum’s quick thinking saved her family as smoke engulfed their bedroom in the early hours of March 14.

Review of the



The new marina on its opening day. 20_c27marina03

JANUARY – In the Courier’s first edition of 2015 it was announced that the £1 million project to transform Campbeltown’s marina was about to start.

GSS Marine Services, from Rosneath, completed the work and the new berthing opened in July.

Kintyre foodbank announced that it had been overwhelmed by local support.

A £1 million bequest made national headlines as a Campbeltown lady left money to benefit Kintyre groups.

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Prizewinning pipers Jamie McKerral, Donnie McKerral and Ross Conner. 08_c14pipe01

APRIL – In the first week of April the Rest and Be Thankful was closed when a tourist coach left the road, luckily with no casualties.

Campbeltown pipers collected plenty of silverware at the Kintyre Piping Society junior competitions in the Ardsheil Hotel.

Pedestrian safety made the headlines this month – Tayinloan villagers asked for a 40mph limit on the A83 where it passes the village and in Machrihanish calls were renewed for Argyll and Bute Council to create a path from the caravan site.

Kintyre’s feral goats were not kidding around when they invaded gardens in search of spring greens.



Highland dancer, Linzi Cameron, made May headlines when she beat all comers to win the Cowal Shield as national champion at the 132nd Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival in Oban. 06_c20linzi01

JUNE – Last June Campbeltown drum major Liam Renton scooped his first national title of the year when he was crowned the British National champion.

The refurbishment of the Wee Toon’s historic picture house moved a step closer to reality this month with news that the funding was all in place for work to begin. A week later another project was launched - the Seasports Centre - to breathe new life into Dalintober.

Campbeltown Running Club’s Elaine McGeachy became an ‘Iron lady’ after taking



Kintyre shepherd Jessie Main and her dog Roy won the Great Glen trophy at the start of the month.

06_c23sheepdog01

part in the Arranman half iron man event.



Michael Mols with some of Kintyre’s young footballers. 20_c29mols03

JULY – This month the Courier highlighted the dilapidated state of the former Post Office once again in a saga which the paper first covered 24 years ago in 1991.

Russian oligarch and Chelsea owner Roman Abramovich cruised the seas off Kintyre in July and was spotted in Arran and Islay.

Rally divers motored into Machrihanish for the second Mach 1 rally which saw teams with £2,000 budgets competing against semi-professional drivers such as David Coulthard’s nephew Murray. Former Ranger’s star Michael Mols gave young Pupils players a masterclass on the 3G pitch.

MAY – The Courier reported that Campbeltown’s iconic White Hart hotel would shut its doors at the start of May. It remained closed for the rest of the year.

On-going work at Dunaverty Hall in Southend caused the cancellation of the village’s Highland games for the first time since 1952.

The SNP swept into power in Argyll and Bute when Brendan O’Hara joined 55 of the party’s new MPs in an unprecedented landslide across Scotland.

year



A Clydesdale horse – Galcalfra ‘Sweet Chloe’ – became the Kintyre Show’s first Champion of Champions. 25_c33show32

AUGUST – Possibly August’s biggest news was the opening of the dialysis unit at Campbeltown Hospital after an ‘unmatched’ community effort raising £100,000 in less than a year.

Warm summer weather Calais chaos – in part caused by the massed migrants in the French port – had a knock-on affect in Kintyre. Seafood catches destined for the continent spoiled in trucks caught in Operation Stack on the M20 motorway.



An inaugural charity walk – The Westport Wander – for Cancer Research UK, by Kintyre Local Committee, attracted more than 80 walkers and raised more than £1,000. 20_c42wander01

OCTOBER – News broke in October of a Kintyre farmer ending three generations of dairying at his Drumlemble farm with the sale of his entire herd of

prize-winning Ayrshires. A combination of factors, including the milk price, had forced Archie Millar to quit.



Campbeltown businessman Andrew Smith reopened the former ATS depot and started a new chapter in tyre fitting in the Wee Toon. Michael Forshaw, Alistair Wilson and Gavin Smart outside Andrew Smith Tyres. 04_c46tyres01

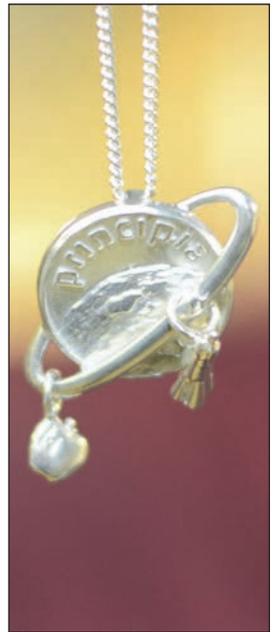
NOVEMBER – Northern Irish television news featured Kintyre in early November when a kayak washed up near Machrihanish. It belonged to a Carrickfergus man Robert Hanna who had vanished at the end of September and at the time of writing is still missing.

Clyde fishermen held a series of meetings in November along the West Coast to drum up support for their cause as they face unprecedented pressure from conservationists.

DECEMBER – Tim Peake made national headlines as the first British astronaut to live on the International Space Station. And it emerged he would be taking a piece of Kintyre jewellery into orbit.

Ferry good news came in the second week of the month for campaigners after it was announced a permanent seasonal sea link with Ardrossan was guaranteed from spring 2016.

A good Samaritan made headlines at Christmas as she welcomed a 102-year-old stranger into her home after Abbeyfield Care Home shut its doors.



The silver pendant which is now in space. 25_c49pendant01



SEPTEMBER – News that refugees fleeing Syria would be assured a safe home in Kintyre came in September.

As the Ardrossan to Campbeltown ferry’s three-year trial neared its final sailing, the pressure mounted and a concerted campaign began to make the ferry permanent.

On September 25 the town held a day of commemoration and exhibitions in connection with the 1915 Battle of Loos. The Lord Lieutenant for Argyll and Bute, above, lays a wreath at the war memorial. 20_c40battle25



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Terrestrial travel troubles

AS CAMPBELTOWN boosts its bid to be the jumping off point for space, the Courier wonders if potential astronauts will make it down the A83.

This week further landslides on the troubled trunk road have dominated Scottish headlines. It is a miracle that a Lochgilphead woman escaped with her life after a terrifying accident.

Many tourist companies, such as Lochs and Glens Holidays, take coach tours regularly over the Rest and Be Thankful pass as part of their trips. That company owns the Ardgarten Hotel at Arrochar and had at least three coach parties there for the New Year.

In addition, the regular West Coast Motors 926 service is backwards and forwards over the Rest seven days a week. Commercial hauliers working to tight deadlines find the alternative routes cost them time and money when the A83 is closed.

If a coach was hit by a landslide it could well tumble into the valley with much loss of life. As there has been so much publicity about the problems on this route it is likely the Scottish Government would be hit by a lawsuit in such a situation.

Now is the time for a tunnel or proper avalanche shelters to be constructed, as they are in every alpine nation such as France, Switzerland and Austria, and other areas of the UK. It is the obvious solution.

The new Forth Road Bridge (FRB2) will have cost more than £1 billion pounds by the time it is finished and the Borders Railway bill was £350 million.

Previous generations, such as the Victorians, completed visionary transport projects. Unlike the FRB2 and railway a tunnel would be a fresh venture so why is it not possible?

Just one human life lost could far outweigh the cost.

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f FACEBOOK

l LETTER

Patch and mend on Rest and Be Thankful has failed

Sir,

The netting at the Rest and Be Thankful has failed, the A83 has been closed again, and drivers forced on the long detour via Dalmally. The cheap patch and mend solution has clearly failed.

Fortunately nobody was killed in the two cars that got caught up in the landslide, but the next driver might not be so lucky.

Urgent action on a permanent solution is needed now.

When the Forth Road Bridge was closed, the government rightly pulled out all the stops to get it repaired.

In contrast all the A83 gets is patch and mend. This time the government must put a proper solution in place to keep the road open and drivers safe.

Alan Reid,
136 Fairhaven,
Dunoon.



Comments about the Rest and Be Thankful landslide on December 30 from Campbeltown Courier's Facebook page are as follows:

Harry Hood: Build avalanche tunnels at the burns which slide most often. There is an avalanche tunnel on the A890 Kyle of Lochalsh to Loch Carron road which protects the road and railway from falling debris.

Long-term tree planting on the hillside above the road would hold the soil in place but centuries of overgrazing

by sheep and deer have prevented any trees from naturally regenerating.

Frank Lawlor: It is a joke how much money has been spent on this and the same thing happens time after time. There must be a better solution in this day and age to keep transport moving on a main route.

The way they construct roads and build bridges now, the government could have it fixed in no time.

Leslie-Anne Cushnaghan: It drives me crazy how much money is being wasted.

Is it going to take someone being killed before they will blast it away or build a tunnel or something safer than the way it is just now?

Council cuts are forced by Scottish government

Sir,

In the past few weeks you have highlighted a number of unpalatable cuts to local services that 'Scrooges at Argyll and Bute Council' are contemplating as part of its review of service delivery.

What you have singularly failed to mention is that any cuts that have to be made are a direct result of reductions in funding by the Scottish Government.

While Messrs O'Hare and Russell piously mander on about the morality of the cuts and a need for a strategic approach, their purse string holder John Swinney has just cut local government spending by 3.5 per cent or £350m across Scotland.

So next time you lambast the council for the tough

choices they make, try and inject a bit of balance by mentioning the root cause is the spending choices the Scottish Government is forcing on local decision makers.

Local cuts are due to the national government(s). End of.
Bob Miller,
129 Sound of Kintyre,
Campbeltown.

Abbeyfield was a case of 'use it or lose it'

Sir,

In regard to the front page in the Christmas Courier, I would like to congratulate and compliment Mark Davey and Ben Ramage for their excellent article regarding the closure of Abbeyfield House in Carradale.

Some of the input was taken from a draft booklet which I compiled and is being produced by Krisp Print.

It outlines the history of Abbeyfield from 1985 to date.

I have one correction and one comment on the article, which are as follows.

Miss Evie Strath's date of birth is 1913 which makes her aged 103 in February 2016.

Secondly, I felt the word 'rescued' was a little strong as she was never in any danger at any time in the 12 years she was a resident.

On a very positive aspect of the article, it made it quite clear that the fall in number of residents from eight to three was the main case of closure.

This is best illustrated in the phrase 'use it or lose it'.

Abbeyfield House could have been used by the local hospital in Campbeltown for respite care for patients being discharged but needed some

help before moving back into their own homes.

Stuart Irvine,
Past Chairman
of Abbeyfield Societies
In Scotland Ltd,
Heston,
Lochpark,
Carradale.

A matter of regret?

Sir,

It was with great sadness and disappointment that we witnessed the closure of Abbeyfield House, Carradale. These feelings were also tinged with extreme anger and disbelief at the disregard for the remaining residents of the house.

These elderly and frail residents, whose ages range from 90 to 102, had no option but to move out and find new accommodation.

Having worked at Abbeyfield House for more than 25 years as housekeeper, I am aware that not only is this type of accommodation – where meals are provided and the residents cared for on an individual basis – very limited, but because they lived happily in this environment for so long, it is also distressing and such a huge upheaval can cause many health issues – both mental and physical.

It would appear that financial priorities have been considered before the welfare of these elderly residents.

Perhaps if the committee had consulted with the Carradale community, a resolution could have been found which would have satisfied everyone and ensured the residents could have spent their final years in the home where they were happy and secure.

Janette MacKinnon,
Carradale.

Letters to the Editor, Campbeltown Courier,
Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown,
Argyll PA28 6AE

emails to: editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
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PRESS POLICY

WE AT The Campbeltown Courier 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@campbeltowncourier.co.uk; telephoning the senior reporter on 01586 554646 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 Campbeltown Courier*, Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AE. Fax (01586) 553006.

email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

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

Donate your unwanted toiletries

DURING January, the Rotary club will again be collecting any unwanted Christmas gifts of toiletries or cosmetics, including children's toiletries and baby wipes.

Because of potential council cuts, this might be the last such collection for the benefit of women and children who are having to be rehoused due to an abusive relationship.

This year, each person being rehoused will receive a goodie bag as a morale booster for what must be a traumatic experience.

Collection boxes will be in place at Munero Stores, Southend, George McMillan's paper shop, and Ralston Road Stores.

Fresh plans for wee takeaway in former WC

'This is a really innovative solution to a problem area'

A CHEF who gained replanning approval to spend a few pennies converting public conveniences into a fast-food outlet wants to renew the plan.

Opposition

Olly McLean of 49 Crosshill, Campbeltown met considerable opposition when he put forward plans in 2012 to transform the disused public toilets in Millknowe Road into a commercial kitchen to sell takeaway meals.

The change-of-use ap-

plication would also require extensions for storage purposes and possibly the erection of outdoor seating on the grass surrounding the grey-harled building opposite the County garage.

Three years ago, Argyll and Bute Council's planning, protective services and licensing committee granted permission for the change of use, a new access road and parking area.

Councillor Rory Colville backed the plan ar-



The former public loos. 25_c02l0001

guing that the proposed business would improve a derelict building in a prominent site.

He said: 'The site is in a prominent position within Campbeltown and Mr McLean is well

known in the catering industry. This is a really innovative solution to a problem area.'

Hoteliers go freelance

A PAIR of Islay hoteliers have started a unique caretaker scheme for guest house owners from their new Gleneagles base.

Neil and Carol Scott formerly ran two hotels on Islay – The Harbour Inn and Restaurant and The Inns by the Loch – which they sold last October.

They left the island to set up this venture, based on giving guest house owners a rest while knowing their properties are being managed by experts.

No winners

THERE were no winners of this week's Machrihanish Golf Club lottery, with the winning numbers 5, 18 and 20 going unclaimed.

The next draw will have a jackpot of £600.

ADVERTORIAL

Curry house gains healthy award

OBAN'S Kebabish Curry House has been awarded with a healthy living award for a second time.

The restaurant first received the accolade in 2013 and again in October 2015 after a healthy living award assessors assessed the establishment and deemed it met the healthy living standards.

Shaukat Anwar Chaudhry, Kebabish managing director, said: 'It's a great achievement. It's a great feeling when you win something like this and I am proud to be serving my local community.'

'After winning, I was invited by healthy living to give a seminar at the Restaurant and Takeaway Business (RTB) Live event in Glasgow.

Proud

'The award is supported by the Scottish Government and NHS Health Scotland and I am proud to be part of the team supporting a healthier Scotland to encourage people to eat better feel better.'

In order to receive a healthy living award a restaurant's menu must meet the criteria, which includes using healthier ingredients and

preparation methods, reducing the fat, salt and sugar.

Anne Lee, healthy living award manager said: 'It is very encouraging to see a takeaway businesses such as Kebabish continue to hold the healthy living award.'

'This achievement illustrates a clear commitment from Mr Chaudhry to make healthier catering the norm in his business.'

'This accomplishment can only be of benefit to the local community and I encourage Mr Chaudhry and his team to keep up the good work.'



Hashmat Ali Chaudhry, Danyal Ali Chaudhry and Shaukat Anwar Chaudhry, holding the award. 15_t49kebabish01.

JANUARY ISSUE OUT NOW

Scottish Field
EDINBURGH DREAMING
Actress Louise Linton's love affair with the capital
THE SCOTS INDIAN CHIEFS
Plus MEET THE REAL JOHN SESSIONS HOW I LEARNT TO LOVE DOGS WHY WE SHOULD BAN BUCKFAST NEW HOLLYWOOD INCOME TAX
10 Top Scottish jokers of all time
RENAISSANCE MAN The former Buzzcocks drummer who found himself on the Isle of Harris

Louise Linton

ON LIFE IN THE CAPITAL

THE SCOTS INDIAN CHIEFS

Meet the real John Sessions
How I learnt to love dogs
Why we should ban Buckfast

10

OF THE BEST SCOTTISH JOKERS OF ALL TIME

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www.scottishfield.co.uk

Pianists look to hills for inspiration

TONIGHT (Friday) the Beinn Artair Piano Trio, named after the Cobbler's three distinctive summits, will tinkle the ivories at Kintyre Music Club

Three friends: Alice Rickards, Sonia Cromarty and Oliver Rundell formed the trio with the intention of playing some of the best classical music ever written. The young musicians have a great love and enthusiasm for music, which is more than matched by their wonderful musicianship, making their concerts exciting and inspiring.

For their Campbeltown concert the Trio will perform trios by Mozart, Judith Weir and Ernest Chausson.

Violinist Alice Rickards is a member of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and has the distinction of being their only Antipodean musician.

Alice was raised on a cattle farm near Armidale, in northern New South Wales, and before moving to the UK in 2003 completed a performance degree at the Queensland Conservatorium in Australia.

She gained a masters with distinction at the Royal Academy of Music, London and has enjoyed a varied career in chamber music, performing Australian repertoire through to new commissions at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival.

With a love for the sound of gut strings, she has also performed with early music ensembles including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the King's Consort.

Aberdeen-born Sonia Cromarty studied cello and baroque cello at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, formerly the Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, gaining a first-class honours degree and post-graduate diploma with distinction.

While at college she won many prizes for solo and ensemble playing.

Since graduating she has enjoyed a busy and varied freelance career. Highlights have included tours of South America, China and Greenland, while closer to home she has performed across Europe and the



The Beinn Artair Piano Trio.

UK including the BBC Proms, the Edinburgh Festival and the St Magnus Festival, Orkney.

Sonia particularly enjoys chamber music and is also a member of Daniel's Beard Ensemble

and the Rhona Mackay Trio.

She performs regularly with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Scottish Opera, and has appeared with the RSN, Scottish Bal-

let, the Scottish Ensemble, Paragon Ensemble and Red Note Ensemble, and also enjoys bringing music to the community through teaching and education projects in a wide range of settings.

Oliver Rundell, the group's pianist, studied Music at Cambridge University, where he was organ scholar at Corpus Christi College and subsequently trained at the National Opera Stu-

dio. From 2002 to 2010 he was a full-time member of the music staff at Scottish Opera, where he worked on more than 30 productions, including Wagner's Ring Cycle.

Between 2010 and 2015, Oliver was the resident coach in the opera school of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, a post which he combined with a busy freelance career as conductor and pianist throughout the UK.

In 2015, he returned to Scottish Opera to take on the role of Chorus Master. He is increasingly in demand as a trainer of youth orchestras in Scotland and has worked with groups from Glasgow, St Andrews and Aberdeenshire.

An enthusiastic performer of contemporary music, he has conducted several premieres for the Research Ensemble and in 2010 organised a rare performance of Maurizio Kagel's 'Eine Brise' for 111 cyclists.

The performance starts at 7.30pm and tickets are available at the door of the Lorne and Lowland Old Hall priced at £10, children are free. For further details see kintyremusicclub.co.uk

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SOUTHEND BURNS SUPPER

Friday 22nd January 2016

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7.30pm for 8.00pm

Names to Donald Taylor 01586 830256,
Willie McLean 01586 830601
or any Committee Members.

Inveraray & District Accordion & Fiddle Club

Inveraray Inn
Wednesday 13th January
At 8.00pm
Guest Artistes
From Acharacle
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Supporting players most
welcome

KINTYRE MUSIC CLUB

Presents
**BEINN ARTAIR
PIANO TRIO**
Lorne & Lowland Church
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7.30pm
£10 at the door
(students free)

The Royal British Legion Scotland

Campbeltown Branch
FORMAL MEETING
Lodge 141 Recreational
Club
Friday 8th January @
1930hrs.
Dress formal

Kintyre Antiquarian &
Natural History Society
**'Net-working: The Story of
Net-making in Kintyre'**
an illustrated talk by Elaine
McChesney
in the Ardshiel Hotel,
Campbeltown,
on Wednesday 13 January
2016, at 7.30 p.m.
All welcome (non-members
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Cinema to transport viewers to London's West End

CINEMAGOER'S will have an extra special show this weekend as London's famous theatre is brought to Campbeltown.

This weekend at the Victoria Hall, a fantastic line up of movies, including the final instalment of 'The Hunger Games' and Pixar's latest family adventure 'The Good Dinosaur', is coupled with a West End production of Oscar Wilde's famous 'The Importance of Being Earnest'.

The recording, captured live in London's Vaudeville Theatre in October 2015, saw one of Britain's most respected actors, and the star of Poirot, David Suchet, play the role of the formidable Lady Bracknell.

Superb satire

Directed by Adrian Noble, who also shot 'Amadeus' and 'The King's Speech', Wilde's superb satire on Victorian manners is one of the funniest plays in the English language. The stellar cast also includes Emily Barber and Michael Benz.

This much loved and exhilarating masterpiece, with its high farce

and witty dialogue, have helped make 'The Importance of Being Earnest' Wilde's most enduringly popular play.

January's screenings kick off with Pixar's latest adventure 'The Good Dinosaur', in which the asteroid, thought to have wiped out the dinosaurs, missed earth altogether, allowing them to evolve instead of humans.

Arlo the Aptosaurus forms an unlikely friendship with Spot, a Neanderthal boy, and the two embark on an epic adventure to reunite Arlo with his beloved family.

In the spectacular conclusion to the global hit franchise, Katniss Everdeen, played by Jennifer Lawrence, faces her final battle in 'The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part Two'.

The finale sees Katniss reunited with her closest friends as they risk their lives to liberate their fellow citizens, while tyrannical President Snow grows ever more obsessed with destroying her.

Visually stunning, 'Sunset Song' is a beautiful, emotionally powerful period drama of love, family and war

adapted from Lewis Grassie Gibbon's classic Scottish novel.

At the turn of the 20th century, life is tough for farm girl Chris Guthrie, played by Agyness Deyn, who is living in a poverty-stricken Scottish rural community. Her father, Peter Mullan, is a violent religious maniac who beats her brother and forces himself on her mother.

Handsome

As the family shatters in the wake of a brace of tragedies, Chris is drawn to handsome neighbour Ewan. But the outbreak of the Great War is about to change everybody's lives forever.

An adaptation of a Patricia Highsmith novel, 'Carol' follows two women, played by Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, who find themselves in an unexpected love affair in 1950's New York.

Trapped in a loveless marriage and now caught in a relationship outwith all of the era's social norms, Carol is forced to choose between her family and her new love.

Cate Blanchett is being hotly tipped for an Oscar for her stunning per-

formance, while Rooney Mara tied for Best Actress at the Palme d'Or earlier this year.

Screen Times:

Saturday January 9: The Good Dinosaur (PG) 2.30pm; The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 2 (12A) 5pm; Sunset Song (15) 8pm.

Sunday January 10: The Good Dinosaur (PG) 12pm; The Importance of Being Earnest 3pm; Carol (15) 6pm.

Adults: £6.50, Concessions: £5, Family of 4: £20. Book by card in advance online (50p per ticket booking fee), or cash on the door.



Jennifer Lawrence faces her final 'Hunger Games' battle.



Powerful period drama, 'Sunset Song'.



Oscar favourite and Palme d'Or nominee, 'Carol'.



Pixar's latest family offering, 'The Good Dinosaur'.

Campbeltown Picture House
at the **Victoria Hall**

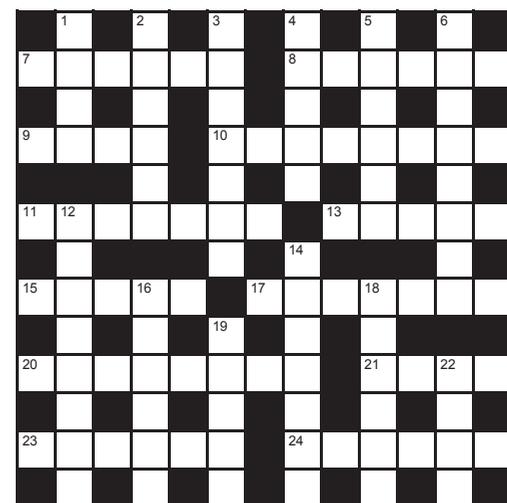
Saturday 9 January
2:30pm **The Good Dinosaur** (PG) 101 mins
Pixar's stunning boy-meets-dino adventure
5:00pm **The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Pt 2**
(12A) 121 mins Spectacular conclusion of the global hit
8:00pm **Sunset Song** (15) 133 mins
Powerful adaptation of Lewis Grassie Gibbon's great novel

Sunday 10 January
12:30pm **The Good Dinosaur** (PG) 101 mins
3:00pm **The Importance of Being Earnest**
148 mins Captured live theatre production of Wilde's loved comic masterpiece, starring David Suchet as Lady Bracknell
6:00pm **Carol** (15) 106 mins
Cate Blanchett stars in one of the most acclaimed films of 2015 about an unexpected love affair in 50s New York

Advance booking: www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk
Tickets also at Victoria Hall 30 mins before screenings
Adults £6.50 Concessions: £5.00 Family of 4: £20.00
The Importance of Being Earnest Adults £12.00 Concessions £10.00
Presented by Campbeltown Community Business & Film Mobile Scotland in collaboration with The Royal Hotel

ALBA COMMUNITARIUM COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND THE ROBERTSON TRUST FILM MOBILE

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- 7 Rotten (6)
- 8 Representative (6)
- 9 Food counter (4)
- 10 Skin infection (8)
- 11 Structure of wording (7)
- 13 Main body (5)
- 15 Andean animal (5)
- 17 Run in small amounts (7)
- 20 Fashion industry (3,5)
- 21 Hand warmer (4)
- 23 Nearly (6)
- 24 Barely make (3,3)

Down

- 1 Alike (4)
- 2 A separation between to groups in a larger group (6)
- 3 Senior commander (7)
- 4 Cheeky (5)
- 5 Straw hat (6)
- 6 Slash (8)
- 12 Steady (8)
- 14 Large box for cooling dramatically (7)
- 16 Falling star (6)
- 18 Tilting of the road (6)
- 19 Ray (5)
- 22 Both animal and human found in the countryside (4)

Last week's solution





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WHAT IS your New Year's resolution for 2016? Find a more fulfilling career, learn new skills or even start a new business? Receive counselling for an ongoing personal issue? What about that old chestnut that everyone seems to resolve after the holiday season – lose weight or get fitter?

As C.S. Lewis said: 'You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.'

And while it can seem like an impossible task to keep fit, happy and healthy amidst today's hectic schedules, as we usher in the New Year changes – big or small – can have a positive impact on our outlook.

Countless studies indicate that anywhere between 75 to 95 per cent of people fail to achieve their resolutions.

According to experts, one of the main reasons people fail is because they set resolutions about what they 'should' do, rather than what they really want to do. You have a better chance of fulfilling your New Year's resolution if you look at gaining something fabulous rather than 'giving up something' – particularly if it's something you enjoy. For example, rather than looking at 'giving up' food to lose weight, focus on how fit, healthy and confident you will feel when you achieve your goal.

New Year's resolutions don't have to be something to dread. Becoming an apprentice or taking college courses are a fun and interesting way to improve your earning potential or start a new career. If you're guilty of us-

ing your spare time to do housework, shopping or other tasks, make this year the year you resolve to set aside some time each week just for you. Ideally, remove yourself from distractions at home and ensure other family members know that this time out is non-negotiable. Why not use this time to try something new? Learning a new skill or rediscovering your love for something is good for the soul, and can boost

self-esteem. Lose yourself in something creative – jewellery making, flower arranging, cake decorating or drawing, for example.

Weight loss and improved fitness are usually at the top of resolutions lists, but are often the most difficult to achieve. Don't make the mistake of thinking exercise has to be full-throttle and that you have to be pounding the treadmill until you hurt all over. Aim to fit in just

30 minutes a day of some kind of physical activity. There are a range of exercise classes in Argyll – how about trying Zumba, Pilates or yoga, for example? Or you could look at ways to make exercise more integral to the whole family's lifestyle, by taking up walking or cycling. A new haircut and colour-and-beauty regime can make you feel and look better in no time at all. Many of us shy away from changing our

look, but just a subtle revamp – say, cutting a wispy fringe into your hair, or swapping poker-straight locks for gently tousled – can 're-energise' your look. Consult with your hair stylist about a cut or colour that flatters and is easy to care for. And once you see how great your new look is, you just might be more motivated to start an exercise routine.

Resolving to get counselling for an ongoing personal

issue is the best way to really make a difference in your life. Whether it's the desire to quit smoking, stop destructive habits or create more harmony within the family unit, counsellors can help in ways we can't help ourselves.

There is no shortcut to happiness, but the good news is that making even the smallest adjustments can help us attain that elusive state to which we all aspire in 2016.

New Year Business Gateway workshops...

Business Start-up

A one and a half day workshop incorporating: business planning, finance, marketing and market research.

January - 13-14 - Lochgilphead; February - 2-3 - Mull

Pricing for Profit - 10am-3pm

Help businesses identify working capital requirements, understand different pricing strategies and pricing for profit, identify break-even point and manage profitability.

January - 27, Inveraray

Practical Basic Book-keeping - 9.30am-12.30pm

A half day workshop shows how book-keeping is used to generate the financial information needed for Income Tax, VAT, Corporation Tax, PAYE and National Insurance contributions.

January - 28, Lochgilphead; February - Mull

Developing your Business Skills - 10am-1pm

Develop skills needed to successfully run a business: time management, planning, communication, networking and collaboration.

February - 2 - Oban

Marketing your Business - 10am-4pm

Help businesses review existing marketing activity and develop a realistic marketing plan to meet business objectives and budget.

February - 4, Oban; March - 1, Inveraray

Introduction to Social Media - 1-5pm

Are you very new to or still sceptical about the idea of using social media for your business? Gain a basic understanding of what social media is, how to start using it and what benefits there may be in using it for business.

February - 9 - Oban;

Doing more with Social Media - 9.30am-1.30pm

Are you already using social media for your business? Do you want to use it more effectively and find out how to link to your marketing strategy to promote and grow your business?

February - 10 - Oban;

Funding your Business - 10am-1pm

Identify what the funding needs of the business are, what potential sources of funding are available and what the business needs to provide to access these sources.

February - 11, Oban

Introduction to Trading Online - 10am-4pm

A workshop that will focus on some of the basics required for trading online, and will look at the various tools, platforms and payment options available to everyone and will include some information of the legal requirements.

February - 16, Oban

Get your Business Noticed (PR on a Budget) - 10am-4pm

This workshop will help businesses understand how to create their own advertising, generate publicity themselves with minimum spend and understand how to plan and deliver their own PR and advertising campaigns to meet their business objectives.

February - 17, Ardrishaig

Becoming an Employer - 10am-1.30pm

Help small businesses create a structured plan for taking on staff and understand the process of employing people, covering legal obligations and good practice recruitment.

February - 18, Oban

Better Business Websites - 10am-3pm

What makes a good website? What does your design say about your business? Is your website content appropriate for your audience? And can people even find it on the first place? Some of the questions covered for businesses already live online. Businesses will examine how to make their existing website better through its' design, content, usability and Search Engine Optimisation.

February - 23, Inveraray

Is the Public Sector Right for You? - 9.30am-1.00pm

Are you ready to tender? This workshop will help you determine if your business is ready to start bidding and sets you on the first steps of the journey. This event is suitable for you if you are new to bidding; you are unsure if your business is ready to work with the public sector

February - 24, Lochgilphead

Build your own Business Website - 10am-4pm

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CARRADALE

History of Kintyre ring net boat brought back to life

AUTHOR Fiona Malkin netted more than she expected when renovating an old fishing vessel.

Purchased by her husband, their joint restoration of the herring boat Shemaron CN244, a frequent visitor to Carradale, Tarbert and Campbeltown, unearthed a treasure trove of ring net fishing history on the West Coast.



Shemaron on Loch Riddon.

The boat's past life, enhanced by fishermen's oral histories, inspired Mrs Malkin's 'Shemaron: A Beautiful Endeavour'.

The book interweaves accounts of voyages, alongside the frustrations Fiona encountered while renovating the aged boat.

The book delves into the intimate and often turbulent interaction between fishermen and the sea.

The boat's purchase inspired Fiona to set up the Ring Net Heritage Trust in June 2015.

The trust aims to promote and protect what it believes is a valued part of Scottish fishing heritage, and will provide a platform to share involvement with Shemaron.

Any author proceeds from 'Shemaron: A Beautiful Endeavour' will go directly to the Ring Net Heritage Trust to provide funding towards the ongoing project.

TARBERT



From left: Duncan MacGregor, from Tarbert Music Festival committee, Margaret McNeill, from Tarbert Seafood Festival committee, Sheena Ferguson, from Senior Citizen's helpers committee with Karlina Hamlin.

08_calendars01

Tarbert charity calendars cash tops £2,000

A TARBERT couple boosted village event committees with the proceeds from their yearly charity calendar sales.

Steven and Karlina Hamlin selected the best scenic images that were posted on a community social media group, 'All Things Tarbert', throughout 2015 to create the calendars, which were sold for a minimum donation of £4.

Donated

The keen photographers donated £700 each to the Tarbert Music Festival,

the Seafood Festival and the Senior Citizens Lunch.

Of 500 calendars produced by the Hamlins there are just under 10 left. Any money raised from those remaining will be split between the charities.

Karlina said: 'We did this last year, and each time we have given the money to Tarbert charities.'

'I think it is important to give the money back to the local community because we are using the local online page to collect the work.'

GIGHA



The helicopter taking off after repairs were made.

Scottish Hydro Electric engineers fly in to restore Gigha Power

A POWER cut hit the north of Gigha when Storm Frank ravaged parts of the Highlands.

Flown in

On Wednesday of last week two Scottish Hydro engineers were

flown in by helicopter to restore power.

Working in poor conditions, the pair successfully made the necessary repairs with the help of local Hydro employee, Andy Clements.



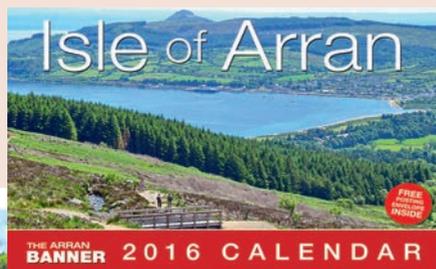
The engineers help restore power to the island.

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TB Advantage to give farmers upper hand in tuberculosis fight

A GROUNDBREAKING genetic index will help dairy farmers in their continued fight against bovine tuberculosis (bTB).

The new index, named the TB Advantage, will be published on January 19 at the 2016 British Cattle Conference and



Marco Winters, head of genetics for AHDB Dairy.

will help farmers breed dairy cows with better resistance to bTB.

The index, the first in the world to be developed to help breed resilience to bTB into herds, will bring an extra control measure on the infectious disease of cattle which has brought long-term financial hardship to large sectors of the farming industry.

It will give an indication of an animal's genetic susceptibility to bTB, highlighting those which may be more prone to infection or, at the other extreme, those which have a higher degree of resistance to the disease.

By selecting bulls with a high score for TB Advantage, farmers will be able to breed better re-

sistance into their herds, which, like all genetic improvement, will accumulate over the generations leading to long-term benefits.

Used alongside existing bTB control measures, including high levels of biosecurity, protecting cattle against infected wildlife and routinely monitoring cattle for the disease, the index is expected to play a part in the plan to eradicate bTB from UK farming altogether.

It has been developed following extensive research undertaken by the University of Edinburgh, Roslin Institute and Scotland's Rural College and supported by Defra, the Welsh Government and the Agriculture and Hor-

ticulture Development Board (AHDB).

The TB Advantage will be expressed on a scale which typically runs from -3 to +3, similar to many genetic indexes farmers are familiar with using. The average TB Advantage for all bulls with an index is zero.

Almost all Holstein bulls, both daughter-proven and young genomic sires, will have an index, and those female Holsteins which have had their genotype measured will also be scored for TB Advantage.

Marco Winters, head of genetics for AHDB Dairy said: 'Tackling any problem through breeding is a long-term, sustainable approach



Holstein dairy cows are a familiar sight in Kintyre.

and can yield worthwhile rewards.

'However, breeders of dairy cattle have to consider a number of traits which are important to their business and their cattle, and breeding for TB resistance should be only a small part of their broader breeding strate-

gy.' Professor Mike Coffey, who led the team at SRUC in analysing more than 650,000 cattle records as part of the process of developing the index, said: 'The heritability of bTB resistance is about nine per cent.

'This means that of all

the variation we can detect in the trait, about nine per cent is due to genetics. This is on a par with some other health traits, including Somatic Cell Count, which dairy farmers have been improving through breeding for a number of years.

Hogmanay payments reach Scots farmers

THE FIRST direct farm basic payments, which have been causing significant cash flow problems for many farmers, have now been paid out.

Around 3,500 farmers and crofters had payments authorised, meaning they received a first instalment of up to 75 per cent of Basic Payments and up to 90 per cent of Greening from Hogmanay onwards.

These arrive on the back of delays caused by the complex Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform, which involved the calculation of four million payment entitlements and the processing of around 21,000 Single Applica-

tion Form (SAF) applications.

The Scottish Government has also set up an Entitlements and Payments Information Helpline, which aims to answer any questions about correspondence sent over the next few months, general queries about new entitlements, and questions about payments for the 2015 scheme year.

First instalment

Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead said: 'Our aim was to pay a first instalment of at least 70 per cent and even higher if possible – whilst at the same time doing all we can to avoid Scottish farmers facing incorrect pay-

ments, or the loss of funding through EU disallowance that their counterparts elsewhere faced in the past.

'My officials have informed me that this first batch of payments includes the most straightforward claims to process, which means we have been able to approve a first instalment of 75 per cent of Basic Payments and 90 per cent of Greening.

'I would like to again thank farmers for their patience, and to urge any individuals who are experiencing difficulties to contact their local area office or the new RPID customer helpline that launched at the start of this month.'

Land Reform Bill should include tougher deer management

ENVIRONMENTAL charities are supporting the call by the Argyll and Bute MSP for deer management in Scotland to be tightened up through the Land Reform Bill.

Michael Russell, a member of The Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee believes the current system, whereby the management of deer numbers by landowners is not working.

The committee have urged the Scottish Government to consider strengthening the approach to deer management.

With the backing of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, RSPB Scotland, Cairngorms Campaign, Ram-

blers Scotland, John Muir Trust and Woodland Trust Scotland, Mr Russell has suggested changes to the Land Reform Bill.

The amendments call for giving Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) more powers to ensure that deer populations are better controlled by deer management groups to protect the public interest.

Mr Russell said: 'Recent information from SNH confirms that the voluntary system of deer management is not working.

'It requires considerable legislative strengthening if it is to be an effective way of controlling the ever increasing number of deer across Scotland.

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Children who attain the age of five years between 1 March 2016 and 28 February 2017 should be registered for education during the week commencing 18 January 2016.

Parents concerned should take their children to the appropriate local primary school on one of the school days during the above week between the hours of 10.00am and 3.00pm.

Gaelic Medium Education

Gaelic Medium Education is available in the following schools:- Bowmore Primary School, Islay; Tìree Primary School, Tìree; Salen Primary School, Mull; Rockfield Primary School, Oban; Strath of Appin Primary School, by Oban and Sandbank Primary School, Dunoon. Further information on Gaelic Medium Education can be obtained from Don McAllister, Education Officer, donald.mcallister@argyll-bute.gov.uk

If your child is not registered to attend preschool education within Argyll & Bute Council area you should produce your child's birth certificate when registering for Education. A leaflet providing information for parents on enrolment of children in school and giving details of placing request procedures (including under age placing requests) may be obtained from any school or from Community Services, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon, PA23 8AJ (Tel: 01369 704000).

CLELAND SNEEDON, Executive Director: Community Services

PUBLIC NOTICES

ARDRISHAIG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AGM Tuesday 26 January 7pm Argyll Arms Hotel Ardrishaig All Welcome

COURIER PUBLIC NOTICES ADVERTISER PUBLIC NOTICES COURIER

PERSONAL NOTICES

GOLDEN WEDDING



Congratulations to Jacqueline & Fergie

Have a great time at your party on Saturday!

Lots of love from all the family xxx

RETIREMENT - TOMMY McGRORY

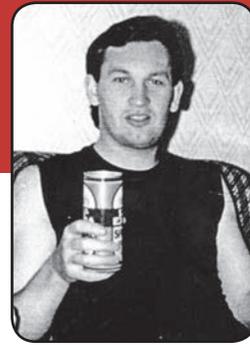
I would like to say a massive THANK YOU to McFadyens Contractors for the most fantastic send off they gave me on the occasion of my retirement following 50 years of service to the firm. The dinner on the 19th was an occasion which will always be remembered with pleasure. It was a truly special night, thanks to everyone who came to share it with us.

To all my colleagues, family and friends thank you also for the many gifts, cards, flowers and good wishes that I've received, I am sincerely grateful.

May I take this opportunity to wish McFadyens every success in the future and to you all have a very happy and healthy 2016!

Cheers, Tommy.

60 Years Young Stewart!

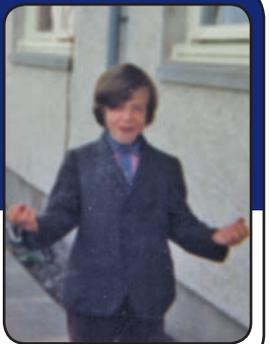


Love from Marie & all the family xx

THANK YOU

Mrs Margaret McMillan, 3 Witchburn Road, would like to thank her family at home and away, and her friends and neighbours for all the gifts, flowers, cards and telephone calls received after her operation. Special thanks to Jan for all the care and attention. All was very much appreciated.

Look who is 50 on the 14th January



Happy Birthday Love, Mum & family xx

This little girl is our beautiful granddaughter, Erin Alexandra McSporran, who is 21 years old today, 8/1/16.



Happy Birthday to our wee star, we're so very proud of you and love you lots and lots, darling.

Granny & Granda xxx xxx

Have a clearout UNDER £100 FREE! and make some extra cash too



To place your ad in the Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser classified section call 01586 554646/01546 603077 or visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

COURIER COURIER PERSONAL NOTICES PERSONAL NOTICES

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!" (Romans 11:33).

BIRTHS



KIDD

On Christmas morning, in Nova Scotia, Canada, Aila Dawn, a daughter for Chris and Heather and a granddaughter for Ann and Garry Kidd, Lochgilhead.

SILVER WEDDINGS



MAXWELL - HERD

James to Sandra, at Kilmichael Glassary Parish Church, on January 11, 1991 by Rev Norman White.

DEATHS

CAMPBELL - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on December 22, 2015, Elizabeth Sinclair Campbell, in her 90th year, 19 Castlepark, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late Dugald and Flora Campbell, much loved sister of Margaret, Charlotte, Barbara and the late Florence, and a much loved aunt. Service will take place in the Highland Parish Church, on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of Cancer Research.

GALBRAITH - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on December 30, 2015, Colin Mitchell Galbraith, aged 66 years, of 7 Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig, and formerly of 7 Hillview Terrace, Ardrishaig, beloved son of the late Sandy and Rita Galbraith, a much loved brother of Doreen, loving uncle of Angie and dear brother-in-law of Jackie. A dear cousin to all the family and a good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service will be held at Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Friday, January 8, 2016, at 12.00 noon, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired, to Chest, Heart and Stroke.

GILLIES - Suddenly but peacefully, at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, on December 24, 2015, John Gillies, in his 66th year, Kilmichael Cottage, Campbeltown, dearly beloved father of Amanda, Stephen and Yvonne and

a loving grandfather. A private cremation service will take place in Cardross Crematorium.

HOBBS - Peacefully, at the Margaret Kerr Unit, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, on December 26, 2015, Jean Mary Hobbs, in her 71st year, formerly of Amod Farm, Southend and Low Askomil, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Chris Hobbs, much loved mother of Matthew and Andrew and a loving granny of Poppy and Lucy. A graveside service will take place in the Keil Cemetery, Southend, on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 12.00 noon, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

MCARTHUR - Peacefully, at Auchinlee Care Home, Campbeltown, on December 30, 2015, Alexina Taylor Spiers (Ina), in her 97th year, formerly of Meadowpark, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Dugald Gillespie McArthur, much loved mother of the late Duncan Ralston McArthur and grandmother of Diane. Funeral private.

MCLEAN - Suddenly at his home, Earadale, 6 Kilmory Road, Lochgilhead, on December 24, 2015, David McLean, aged 87 years (Retired Inspector, Argyll Police), beloved husband of the late Etta Ryans, much loved dad of Kenneth and Ian, dearly loved father-in-law and grandfather. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held in Lochgilhead Parish Church, on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, followed by interment at Achnabreac Cemetery. Sadly missed.

MILLIGAN - Peacefully, at the Kintyre Care Centre, Campbeltown, on December 28, 2015, Josephine Hogg Ballentyne (Josie), in her 74th year, The Old Schoolhouse, Southend, dearly beloved wife of Jack Milligan, much loved mother of Jo-Anne, Carol and Jim and a loving granny of Loren, Lewis and Jack.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

CAMPBELL - Jean. There will be a Service of Celebration for the life of the late Jean Campbell (formerly of Glenholm, High Askomil, Campbeltown), on Friday, January 8, 2016 at 2.00pm, in Lorne and Lowland Church. After the service there will be a time to share in fellowship over a cuppa in the New Hall. Please do not wear 'mourning' clothes or a sombre expression! It was Jean's wish that we should celebrate her life and rejoice that she is at home with her Lord. This invitation is open to everyone.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FERGUSON - Dadie, Charles, Lorna and family of the late Charles John Ferguson would like to thank everyone most sincerely for all the kind expressions of sympathy, visits, telephone calls, flowers and home baking

received during this very difficult time. Thanks also to Rev Dr Roddy MacLeod and Rev Cliff Acklam for comforting service, Francis Madden, Organist for his beautiful music and Angus MacColl for his wonderful piping. Thanks to Dr Phillips and staff at the Mid Argyll Hospital for care given and Billy and Neil, Scottish Ambulance Service. Sincere thanks to Roddy and Fiona, Donald MacDonald Undertakers for caring and efficient funeral arrangements, to Morna, Florist and Stag Hotel for lovely lunch. We would like to thank everyone for their attendance at church and graveside, a special mention to members of Oban Pipe Band. Finally, a very special thank you to Alasdair, Mary, Colin, Karen and Bobby for being there for us all. Retiral collection has so far raised £1,115 for British Heart Foundation and Lochgilhead and District Macmillan Cancer Support Group. Heartfelt thanks to you all.

SMALL - The family of the late Jolyon Small would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness and support, along with thanks for the many kind expressions of sympathy. Thanks also to the staff of Kintyre Care Home. Our thanks also to Sheena Johnston (Humanist Society) for conducting such an uplifting service and to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for caring and efficient arrangements. Thanks also to the Coachhouse Inn for catering.

IN MEMORIAMS

MCLEAN - Agnes, Promoted to Glory on January 6, 2008. Our dearest nana, we miss you so much and think of you always. - Love, Senga, Sean and Millie, and Maureen, Eddie and family xxx. Precious memories of our dear mum. Forever in our hearts. - Rene, Flora and Carolin xxx.

MCMILLAN - In loving memory of our dad, Andy, taken from us on January 13, 2015. Gone but never forgotten.

- Lorna, Andrew and Daniel. **MCMILLAN** - In loving memory of my dear husband, William (Bill), who died January 5, 2000. The years pass by, but memories stay, Loved and remembered every day.

- From his wife, Mary and sons, Robert and Laurence. **MCSPORRAN** - In loving memory of John, formerly of Glenside, a much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who passed away on January 7, 2015. Sadly missed.

- From all the family, at home and away. **TURNER** - In loving memory of our grandson, Jonathan, died January 10, 2008.

Today, tomorrow, our whole life through, We will always love and remember you. - From Gran Tottie, Tarbert.

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"

Sunday 10th January Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 10th January 2016 Skipness Service 10.00am Mr John Morrison Tarbert Service 11.30am Rev. Walter Ritchie Kilberry Service 2pm T.B.A.

Kirk Session Meeting Tuesday 12th January Tarbert Church Hall, 7.30pm

For all church enquiries and pastoral care Contact Rev. Hilda Smith, Interim Moderator on 07826 235735

Everyone very welcome Tarbert & Kilberry SCO02622 Skipness SCO04280

Scottish Episcopal Churches Everyone Welcome

Christ Church Bishopston Road, Lochgilhead (SC013787)

Sundays 11.00 am Eucharist service Coffee & Cake follows the service

St Columba's, Pottaloch, nr Kilmartin (SC031391)

1st Sunday of the month 9.00am Eucharist Service

3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong Scottish Prayer Book

All Saints, Inveraray (SC025646) Saturdays Eucharist Service

Father Simon Mackenzie Priest in Charge (of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran) 01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILHEAD

Holy Mass Sunday 10am

ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm

ST KIERAN'S CAMPBELTOWN Saturday 5pm Fr. David Connor 01546 602380

All Welcome (SCO002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 10th January 2016 Morning Worship Kilmartin 10.00 am All welcome SCO 02121

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

SUNDAY 10th January 2016 11.00am

Worship Service for all ages followed by a light lunch

SPEAKER: Norman Weir 'Exploring New Frontiers'

THURSDAY 14th JANUARY 2016 10.00 am Prayer, Word and Sharing

All Welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Sunday 10th January 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

Seirbheis Ghàidhlig Gaelic Service in Lochgair Church at 3 pm

All Welcome

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday Service 11.00 am with Sunday School followed by refreshments

Pastor Chris Holden mainly music 10.00 - 11.30 am every Thursday (term time only) Registration required

We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

baptist union of scotland SC043322

Highland Parish Church

SCO02493

Sunday 10th January 2016 The service will be held in the Church at 11.15am and will be conducted by Rev Chris Fulcher

Badminton club meets in Kirk Street Hall on Tuesday Primary 1-5: 6.30-7.30pm Primary 6-7: 7.30-8.30pm

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown

Sunday 10 January 2016 11.00am Family Communion Service Mr Gordon Cosgrove

For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 0586 551237. www.springbankchurch.co.uk SCO14646

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH Scottish Charity Number SCO11686

Friday 8th January Lunch Club 12.00noon New Hall

Sunday 10th January Service 11.15 Next Generation Triple C Creche Rev P Wallace

Monday 11th January Guild New Hall 7.30pm

Tuesday 12th January Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys 6.00pm Junior Section 7.15pm Church Hall

Thursday 14th January Choir 7.30pm

Friday 15th January Lunch Club 12.00noon New Hall

free church of scotland

George Street, Campbeltown

Saturday 9th January 9.00am Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 10th January 11.15am Worship Service Rev Finlay Mackenzie

Wednesday 13th January 12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer

All Welcome www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk Scottish Charity Number: SCO09980

Lochgilhead Baptist Church

All Welcome Pastor Rev Derek Gibson

All Welcome

Sunday 10th January 2016 Evening Worship 6.30pm mainly music

Tuesdays at 10.15am Jumpstart

Fridays from 10am Scottish Charity SC015187

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



WHEN people ask me where we live, I love to tell them that we live on the edge of the Atlantic ocean.

The response is usually that it must be a very beautiful place to be.

This is undoubtedly true and I just love living here amidst the beauty and drama of Argyll.

With our two collies we are out for at least two walks every day, regardless of the weather.

The gales have certainly challenged us, and often we've had to tuck down behind the sand dunes when the sleet hurls itself into our faces.

Carys and Jazz snuggle in with us and seem pleased to share this respite from the storm.

Last Saturday was an amazing day and I have never seen the waves more dramatic.

We stood on Killegruer shore as the sea became a pounding, pulsating panorama of huge white breakers.

They screamed across the ocean and smashed onto the shore as the spume was tossed high into the sky.

We could hear the rocks rumbling underneath as they were lifted by the strength of the waves.

The white foam raced like skiers across the tops of the breakers and seemed to dance to the tune of their own sea shanty.

This visual feast was all in tones of white and grey, and I was enchanted by its beauty.

I had not realised just how many tones of grey there are until I got Maggie a set of 36 grey pastels for her painting collection.

As we watched the sky change I could see shades I had never really noticed before and realised there were at least 36 such varieties of one colour.

Once again we were grateful to our dogs, as without them, we would have missed the beauty and wonder of the storm.

We live on the edge of the ocean and I would not change it for the world.

From our files:

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

January 11, 1991

The cruel sea: town centre flooded, shore roads breached

THE SEA invaded Campbeltown last Saturday afternoon, when an abnormally high tide welled up through drains and sewers and spilled over the harbour wall to cause the worst town centre flooding in 67 years.

High water lapped gardens and doorsteps from Glenramskill to Grogport on the east coast of Kintyre and cleft the shore roads in several places at Kildalloig, Southend and Skipness. Area engineer Blair Fletcher estimates nearly £100,000 worth of storm damage to roads in Kintyre.

In Campbeltown, water up to a foot deep covered 70yd of Main Street from the Royal

Hotel to MacGrory's, 100yd of Shore Street from Main Street almost to St John Street, 50yd of Bolgam Street from its junction with Burnbank Place, 30yd of Lochend Street at Kinloch Park and 30yd of the Esplanade by the War Memorial.

Shops were closed, doorways sandbagged and power shut off against short-circuiting of underground cables as the tide crept up.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

January 13, 1966

Islay Lifeboat saves grounded ship's crew

The seven-man crew of the coaster, Eileen M, were rescued by Islay Lifeboat yesterday, when she ran aground on a reef a mile east-south-east of the Mull of Oa. They were later landed at Port Ellen.

The drama began shortly before 7am, when Eileen M., in passage to Port Ellen with a cargo full of diesel oil, radioed her plight. The message was picked up by Southend Coastguard Station which called out the lifeboat.

As the lifeboat – launched from Port Askaig at 7.30am – raced to the scene, the stricken vessel's position steadily worsened and, when the lifeboatmen went alongside, the crew had abandoned ship and were huddled together in a rubber dinghy close to the Eileen M, which was 90 per cent submerged, with only a small part of her superstructure visible.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

January 8, 1916

Red Cross Fete: Public again magnificently support a worthy cause

The leading local attraction on New Year's Day and on Monday was the Red Cross Fete in the Victoria Hall in aid of the funds of the Campbeltown branch of the Red Cross Society.

This included the endowment of two Campbeltown beds – one in a French hospital and one in a Scottish hospital – and also the endowment of five cots in Red Cross motorboats at the Dardanelles.

The object of the Fete appealed strongly to the residents of the town and district, and to friends outside, and once again the readiness of the people to support a worthy cause with the most open-handed liberality and with the greatest cordiality was demonstrated, the result of the venture being in the highest degree satisfactory. A sum of over £600 was realised.



Donald beats Rangers Danny Wilson to a header. Photo: Donald Fullarton

Donald takes on the Gers

A YOUNG Campbeltown footballer had a day to remember last Saturday when he lined up against Glasgow Rangers.

Dumbarton forward, Donald McCallum, 19, was making his fifth consecutive appearance for the SPFL Championship side.

The former Campbeltown Grammar pupil, a Son's youth team

member since the age of 16, started in attack and played a full hour.

He even had a fleeting chance to score with a header midway through the first half, before league leaders Rangers took control and eventually won 6-0.

Speaking after the match, Donald said: 'It was a great experience to play against Rangers. They are a huge club,

and a quality team across the park. Everything about their play was high level.

'While it was a disappointing result, we are a part-time club, so it is always difficult playing against full-time teams, especially of that quality.

'I am looking forward to our next game against Queen of the South in the Scottish Cup.'

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YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

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

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

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

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed

by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

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

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

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of

the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

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

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

instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

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

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

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

Four Kintyre runners qualify to share same turf as Mo Farah

FOUR KINTYRE athletes have been selected to compete on the same course as Britain's best ever distance runner.

Kenny Campbell, Cameron Campbell, Gregor Campbell and Matthew Turner have all made the cut to represent the West District at the Great Edinburgh Cross Country run.

The four runners will share the same track as British legend Mo Farah, who is using the international division of the race as part of his preparation for his Olympic titles' defence in Rio de Janeiro later this year.

Senior male

Taking place in the capital on January 9, Kenny Campbell, fresh from his fifth Slog in the Sand victory, will run for the senior male team as a V40 representing his club Ronhill Cambuslang.

On qualifying, Kenny said: 'I qualified through finishing in the top 12 at the West Cross Country Champion-

ships on December 12 at Bellahouston, but it was a complete bonus as I never expected to qualify.

'This is my first time there and it might be my last ever, because of my age. I think I am the only master that has qualified this year.'

Successful

He also revealed he is eager to see Britain's most successful long-distance runner tackle the same course in the international class of the competition after his race.

He said: 'I cannot wait to see how he and the other top boys really do it.'

Cameron Campbell, of Glenbarr, who also took a Slog in the Sand title last month, will compete in the under-15 section, representing his team Shettleston Harriers, while his brother Gregor will compete in the under-13 section.

Matthew Turner, also of Shettleston Harriers, will compete in the Senior Male section.

Never too young (or old) to start swimming

CAMPBELTOWN'S Aqualibrium swimming pool reopened on Tuesday.

Argyll and Bute Council has a new programme of courses for swimmers, from babies to people of any age who want to learn a skill which could save their life.

Early Years Adult and Child classes, which are the subject of our photographs, are designed for babies to pre-school children



Hannah McCallum 10 months.

on Mondays at 11am; Tuesdays and Thursday at 6pm and Fridays at 2pm.

The emphasis is on encouraging movement and developing water confidence through structured play using fun, games and songs.

Learn to Swim pre-school blocks of lessons, aimed at the three-and-a-half age range upwards, are a new addition for 2016, taking place on Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 1.45pm.

Levels One to Eight blocks of lessons on Monday and Tuesdays from 3.30pm and Saturdays from 10am are aimed at the same age group. The lessons encourage water confidence and develop core aquatic skills, teaching the four strokes.

On Thursdays at 5pm eight to 12-year-olds have a chance to try learning rookie life-



One-year-old Kate McKinnon and mum Mhairi.

guard skills. The blocks of lessons give an opportunity to explore water safety, gradually gaining independence and confidence while learning vital life skills.

For absolute beginners through to adults who can swim but would like to develop their skills by learning new strokes and techniques, there is an improver's course on Wednesdays from 8pm.

On the same day, but an hour earlier, another new addition for 2016 is Master's Skills and Drills sessions for the

competent swimmer who would like to improve their technique and fitness.



Rhona McSparran and three-year-old Niamh.

Heidbanger's Cup

THE Campbeltown Courier of Friday December 11 stated that the Heidbanger's Cup was presented to Dunaverty Golf Club by Jock MacVicar.

Mr MacVicar, who is still the Scottish Daily Express Golf correspondent, has subsequently said that it was in fact presented jointly by himself and his late father Angus.

Slog in the Sand

EMMA Moran gave Natalie Sharp a tough battle at Slog in the Sand on Sunday December 27, with the time gap between 2nd and 3rd being just 38 seconds. Emma's time was 50:19 not 59:10 as stated in the Courier.

Football fixtures

SAFL fixtures resume on Saturday after the Christmas and New Year break.

Scottish Amateur Cup, 5th Round – Dunoon v Leven United; Oban Saints v Craigshill Thistle; Premier Division – East Kilbride RR v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division One – Lochgilphead Red Star v Kings Park Rangers. Premier Division Two – Tarbert v Dumbarton Wanderers.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £1150

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



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

J Ronald
Princes Street
Campbeltown

N Roberston
Princes Street
Campbeltown

All you have to do

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

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

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

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday. 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.



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inside this week:

Four Kintyre runners qualify to share same turf as Mo Farah

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Swimmers ready to take the plunge. 25_c02dip05

'Orca' hunts great white in Campbeltown Loch

KINTYRE fishermen were surprised to see legendary Jaws shark hunter Quint chasing a great white at Dalintober.

A closer look would have revealed Pauline Bains, in a shark outfit, being chased by Gillian Hall in a cardboard replica of Quint's boat Orca during the third Dalintober Dip for Dosh.

More than 20 brave swimmers, most in fan-

cy dress, took a quick plunge into the icy waters of Campbeltown Loch, next to the crumbling Dalintober pier, egged on by a large crowd lining North Shore Street.

Brollies

The prize for the best dressed dippers went to jellyfish, Kenny and Joanne Blair who had converted a pair of transparent brollies.

Numbers of people

taking part were down on last year as many were suffering from a heavy cold. They were more than made up for by helpers and volunteers who provided warming soups and served up drinks in the sailing club afterwards.

A P7 pupil on holiday from Glasgow, Kiera Gillies, 11, joined the swimmers and although apprehensive beforehand said that she had

really enjoyed the experience.

The Chairman of Dalintober Beach Regeneration Group, Jamie MacLean, thanked all the volunteers and reserved special mention for Miss Hall and Mrs Bains who both work at Scotbet and only decided to take part when he asked them to put up a poster in the shop window.

In addition the pair completed an extra two sponsor forms to raise money for Campbeltown Hospital's Sunshine Room.

Mr MacLean said: 'Special thanks should go to paramedic Calum Lawson for giving up his day off to help us, to safety lifeguards Dave Morris and Alister Aitken, to the sailing club committee and members John McTaggart, Alastair Cousin, Frank McHardy, Michael Forman, and Billy McFadyen for opening and running the bar, Mhairi Reid for making soup and to all the people who took part.

The challenge is growing and getting bigger.' As Mr MacLean spoke a wit said: 'Perhaps you could change the timing to July.'



Fancy dress prize winners Joanne and Kenny Blair. 25_c02dip04

Right: Shark Pauline Bains and Orca captain Gillian Hall. 25_c02dip02



Racing into Campbeltown Loch. 25_c02dip06



Some of the fundraisers after the swim at the sailing club. 25_c02dip08



Dalintober Beach Regeneration Group Chairman and elf Jamie MacLean. 25_c02dip03



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