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Town shares in 'secret' £1.4m

Surprise will handouts prove a huge boost for Kintyre groups

EXCLUSIVE by GRAHAM CRAWFORD
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

£1 MILLION of a bequest has been shared among numerous groups and organisations in Campbeltown in the past year.

The windfall has proved a vital lifeline for some and a wonderful, unexpected boost for others.

It has also left the firm of solicitors disbursing the money feeling like a 'secret millionaire'.

'It has been a privilege and enormously satisfying to have played a role in helping so many worthy causes,' said Chris-

tian Kane of MacTaggart Solicitors.

'It was an unusual instruction and we tried to do it quietly and methodically, but lately it has become the town's worst-kept secret.

'This is not about us, though - we are just doing our job. This money was left by a Campbeltown lady, who will remain anonymous, and we felt the main beneficiaries should be from the area where she lived and worked.'

Sums given out have
Continued on Page 2



Sheena Armour, left and Paula McLean present John Forster with a cheque for £1,000 on behalf of the Kintyre Chorale. 20_c04chorale01

Chorale on-song with dialysis donation

THE KIDNEY Dialysis Campaign was given another fantastic funding boost when women's choir the Kintyre Chorale last week handed over £1,000 raised from its Concert of Favourites in November.

John Forster, dialysis cam-

paign secretary, said: 'We are extremely grateful. This generous donation is another step to providing better quality of life for dialysis patients in Kintyre and Islay, who even in the wintry weather we are experiencing are forced to make the long

journey thrice weekly to Alexandria for treatment.'

Paula McLean of the chorale said: 'We are delighted to support the dialysis campaign and continue the generosity shown by so many groups during the past few months.'

Concert to raise funds for Billy

A FUNDRAISER is being held tomorrow (Saturday) in aid of former Campbeltown man Billy Irving, who has been kept in India by a legal battle for the past 15 months.

The 34-year old was arrested in October 2013 while working on an anti-piracy boat, the Indian authorities claiming the ship was carrying illegal weapons and ammunition.

Billy's girlfriend Yvonne McHugh, who has visited him in India, is expecting the couple's first child in a few weeks.

Close friends of Billy have organised a concert in the Victoria Hall, featuring Kintyre bands as well as a raffle and an auction featuring the chance to spend a day with Billy on his return to Scotland.

Alix Geyer, one of the organisers, said: 'A lot of work has gone into the event and we have had a great response so far.'

'It has been a tough time for all connected and we hope the Campbeltown public will turn out to support one of their own.'

Tickets are still available from the Fish Shop on Longrow, Kintyre Hire and D M Brown on Main Street.

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Kintyre Park, home of Campbeltown Pupils AFC, hopes to have its pavilion redeveloped with the help of a £7,500 donation. 08_c02kintyreark01



These young tennis players can look forward to a full summer on the Campbeltown club's new courts.

Community g 'overwhelmin

'This wonderful act of generosity will

THIS year promises to be one of action for many groups in Kintyre thanks to the distribution of £1 million from an anonymous donor.

For the Kintyre Kidney Dialysis Campaign, a donation of £40,000 was transformative.

Overnight, the money secured plans to see a dialysis unit created in Campbeltown Hospital to end tortuous thrice-weekly round trips to Alexandria for Kintyre patients.

Donald Kelly, the campaign chairman, said: 'We were delighted that a donation of £40,000 was made available to us.'

Massive boost

'As well as giving the dialysis campaign a massive boost this enabled us to meet our year one com-

mitment as a community to the NHS.

'While our fundraising is ongoing we have been totally overwhelmed by the generosity of the Kintyre community.'

The Mull of Kintyre Run committee received a £1,000 donation in November.

Sid Gallagher, one of the race organisers, said: 'This fantastic donation proved vital in filling a funding gap for this year's race after we lost a big sponsor. It was a huge relief for us. We are very appreciative.'

'We have to raise a significant amount of money outwith entry revenues to meet the cost of the post-race catering, shower facilities at Aqualibrium and generous

goody bags.'

Campbeltown Lawn Tennis Club's Catherine Dobbie praised the fund for providing £16,000 which 'catalysed' the club's campaign for a new synthetic court surface.

Thrilled

She said: 'We were thrilled to receive such a generous donation. Almost all of our funding had to be sourced locally and we are extremely grateful to everyone who backed us. This donation covered roughly half of the cost of installing a much-needed new surface on two courts.'

'We have seen a membership increase and we are delivering more coaching for young players. It has

Surprise handouts prove huge boost for Kintyre groups

Continued from Page 1

lysis unit at Campbeltown Hospital.

The largest figure went to Children's Hospice Scotland (CHAS). 'It does enormous good in providing physical and emotional support, including respite care, for the families of

terminally-ill children,' said Mr Kane.

'Families from Kintyre have benefited from that support, but CHAS needs to raise £25,000 a day to continue its amazing work.'

Figure rise

Almost £1,200,000 was left in the will, but astute investment through an independent financial adviser has seen that figure rise substantially.

It means that the bequest's co-executors still have more than £400,000 to share.

'When we started disbursing the money, we looked primarily at local organisations involving children and also at

disadvantaged groups which were either too small or too focused on a particular purpose to obtain funding elsewhere,' said Mr Kane.

'Perhaps naively we hoped to give out most of the money before it became public knowledge.'

'We wanted time to examine the worth and longevity of possible recipients. We have asked to see groups' constitutions and income streams and what other funding sources they have approached.'

'We had to make sure they were bona fide and that the money was not going to waste. We have turned down one or two requests and we have also asked people to provide match funding.'

'At times I have felt like a secret millionaire, and it has been wonderful to see the difference the money has made to many of the groups or organisations involved.'

'With more than £400,000 still to give out, we continue to look for suitable recipients.'

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Please take the time to have your say and get involved in planning our future — your future — together.

rateful for g' donations make a huge difference' - CHAS

been of huge benefit to our club.' Debbie Mooney, of Children's Hospice Association Scotland (CHAS), said of the charity's massive £125,000 gift: 'We did not have a clue we would be given the money. This wonderful act of generosity will make a huge difference to the 400 children we look after in our two hospices and through our care-at-home teams.'

Kintyre Crime Prevention Panel received £500 towards initiatives for protecting young people.

Andrew Hemmings, chairman of the panel, said: 'We are very thankful for this money, it will allow us to develop campaigns for the coming year.'

about putting into practise, like personal alarms for students going off to higher education in the city and bike awareness for primary school-children.'

Great surprise

Alex McKinven, chairman of the home club Campbeltown Pupils AFC, said an award of £7,500 could transform the historic Kintyre Park football ground.

He said: 'This generosity was a great surprise and will go towards redevelopments planned.'

'Improvements we would like to make include a new pavilion roof, better shower facilities for players and an improved referee's changing room.'

more funding from other avenues.'

Cathie Duncan, who runs the Dalintober and Millknowe Tenants and Residents Association, was overjoyed with the financial support her group received.

She said: 'We presented a breakdown of all the group's activities, especially our Monday Social Club, which provides a meeting place and a social circle for pensioners.'

'It was lovely to be recognised and it will help with activities such as afternoon teas and our next Christmas party. Argyll Community Housing Association no longer provides us with funding, so we are especially grateful for this assistance.'

'Hopefully it will allow us to draw



CHAS hospices were given £125,000 to help provide specialist paediatric care.



Ronnie McNally of the Kintyre Kidney Dialysis campaign, pictured receiving a cheque after a fundraiser on Gigha, was among those delighted to receive an anonymous £40,000 donation. 20_c03dialysis01

Organisations which benefited from fund

ALMOST 40 organisations, the majority with a strong Kintyre connection, have benefited from the fund so far. These include West Scotland Deaf Children Society, Campbeltown Dog Obedience Group, Campbeltown and District Junior Football Association, Kintyre Juvenile Pipe Band, Autism Argyll, Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal, Footnotes Dance Company, Campbeltown Lawn Tennis Association, Roman Catholic Diocese of Argyll and The Islands - Glenfinnan Mission, Arisaig Mission, St Kieran's Mission, Kintyre Recycling Limited, Children's Hospice Association of Scotland, Meadows Under Five, Kintyre Environmental Project, Campbeltown Brass, Cocker Spaniel Rescue, Mull of Kintyre Run, Wee Toon Tumblers at Kintyre Community Education Centre, Kintyre Youth Café, Machrihanish Seabird Observatory, Argyll FM, Kintyre Crime Prevention, Campbeltown Pupils Amateur Football Club, Kintyre Youth Enquiry Service, Senior Citizens Monday Social Club, Campbeltown Community Education Centre, Kintyre Dialysis Campaign, First Campbeltown Company Boys Brigade, The Club Main Street, Shopper Aide Limited, Lorne and Lowland Church, New Dunaverty Hall, South Kintyre Young Carers Group, Parkinson's UK Scotland, Campbeltown Young Firefighters, 16th Argyll (Campbeltown) Scout Group. Three other parties received donations 'in confidence'.

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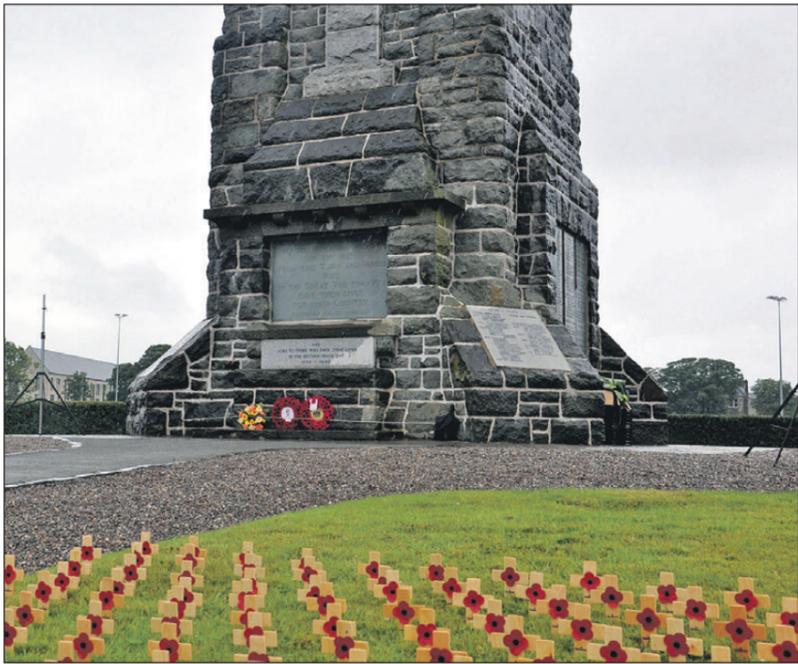
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Campbeltown War Memorial will soon undergo a third-stage repair to reinstate names of the fallen and damaged stone tablets. 20_c01memorial01

War memorial repairs reach final phase

CAMPBELTOWN War Memorial will soon undergo final-stage repairs after a tender was awarded to start work on it.

Work to reinstate the names of the fallen and repair the stone tablets on the monument will begin soon as weather permits.

Councillor Donald Kelly of Argyll First said: 'I am delighted the project will begin soon and be complet-

ed this year. Phase one made the structure wind and watertight and installed floodlighting, with the second phase being ground works kindly carried out by McFadyens Contractors.

Secure funding

'It has taken longer than anticipated to secure funding for the third and final phase of the war memorial's repairs, so I am delighted to see the project near its completion.'

Campbeltown Sheriff Court:

Sheriff condemns bad behaviour in hospital

A MAN who disrupted Campbeltown Hospital's accident and emergency department while heavily drunk has been warned he may be jailed.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC told John Townsley last week: 'I take a very serious view of this.'

'This kind of behaviour is happening with a worrying frequency in the accident and emergency of Campbeltown Hospital.'

Seriousness

'I will do my best to mark the seriousness the court takes of this and also what the staff has to deal with.'

Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard how Townsley, 51, was tak-

en by ambulance to the hospital following concerns for his well being.

Police in attendance felt he had 'calmed down' before they left him at the hospital after 11pm on December 23 last year.

Called back

However, 15 minutes later they were called back to the hospital because of him.

Police returned to find Townsley, of 20 Glen-side, Campbeltown shouting and swearing, making threats, and banging his head off walls and the floor.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said: 'The accident and emergency department was quite busy at the time and the



Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC said bad behaviour was occurring with 'worrying frequency' at Campbeltown Hospital, posing problems for medical staff.

accused had to be forcibly restrained by police officers.

'Medical staff said he was unable to stay at the hospital. He was taken to the police station and put in an observation cell.'

Sheriff Anderson deferred sentence until February 12 for a criminal justice social work report and warned Townsley: 'I will be considering all options, including a custodial sentence.'

Drunk man smashed plant pots

GRAEME Campbell lost the 'pot' when asked to leave his partner's house.

He threw two plant pots at her door and caused them to break.

At Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week, Campbell, 33, of 17C Kirk Street, Campbeltown pleaded guilty to damaging property in the town's New Parliament Place on January 2 of this year.

He also admitted behaving in a threatening and abusive manner likely to cause fear and alarm, shouting and swearing, and repeatedly striking a door with his shoes on the same day.

Fiscal depute Eoin McGinty said the accused and his wife of 11 years were attempting a reconciliation after a period apart, and were together on January 2 when Mrs Campbell went to bed at 2am.

'Four hours later she

was awoken by banging noises and went downstairs to find her husband dragging the TV across the room, shouting at it. He was heavily intoxicated,' said the fiscal.

'She asked him to leave and he did, but when he was outside he began shouting and swearing. He took his shoes off and struck the door with them.'

'He lifted the plant pots and smashed them.'

'Police were called and he was found in the car park in Tesco.'

'He was heavily under the influence of drink and was not wearing shoes.'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC noted it was Campbell's third conviction and deferred sentence until February 12 for a social work report.

Threats man must do community service

A MAN who made serious threats against a police constable has been

ordered to carry out 200 hours' community service.

Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard last week that David Johnstone, 24, of 6 Millers Park, was 'heavily under the influence of alcohol and using another substance' at the time.

Johnstone had pleaded guilty to uttering threats of violence to the officer on December 14 of last year and also shouting and swearing and behaving in a threatening and abusive manner likely to cause fear and alarm, and challenging members of the public to fight, in Main Street, Campbeltown.

He further admitted possessing £60 worth of an illegal drug, cocaine.

An earlier court heard how Johnstone was seen by police officers challenging people to fight and failed to heed warnings to stop.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC told Johnstone last week: 'I take a serious view of this matter, particularly the threats to a police officer.'

She imposed a com-

munity payback order for a year and ordered him to carry out 200 hours community service in that time.

Admonished for assault

A MAN who assaulted his partner by grabbing her and pushing her against a wall has been admonished.

Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard last week that Ciaran McIntyre, 28, of 29 New Parliament Place, Campbeltown admitted committing the offence at an address in the town's Saddell Street on September 5 of last year.



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It's snow joke stuck on icy hill for eight hours

'The length of the hill and the ice under an inch of snow defeated me dozens of times'

TAXI driver Graham Nisbet will never forget the hill coming out of Saddell.

He was trapped on its snow and ice-covered slope for around eight hours from last Friday night into Saturday morning.

'I must have tried to get up it more than 50 times,' he told the Courier.

'I tried coming at it all ways, fast and slow. I feel I know every inch of it.'

Graham's Ford Mondeo got stuck around 11pm as he returned to Campbeltown after taking a fare to Carradale.

'I was not too concerned about the weather,' he said. 'The road was wet and relatively clear half a mile before Saddell, but suddenly when I got there the snow was falling heavily.'

'The length of the hill and the ice under an inch of snow defeated me dozens of times.'

Plenty of fuel
'Fortunately, I had plenty of fuel and the heater was working.'

Graham radioed his boss, Robert Graham, who alerted the police, who in turn contacted Argyll and Bute Council.

However, he was told gritters were concentrating on the A83 and main roads between Campbeltown and Southend

and Machrihinish. In the middle of the night, police even flagged down a gritter in Campbeltown and asked it to go to Saddell - but it never did.

Robert, with a shovel in his car, had to abort his own rescue mission for fear of getting stuck. Then, at 6.20am, Graham's hopes were raised only to be dashed when a snowplough approached from the Campbeltown direction and drove past.

'It was just a plough, not a gritter,' he said. 'I tried repeatedly to get up on the tracks it left but had no luck. The only other vehicle I saw the whole time was a big 4x4 which drove past without even

stopping to check if I needed help.'



Taxi driver Graham Nisbet found himself snowbound in Saddell for eight hours. 08_c04taxi01

dry air of the car heater.'

Lessons learned? 'If I'm facing those conditions again I will take food and water, a blanket and a shovel,' he said.

Well-equipped
Campbeltown police remind motorists to stay well-equipped when driving in ice and snow. A spokesman said: 'Becoming stranded

on a rural road or even a main road can occur easily in times of bad weather. 'Always keep blankets, food, water and antifreeze in your car in case you become stranded for a long time. 'Also before leaving, check your car has enough fuel and the tread on your tyres is good.'

on a rural road or even a main road can occur easily in times of bad weather. 'Always keep blankets, food, water and antifreeze in your car in case you become stranded for a long time. 'Also before leaving, check your car has enough fuel and the tread on your tyres is good.'

Police tracking noisy cars

BOY racers speeding and revving their engines in Southend last Tuesday evening saw police take numerous complaints from residents.

A police spokesman said: 'Excessive noise from cars causes annoyance, especially in a quiet rural village, and we will be increasing our presence in the area.'

Trailer and bus collision

A 4X4 vehicle's trailer collided with a service bus at the A83 near Whitehouse early on Saturday afternoon.

Police are appealing for witnesses and anyone with information can contact Campbeltown police office on 862200.

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Flood plan back on the agenda

THE push for a Campbeltown flood plan is gathering pace with a report being prepared on addressing the town's flood problems.

Councillor Donald Kelly met with Stewart Clark, Argyll and Bute Council's contracts manager, in Campbeltown last week and showed him some of the worst affected areas by November's floods.

Large swathes of John Street and Lochend Street were inundated with as much as three feet of water, prompting councillor Kelly to pursue a coordinated emergency flood plan.

Mr Kelly said: 'Mr Clark has agreed to prepare a report for February's council area committee meeting, which is very encouraging.'

'It is imperative we explore the different ways we can stop flood water from damaging Campbeltown homes and businesses in the future.'

Main issues
'Some of the main issues will be the camber of the roads, pavement heights, gully cleaning and providing flood-gates.'

'He has also agreed to look at the various water-pumping options available.'

Several Campbeltown houses and family-owned businesses suffered property damage as a result of November's flash floods.

Driver ignores school crossing

A DRIVER ignored a lollipop man's request to stop outside Castlehill Primary in Campbeltown last Thursday morning.

No one was injured but police are investigating the incident.

Anyone with information can contact police on 862200.

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Deserving causes

WHAT a heart-warming story - £1 million shared out among so many deserving causes, groups and organisations and often making dramatic changes to their fortunes. Most recipients have a strong Campbeltown connection, and it is hard to imagine there being a town more deserving of such benevolence.

As highlighted frequently by the Courier, the people of Kintyre and Campbeltown continue to show boundless generosity in supporting each other in times of need. Just look at the many contributions they have made to the dialysis campaign. Look at the level of support when a group or school runs a fundraiser. Look at the response to the area's new food bank. It is wonderful therefore that a totally unexpected £1 million - with another £400,000 to follow - should be spread around the area. Who could grudge it.

ANOTHER undoubtedly deserving cause for funds is the A83, and in particular the Rest and Be Thankful. Despite the Scottish government trumpeting its spending - whether it is new money or old money re-announced - on landslide mitigation work, the end result is a frighteningly expensive sticking plaster. Neither the netting aimed at stopping the flow of tonnes of debris onto the road nor the single-lane Old Military Road with its convoy system can seriously be considered permanent solutions for such an important route for Argyll. The mitigation work was always going to have to be done, but the frequency of landslips makes it clear that the Scottish government should already be proceeding with plans for a proper, alternative route - probably a new two-lane created on the other side of Glen Croe.

who's who at your
Courier

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Silence on oil price

Sir,
The Scottish Government has ceased to publish oil revenue projections since the price of a barrel began to tumble, with no date being put on when new statistics will be released.

Scottish Unionist and Conservative leader Ruth Davidson challenged Nicola Sturgeon recently at First Minister's Questions on why the bulletins - which were regularly announced when the oil price was high - had stopped.

The first minister said only that new figures would come 'in due course', but claimed she needed more information from the UK Government on tax before they could be compiled.

However, the SNP was still able to produce the forecasts prior to the referendum without that information.

It has also emerged that the Scottish Government's Energy Advisory Board has not met since July, even though its remit is to provide 'rapid' response to changes in the industry.

But even as the price of oil dropped below \$50 a barrel, the board did not convene.

Last week Bank of England governor Mark Carney said Scotland was protected from the crisis in North Sea oil by being part of the wider UK.

The Scottish Government published inflated oil projections in the good times, and have axed them in the bad.

The SNP wants to fight the general election on a ticket that would rip Scotland out of the very framework that guarantees its security in the

face of a crisis in the oil industry.

I take no delight in the fact that our North Sea oil industry is suffering. I would much rather that the second oil boom promised by the SNP during the referendum was actually happening and that jobs were not being lost in this vital industry.

Alastair Redman
Unionist and Conservative candidate Argyll and Bute.

Those who voted for Alan Reid got a Tory

Sir,
In the past few weeks we have heard from the Craigs from Cove and their consistent defence of Alan Reid and the Liberal Democrats.

The Craigs and others spend far too much energy in belittling any condemnation of Alan Reid for his support of the bedroom tax and other policies.

Food bank use has more than doubled year on year since the coalition government and child poverty rates stand at 26 per cent, with many being in working families. An utter disgrace for which Reid must be ashamed. Yet he continues to prop up Tory austerity policies aided and abetted by his Labour chums, who have become so far removed from the realities of life at the bottom for our most vulnerable.

In the meantime the Scottish Government will pick up the tab by mitigating the bedroom tax and by giving our councils more funding to enable a freeze on the council tax which benefits the most hard working families in Scotland. This is money that should be better utilised else-

where such as improving the disgraceful demise in elderly care provision which is the single biggest cause to NHS waiting times.

Those who voted for him to ensure we did not get a Tory MP have been bitterly disappointed, as that is just exactly what they got, a Tory. Our poor, our vulnerable, our disabled, our pensioners and our needy deserve much better. They deserve a voice.

Hugh Moodie
12 Bryce Avenue
Rothsay.

Proper solution needed for Rest and Be Thankful

Sir,
I am very disappointed that the SNP is giving no new money for work at the Rest and Be Thankful.

All that they announced last Wednesday was that the work they promised last June for Strone Point and Glen Kinglas is still in the programme. This is just not good enough.

October's closure at the Rest and Be Thankful showed that the 'patch and mend' work has not solved the problem.

Earlier this month, warnings were issued that the road might have to be closed yet again because of dirty water flowing from the hillside.

It is high time the SNP committed money for a proper solution for the Rest and Be Thankful, such as a new two-lane road on the other side of the glen. This would cost only a fraction of the cash left unspent in last year's Scottish Government budget.

The SNP has the money available to construct a per-

manent solution at the Rest and Be Thankful, but it refuses to spend it. It is high time it did.

Alan Reid MP
Argyll and Bute.

Clear choice for voters

Sir,
It is only fair that in the run up to the general election that the SNP has the opportunity to present its case in TV and radio debates aimed at the Scottish electorate. Debates help inform those who will have the opportunity to vote for parties taking part in the debate about policies, options and choices.

What, of course, would be neither fair nor democratic would be for the SNP to be given a place in a television general election debate for UK leaders to be broadcast throughout the UK. Since the SNP does not intend having candidates standing in English, Welsh and Northern Ireland constituencies, more than 90 percent of viewers would have no opportunity to vote for them.

Of course, the SNP hopes that by peddling its populist, non-costed, over-optimistic, simplistic policies they will attract sufficient support in Scotland to potentially hold the balance of power.

The vast majority of people in Argyll and Bute voted to reject separation. Perhaps it is time to apply tactical voting to ensure a united kingdom.

In Argyll and Bute this means voting for Alan Reid, the hard working MP who puts his constituents' needs first.

Finlay Craig
Cove.

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

emails to: editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
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email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

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

Accident on bridge holds up A83 traffic

'I've often seen drivers risking jumping the red light there'

CAMPBELTOWN travellers were among more than 100 motorists stuck in Inveraray last Friday evening following a road accident.

A car and a minibus collided on the single track Aray Bridge despite traffic lights being in operation. There were no serious injuries.

It remains unclear whether the accident was caused by someone 'jumping' the lights as was rumoured.

One Inveraray resident, who did not want to be named, said: 'I've often seen drivers risking jumping the red

light there. It is a dangerous thing to do at the best of times, but particularly so on that bridge when you have no sight of what is on the other side of the hump.'

A police spokesman at Lochgilphead said a road accident report had been submitted.

'I have no indication that anyone was at fault,' he said. 'Temporary lights were introduced until the permanent lights could be checked.'

The collision was reported to police at 4.56pm. Traffic police attended from Lochgil-

thead but were delayed by snow on the road.

An ambulance also attended the scene along with tow trucks, to remove the damaged vehicles.

The road at the bridge was re-opened at 6.34pm, by which time there were long tailbacks in both directions.

Some southbound motorists took the lengthy diversion offered by the Dalmally road.

One driver stuck in Inveraray said: 'It was cold and miserable, but at least we could go to the chip shop while we waited.'



A car and a minibus collided on the single track Aray Bridge at Inveraray last Friday, stopping traffic for more than 90 minutes. 06_a12inveraray01



Extreme weather conditions can be a problem for the exposed Point Sands Caravan Park.

Wind takes roof off caravan

LAST week's strong westerly winds blew the roof off a caravan at Point Sands Holiday Park.

'It looks like it will have to be written off,' said site owner Angus Macdonald.

'Four large trees also came down but fortunately fell into open space.

'We were also lucky that the caravan roof did not damage anything else.

'The touring park was also under seawater, and the seaweed will have

to be cleared up before the new season starts.

'We are very exposed here, so when storms come we can catch them hard.'

High tides also left Peninver Sand Holiday Park with seaweed to clear up but there was no other damage.

Carradale Bay Caravan Park was not affected. 'We are pretty sheltered here,' said a member of staff. 'The only wind that we have to worry about is a southerly.'



I did my Tax Return early and found inner peace.

31st January is the deadline for your online Self Assessment Tax Return. If you miss it you will get a £100 penalty. So why not do it today, pay what you owe and take a load off your mind?



HM Revenue & Customs

gov.uk/selfassessment

'World's best' whisky has its root in Campbeltown

A JAPANESE whisky with Campbeltown connections has won a 'best whisky in the world' award from a top industry guide.

Yamazaki Single Malt Sherry Cask, bottled in 2013, was given a score of 97.5 out of 100 by the 2015 World Whisky Bible - the first Japanese whisky to claim the accolade in the guide's 12-year history.

The whisky is produced by the Osa-

ka-based company Suntory, whose production began in 1924; one of those who helped found it, Masataka Taketsuru, learned the art of whisky production at the former Hazelburn distillery in Campbeltown while studying chemistry at the University of Glasgow.

Jim Murray, who oversees the World Whisky Bible, called the dram a drink of 'near incredible genius'.



The Yamazaki Single Malt Sherry Cask 2013 was the World Whisky Bible's top-rated whisky, scoring 97.5 out of 100.



Carskey beach is one of Southend's many beauty spots popular with photographers.

Putting Southend in the picture

A COMPETITION has been launched to capture the best pictures of Southend life.

The Southend Photo Competition, being run by the Dunaverty Hall Committee, has already attracted 30 entries and the organisers are keen to see even more.

Christine Jardine, one of the organisers, said: 'The committee would like to thank everyone who has supported the competition so far, but there is still time to enter as the competition does not close until January 31.'

Delighted

'We are delighted with the quality of the photos, which

are sure to showcase the best of Southend and the surrounding area.

'People have captured not only scenery but other aspects of the village such as people, work and animal life.'

There are two categories, adult and under-16, with entries at £4 per photo for adults with the chance to win a £50 prize.

In the junior category entries cost £2 and the prize is £25.

Christine added: 'The competition is only for amateur photographers and will be used to promote Southend in a 2016 calendar.'

We would like to see more entries from people across

Kintyre, with their own captures of Southend life.'

Entry form

Those interested can email entries to dunavertyphotos@outlook.com and should await an entry form in return, with details on paying the entry fee.

The committee is planning a cream-tea event in St Blaas's Hall on February 8, where people can vote for their favourite photos, before the formal judging, conducted by professional photographers Stuart Andrew and Sarah MacDonald, takes place.

Results of the competition will be published in the Courier soon after.

Fyne chance to celebrate our community stars

A NEW award scheme has been set up by Loch Fyne Oysters to celebrate the people of Argyll who have made an outstanding contribution to the community.

The 'Star Throwers' awards honour those who have made a difference in a variety of ways: from raising money for charity or being a young carer; to helping those in need; hosting community groups or volunteering for local rescue groups.

Martyn Paterson, divisional director at Loch Fyne Oysters, said:

'The people of Argyll have helped make Loch Fyne Oysters the international success it is today and now we want to give back to the community which has given us so much.'

Award winners will be picked every eight weeks and presented with a Star Thrower certificate and £50 of vouchers which can be used in the Cairndow-based Loch Fyne Oyster bar, deli or the home delivery service.

Any member of the Argyll community is able to nominate.

Nominations must be submitted via email using the official form available on the Loch Fyne website.

For more information visit <http://www.lochfyne.com/>



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Campbeltown Brass SOLO & ENSEMBLE CONTEST
Sunday 25th January at the Community Centre Starting 12.30pm
Adjudicator: Fergus Kerr
Horn recital by Fergus Kerr before final awards
Entry by donation.

Want to enjoy singing on a regular basis? Tarbert Gaelic Choir would love to welcome some new members.
There's no need to know any Gaelic or be able to read music - as long as you can hold a tune! Come and join us in the Templar's Hall, Harbour Street, Tarbert, at 7.30pm on Mondays.
Contact Hilary Macdonald 01880 820469
hilsmacd@btinternet.com (conductor), or Mary Macalister Hall 01583 431707, machall@torrisdalecastle.com (secretary).

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Charity walker enjoys West Highland hospitality

A MAN who is walking around the coast of Britain for charity was given a boost when an Oban Times columnist offered him a place to stay.

Adam Short, 41, from Southampton is rough camping in his tent as he walks to raise money for Save the Children and the RNLI, having also spent nights in a cave, a horse-box and a fish tank since setting off last March.

Glensanda Estate factor Iain Thornber, who writes Morvern Lines in The Oban Times, put him up at his Lochaline home for a week.

Adam, who is now in the Kintyre area, said: 'The Scots are by far the friendliest people I've met so far.'

'People have offered me lifts, fed me, given me beds for the night.'

'All were complete strangers.'

Iain said: 'Putting him up for a few days is my contribution to the challenge.'

'I've met some interesting people over the



Adam takes a welcome break from walking to relax and read The Oban Times. 16_t01adam01

years but nothing like this.

'The fact that he's following the coastline and he's carrying on with it until it's done, rather than doing a bit then stopping is incredible, and that he's wild camping for most of it too.'

Adam added: 'These days off have been good

because I've managed to get some sightseeing done, got up into the hills, up in Glen Nevis and Glencoe. It's been like a holiday for me.'

'Some of the scenery and wildlife I've seen on the trek in Scotland has been breathtaking. I've come across stags, hinds, dolphins, whales

and otters.'

Adam is optimistic about completing the challenge, despite being seven months behind his schedule.

He said: 'I was hoping to do up to 20 to 30 miles a day but it's just not realistic with a 30kg backpack. I'm not too worried though because this

was always an endurance thing.'

Adam is aiming to finish the challenge back in Southampton by May 2015. The public can keep up-to-date with his progress by visiting: uk-coastal-trek.com

To donate, visit: www.justgiving.com/UKCoastalTrek4Scouts



Glasgow-based folk duo Quigley's Point kept everyone's toes tapping.

Picture courtesy of Colin Hunter Freelance

Senior citizens' party is a great success

TARBERT senior citizens' annual Christmas party went with a swing at the village hall last Friday night when top Glasgow folk duo Quigley's Point treated the older generation to a selection of Scottish, Irish, and country songs.

Long before the singing and dancing started, the partygoers benefited from complimentary transport on what turned

out to be a truly wintry evening.

After a chance to mingle, they were treated to a four-course Christmas dinner, a raffle featuring a spectacular number of donated prizes, and lots of opportunities to catch up with old friends and neighbours, before the music began.

Preparations for the event were the responsibility of an experienced

and hard-working team of volunteers, who ensured that everything ran smoothly.

A contribution of £250 from Glasgow-based Scotwest Credit Union is just one example of the many acts of generosity which this annual party attracts. All supporters were acknowledged in a vote of thanks proposed by the organising committee.

Great turnout for St Kieran's fundraiser

HEAVY snow did not stop a strong turnout enjoying a cup of coffee last Saturday at the St Kieran's Episcopal Church coffee morning, held in the Red Cross Hall in Campbeltown.

Important

Treasurer Lesley Barford said: 'The coffee morning is an important fundraiser for us and was very well attended.'

'We are a small congregation which in turn wants to help the community and are very grateful to those who came along to support us, their generosity is truly appreciated.'

Volunteers below at the coffee morning, Eva MacDonald MBE, David McEwan, Florence McEwan and Lesley Barford. 20_c04coffee02



There is a real joy in being a calamity

ANY amateur dramatics company that calls itself 'calamities' must know how to have fun.

There is a real buzz and joy about the Clachan Calamities special production of Aladdin next week to mark its 25th anniversary.

Two original members are still involved - director Lesley Kean and chairman Peter Simpson - while many others are prepared to travel from as far as Glasgow to be in the 48-strong cast and back-up crew. Former Tarbert residents Ian and Alana McNair and son, Robbie, 9, have been making the weekly sojourn from the city for three years.

'Another young star is 13-year-old Gaia Sylvan, from Clachan, who is playing Aladdin,' said Lesley Kean. 'She is an enormous talent who has been involved with our pantos since she was three.'

Clachan Calamities presents a hilarious family pantomime!

30th & 31st Jan 2015
Clachan Village Hall

Aladdin

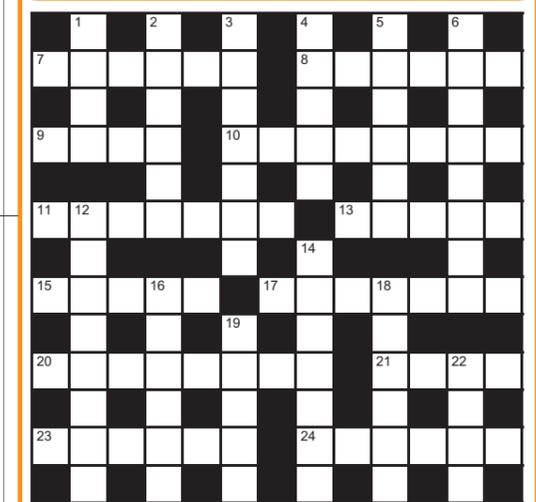
World Domination Tour
Feb 21st, 7pm Tarbert Village Hall

Tickets: Clachan Filling Station & John Hunt's, Tarbert

All tickets £6
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Preview: Thursday 7pm

For more info:
Lesley on 01880 740203
www.littlegreenclachan.org

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



- Across
- 7 Smooth, in music (6)
 - 8 Type of picture (6)
 - 9 Soon (4)
 - 10 Manicure piece (8)
 - 11 All about movement (7)
 - 13 Adjust to match up (5)
 - 15 Frostily (5)
 - 17 Spanish castle (7)
 - 20 Recommendation (8)
 - 21 District found in central London (4)
 - 23 Vaccinate (6)
 - 24 Sounds like a northern area of an American city (6)
- Down
- 1 Curb (4)
 - 2 English lunch perhaps (6)
 - 3 Boot type (7)
 - 4 A Doctorate (5)
 - 5 Beneficial (6)
 - 6 Lack of a vitamin causes this disease (8)
 - 12 Occurance (8)
 - 14 Lively (7)
 - 16 Hang around (6)
 - 18 Holdings (6)
 - 19 Tenderly (5)
 - 22 Peddle (4)

Last week's solution



care in the community

Who cares?

Sometimes when you need help it is difficult to see the trees from the forest - whether that might be understanding current legislation or finding someone to help you take the bins out.

We all have a range of needs that we at one time or another in life will need help to take care of.

Our advertisers take this seriously and offer services to help you and your family get through difficult times.

What is good for you may not be great for other people and vice versa.

How many times have you confided in someone?

Whether a partner, friend or work colleague, almost all of us will have shared difficult moments with the people closest to us.

But what if you can't speak to those you are closest to? What if your problem relates to these relationships, or is too personal to share with someone you meet every day?

Counselling may be the answer you are looking for.

Far from being 'for other people' counselling may be the starting point to a renewed take on life, to a more organised and focussed path.

From a chat with someone who is there to listen or a prayer or psychotherapy, it is always worth considering speaking to a friendly face. Often it helps if this person is not known to you.

A new chapter

As the Scottish population gets older - our elderly population is to increase by two thirds in the next 20 years. The service offered by care homes, support services and the health and social work services will become increasingly more important.

Council policies are also set up to assist with care in the home for as long as possible so that people can remain independent. There are even agencies which will help upgrade and decorate elderly people's homes.

The NHS in Scotland is attempting to keep as many elderly people as possible at home and elderly care is changing to cope with the demand.

Through NHS Highland's Reshaping Care for Older People plan, support is being made available for that very purpose.

Of course staying at home isn't always an option, perhaps the burden of care has become too much for family members and the time has come to look at care homes.

The ultimate aim of a care home is to help people enjoy more independent and fulfilling lives in their later years.

Thankfully these are now far from the daunting sterile image of old.

In the West Highlands care homes provide 24-hour-care services including support with all personal care.

So when choosing where you, or your loved ones, are going to spend this time, it is wise to judge each home by this simple, yet essential, mission statement.

A good care home will want residents and their families to look upon the new accommodation as their own - from the very first day they move in.

Look for homes that are modern - in attitude, if not appearance - spacious and safe.

It is important that staff are caring and receptive to people's needs and that the food served is high in quality and nutrition. It is also worth noting if there are any organised activities

within the home that encourage interaction between residents and allow them to try new things.

You can also have a visit from hairdressers, physiotherapists, chiropodists, doctors, nurses, dentists and even dieticians. That's on top of getting daily papers and magazines delivered.

A community that cares is something many people lament as a lost trait in society nowadays.

But what if the helpful neighbour who used to pop out for the elderly woman next door's shopping has simply been replaced with more professional - but no less caring - services.

A chat over a cup of tea and a few biscuits might solve some people's problems but others may have much more on their plate to deal with. And there are plenty of places in the West Highlands that you can turn to for care and support in a time of need.

You could be facing problems at home, whether that be coping with a loved one's illness, a recent bereavement or addiction issues.

There are many support and therapy groups that can help you overcome these issues and deal with the emotions you experience during them.

Perhaps you're stuck in a situation you can't see a way out of.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic abuse help is at hand - don't be afraid to speak up.

Reaching out to others can pull you back from a point where you may be considering harming yourself. Talking through your problems will help solve them.

But perhaps you just need a helping hand because of age or disability. Staying in their own home is what many people desire as the fragility of life catches up with them.

This can become trickier as mobility becomes a challenge but many organisations can install mechanically assisted devices in homes to ensure getting in and out of beds, chairs and baths is no problem.

If you're a carer for anyone and struggling to cope - or just looking for a bit of breathing space - there is also help available through respite services and support groups.

Annual events also aim to encourage support for others in the community - including participating in foster care.

Anyone considering fostering a child should get in contact with their local authority to find out more and, if appropriate, take steps to do so.

Other services for children are also available - if you are aware of a youngster dealing with issues at home you should not be afraid to point them in the direction of support.

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT.

DROP IN THURSDAY

DROP IN SERVICE
Free and confidential information and support service available for anyone affected by cancer. (No appointment necessary)

CAMPBELTOWN LIBRARY
Thursdays 11.00am - 3.00pm

NHS Highland **WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT** **Argyll & Bute COUNCIL** **Argyll Voluntary Action**

Are you worried about cancer? Are you going through treatments? Do you support someone with a cancer diagnosis? Or have you finished treatments and would like to talk about your options? For anyone affected by cancer Campbeltown Library offers a one to one Macmillan Cancer Information and Support Service on Thursdays from 11am to 3pm. Come and meet the

team for chat over a friendly cup of tea. There are always booklets on all aspects of being affected by cancer, as well as resources for other long term health conditions in the dedicated health and wellbeing area. These are available whenever the library is open. The team can help guide you through the information available in the drop-in as well as online and

Freephone resources. If you need information not on display we can help source this for you. There is also a private room for more personal discussions. Macmillan Cancer Support believes that no one in Scotland should face cancer alone. This service is here for you. Contact: **Deirdre Henderson, Campbeltown Library. 01586 555932.**

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Duncan is a worthy citizen of the year

DUNCAN MacGregor is Tarbert Citizen of the Year.

He was presented with the award at the village senior citizens' post-Christmas Party in the village hall last Friday.

Duncan was honoured for an impressive list of good works which benefit the village and its many visitors.

The village's Colin Hunter said: 'Prominent were his voluntary and highly practical assistance to the festivals and sporting activities around the village. He is a keen sportsman who has done his bit to encourage youth participation and, as a skilful joiner, his services are much in demand when one or other village festival requires any form of safe temporary structure.'

'Given that he manages to fit his voluntary work around running a successful business which provides welcome local employment, it's all the more remarkable that, in addition, he finds time to serve as an on-call retained firefighter based at Tarbert fire and rescue station.'

'The selflessness of dedicated firefighters such as Duncan and his brave colleagues at Tarbert, who turn out whenever the pager goes off, never knowing exactly what they will be faced with upon arrival at an incident, was acknowledged in full by the Citizen of the Year award.'

It was also pointed out that Duncan's innate modesty makes him the last person who would ever seek recognition for any of his voluntary work.

Sheena Ferguson, of the Christmas Party organising committee, presented the citizen of the year shield to Duncan.



Sheena Ferguson presents the Tarbert Citizen of the Year trophy to Duncan MacGregor. Picture courtesy of Colin Hunter Freelance.

No rest on A83 problems

Funding row as politicians press for permanent solution to landslips

A ROW has broken out over news of a further £3 million to be spent on work to keep the A83 free of landslides.

Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid has questioned whether it is actually new money or 'a re-announcement' of money allocated last summer.

The latest £3 million, according to the Scottish Government, is to 'take forward landslide mitigation work in Glen Kinglas and at Strone Point corner near Inveraray'.

But Mr Reid said £6 million announced last June was for work including the Strone Point realignment.

'You don't start a project like this without allocating cash to finish it, so that would have been done in June,' Mr Reid told the Courier this week, 'so why is Strone Point included in this latest £3 million announcement?'

This week, a Transport Scotland spokeswoman insisted: 'Claims that this is a re-announcement are wrong. This is new money allocated to the A83 in addition to the maintenance budget.'

'The previous allocation for the Strone Point realignment was used for ground investigation and design work, not to carry out any of the construction.'

Mr Reid added: 'All they announced last



Landslips have become a common occurrence at the Rest and Be Thankful and surrounding area.

week was that the work they promised last June for Strone Point and Glen Kinglas is still in the programme. This is just not good enough.

'October's closure at the Rest and Be Thankful showed the patch and mend work has not solved the problem. Earlier this month, warnings were issued that the road might have to be closed yet again because of dirty water flowing from the hillside.'

'It's high time the SNP committed money for a permanent solution for the Rest, such as a new two-lane road on the other side of Glen Croe. This would cost only a fraction of the cash left unspent in last year's Scottish Government budget.'

Scottish transport minister Derek Mackay made the announcement of extra money at a meeting of the A83

Task Force in Arrochar last week.

A total of £9 million has already been spent around the Rest and Be Thankful in recent years to minimise the effects of landslides.

Mr Mackay said: 'The most recent landslide events have shown us that we can keep Argyll open for business.'

'The netting at the Rest has prevented thousands of tonnes of rubble reaching the road, keeping disruption to a minimum. The Old Military Road Diversion Route has shown its worth and brought time savings for drivers.'

Argyll and Bute MSP Mike Russell said: 'I am particularly pleased that Mr Mackay confirmed to the meeting that the government now accepts there must be 'continuous access' to Argyll via the A83 and therefore more work was required on a plan to ensure a permanent, long-term solution to the problem at the Rest.'

Mike Story, chairman of the Task Force Marketing and Communications group, said: 'The business community is delighted the Scottish Government has shown commitment to keep Argyll and the isles open

for business.'

Argyll and Bute Council's deputy leader Ellen Morton 'warmly welcomed' the extra spend but added, 'we still need to explore options which guarantee continuity of access'.

Argyll First councillor Donald Kelly, of Campbeltown, said: 'If the landslips problem had occurred in the central belt of Scotland it would have been resolved years ago. Argyll First will continue to press for a permanent solution - this is the only way that we can say that Argyll and Bute is truly open for business.'

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PORT ELLEN

Annie's winning road safety message

TALENTED Annie Farrell has been chosen as the winner of this year's Argyll and Bute Council road safety calendar competition.

The 10-year-old's brightly coloured poster, which bears the message



Annie Farrell with her winning picture.

'The lollipop makes cars stop', was selected as the overall winner by a panel of judges.

Every year, the Road Safety Unit asks school children to design posters, with the overall winner receiving a £50 voucher and the Road Safety Classroom Calendar Trophy for their school.

Annie, a primary 7 pupil from Port Ellen Primary on Islay, was thrilled, and a little surprised, to be this year's winner.

Her picture features at the top of the calendar, which is being sent to every school and council office in Argyll and Bute.

Councillor Maurice Corry, the council's

spokesman for strategic transportation, said: 'Road safety is an extremely serious subject which affects each and every one of us. This annual competition is a great way of getting young people to think about their behaviour on or near roads.'

'I'd like to congratulate all the category winners and entrants this year as the standard was particularly high. 1,451 entries were received from 45 of our schools which is an excellent response to such an important subject.'

The Road Safety Unit was grateful to receive sponsorship for this year's prizes from Kintyre Crime Prevention Council.

BOWMORE



Teaching staff at Bowmore Primary School and Nursery Class has been set targets for improvements.

Islay school told 'must do better'

BOWMORE Primary School and Nursery Class has been set targets for improvement, following a recent inspection by Education Scotland.

The inspection and review team said attainment has to be raised in English, Gaelic and mathematics.

The pace of learning also has to increase, with the children given more challenging activities to match their needs.

The strategic leadership of the curriculum also has to be improved to ensure all staff are supported in taking forward

Curriculum for Excellence. A self-evaluation also has to ensure a stronger focus on 'improving outcomes for children'. An Education Scotland spokesman said: 'As a result of our inspection findings we think the school needs additional support and more time to make necessary improvements.'

Monitor progress

'Our area lead officer will work with Argyll and Bute Council to build capacity for improvement, and will maintain contact to monitor progress.'

'We will return to carry out a

further inspection within a year. 'We will then issue a letter to parents on the extent to which the school has improved.'

The recent inspection also identified a number of key strengths of the school which has more than 70 pupils.

These were: the opportunities for wider achievement in choir, drama and sporting activities and through a range of school clubs; the strong and productive links with the wider community which enrich learning; and the quality of experiences for children in the Gaelic nursery class.

Pharmacy in Bowmore will play role in medicine harm reduction

ISLAY Pharmacy in Bowmore is to take part in a national initiative to prevent avoidable harm caused by medicines.

NHS Highland is one of four health boards in Scotland chosen to take part in a two-year programme which, it is hoped, will help to reduce the incidence of harm associated with medicines.

The Scottish Patient

Safety Programme Pharmacy in Primary Care initiative will focus on high-risk medicines, and NHS Highland has selected non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) which are more likely to be associated with emergency hospital admissions due to adverse drug reactions than any other class of medicines.

The second year of the

initiative will see joint work by pharmacies, GP practices and hospitals on what is known as medicines reconciliation - ensuring that accurate information about a patient's medication is transferred any time a patient is transferred from one health-care setting to another.

Clare Morrison, NHS Highland lead pharmacist, said: 'As well as

improving medicines safety in primary care, we hope this project will raise awareness of the safety culture that exists in pharmacies and will lead to improved communication between pharmacists, GPs and hospitals.'

'It will undoubtedly lead to a reduction in avoidable harm from medicines in primary care.'

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KILCALMONELL

Speaker lights up Kilcalmonell Guild meeting

KILCALMONELL Guild listened by candlelight as Rev David Thom, minister of Kilcalmonell, linked with the Gigha church as well as Killean and Kilkenzie churches, spoke at January's guild meeting.

Pauline Simson of the guild said: 'Despite the transformer box failure at Clachan Village Hall, there was a strong attendance of guild members and friends gathered in candle and lamplight with gas heat-

ers on, which added to the convivial atmosphere.'

'David talked about the power of hymns to speak directly to the emotions in a way that formal prayers and sermons sometimes fail

to do, and their significance on all special occasions.'

'We are grateful to David for his talk, and for taking some questions about his experiences before becoming our minister.'

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Courier farming

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Caledonian Marts in financial crisis

CALEDONIAN Marts auction house, which leases Oban Livestock Centre, could need around £4 million to secure its future.

An emergency meeting in Oban last week heard that the Stirling-based farmers co-operative faces a deepening financial crisis.

James Cullens, managing director of Caledonian Marts, told shareholders that the firm needed investment of around £2 million to cover its debt, with the company's finances for May 2013 showing assets of £4.1 million and debts of £5.9 million.

Indicated

However, when asked if the figures indicated that more than £2 million was needed to ensure financial stability,

Mr Cullens admitted that the figure could be as much as £5 million.

Mr Cullens said: 'The company has three options: we ask for support financially; we secure a buyer for the Stirling mart under new ownership; or, worst case scenario, we do nothing and the company becomes insolvent.'

'We are in the process of trying to secure funding from the shareholders as well as trying to find buyers for the company, which we would call our plan B until funding is secured.'

Duncan Buchanan, one of the 2,500 shareholders of the co-operative and who chaired the meeting, said other operators had declared interest in leasing the Oban livestock cen-

tre, and that it 'wouldn't be difficult' to get another interested party if Caledonian Marts did not continue at the site which it has leased for the past 17 years.

A show of hands at last week's meeting saw a strong majority back the directors' proposals to raise money through a share issue to help clear a mountain of Caledonian Marts' unrecoverable debt of around £4 million.

A share prospectus will be sent out soon and pledges taken thereafter.

A decision on whether enough money will be raised to satisfy bank demands is expected by the middle of February.

At a meeting last Friday in Stirling, farmer directors and auditors faced heavy criticism.



James Cullens, managing director of Caledonian Marts, addressing the crowd at the emergency meeting at Oban Livestock Centre. 16_t03farmers01



Graeme McMillan, right, was presented with the shield for Young Stockperson of the Year by rotary club president Laurens Denson.

Graeme is Young Stockperson of the Year

GRAEME McMillan from Southend was named Young Stockperson of the Year for the second time by the Rotary Club of Campbeltown.

Rotarians Andrew Ronald and Alan Minshaw, along with John Smith, awarded merit points to young people taking part in Kintyre stock judging competitions in 2014, with McMillan the clear winner.

The stockperson's award was created in memory of the late Rotarians Jean and Hamish Smith, the latter having a lifelong interest in livestock, and with the Smith family's generosity to the club in mind.

Presented

Margaret Bakes, convenor of Rotary's vocational service committee, read a short citation before Graeme was presented by

president Laurens Denson with the attractive shield and a framed certificate.

Agnes Stewart, rotary spokeswoman, said: 'The club was honoured to have Graeme as a guest at lunch for the occasion. We are pleased to wish him every success in his career.'

Graeme is now working in Leicestershire with Blaise Tomlinson Sandiford Ayrshires.

NFU Scotland welcomes financial advice package for dairy farmers

NFU Scotland has welcomed the launch of a levy-funded package aimed at delivering financial advice to hard-pressed dairy farmers.

The initiative to develop a fast track financial advice package was originally instigated by NFU Scotland in December and offers consultant support to help assess the immediate impact on cash-flow from the dire dairy market situation.

Understand

It is designed to help dairy farmers to understand better what is likely to happen to cash-flow and business finances.

It will enable business plans to be modified and informed discussions to take place with lenders

or others, should this be needed.

Last week the farmer-owned dairy co-op First Milk deferred payments to its members by a fortnight and increased capital contributions. Farmers are now receiving 20p per litre of milk compared to 32p last June.

Gary Mitchell, NFU Scotland Milk Committee chairman, said: 'Even before the First Milk announcement last week, it was clear that many dairy farmers, regardless of who they were selling their milk to, were feeling the effects of the steep downturn in dairy prices and tumbling prices for milk.'

'We understand many dairy farmers may al-

ready seek consultancy advice, however we need to make sure that this is targeted towards those who don't already utilise the services available.

'We can't predict how long this downturn is going to last and we would encourage all those who have been affected to use this scheme.'

'There are other factors dairy farmers need to consider and through our members' taxation helpline we have been made aware that farmers paying tax on January 31 may have options open to them to alleviate the burden and should speak to HMRC as soon as they can.'

Around 40 farms in Kintyre are tied in with First Milk.

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Be prep winter v



HIGH winds, snow and freezing temperatures is a recipe for disaster as far as farm sheds and buildings are concerned. Whether traditional or modern, many buildings cannot cope with the extreme weather that has lashed the west Highlands and islands during January 2015. No doubt there will be repairs to be made, or perhaps crofters, farmers and landowners are looking for a building that could do with some strengthening before the next storm approaches. Make sure your supplies are topped up. Heating fuel, be it oil or wood, can run down quickly in the cold weather. Repairs and renovations can be big jobs, so you need to be confident you have the right company to meet your needs. Using a tried and trusted company can give you peace of mind, especially if they have previously carried out good work in the area.

With the expense involved and importance of getting the job done properly, it is an expensive mistake if the job is not done properly. Maintenance of machinery and equipment is essential for people who work the land, especially in winter, when man tends to rely on machine. Imagine buying the best quality seeds and manure and then planting everything with tender love and care and then ruining all your produce just because the equipment and

Prepared for weather



machinery that you used was not properly maintained.

Maintaining your farming machinery, equipment and property is also demanded by the law to avoid risking people's health and safety.

Since maintenance can be a huge commitment in terms of time, energy and money, create inventories for all the machinery and equipment you own and prioritise what needs done and when.

Arrange your maintenance

activities by season, make a note of all the upkeeps you need to do in that period and keep records of work carried out.

List the safety hazards of any particular equipment, and make sure staff know what work needs to be done and when.

While doing vehicle maintenance ensure: the brakes work properly; the engines are running properly; the fuel tanks are clean, and when emptying out fuel tanks

beware of any explosion risks; drain the fuel away from any sources of ignition; and before changing any batteries make sure that you have disconnected the terminals to avoid any electrical hazards.

It is the job of the employers to make sure that their workers are safe. This includes doing regular maintenance checks on farming machinery and equipment as well training their workers in a proper manner.

Health and Safety leg-

islation also demands that any new machinery a farmer buys is CE marked.

The CE mark basically means that each piece of machinery has been built keeping in mind the minimum legal safety requirements. The machinery should also have certificate of conformity and a workshop manual.

If the farmer performs safety and maintenance checks on time, they will be able to safely get on with what they do best - farming.

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North Argyll Young Farmers reforms after seven years

A NEED to connect young farmers spread across the scattered rural communities of North Argyll has led to the reformation of the area's Young Farmers Club.

In abeyance for the past seven years, the newly reformed North Argyll Young Farmers Club held its first event, a stock judging competition, at the Oban livestock centre last Friday.

The group's teenage chairman John Gillies, heads up a committee that includes secretary Mhairi Dempster

and treasurer Callum Leitch.

John, a shepherd at Castles Estate Farm, Dalmally, said: 'Because of where we are the young farmers in the area tend to be separated and we don't see each other that often.'

'I thought reforming the group would give a chance to get together and to talk about the issues of the day.'

'Friday's event was our first one and we used that to test the water. The response was really good and

I think there were around 30 people there eligible for the Young Farmers.'

In total, around 80 people came to the stock judging event at Oban mart and helped to raise more than £800 for the group.

Karen Love was the overall winner of the stock judging and Fulton Ronald won the guess the weight of the heifer competition.

Prizes were donated by Brander Lodge, Carrs Billinton, Stirling, and Reid and Robertson.

Part of the proceeds from last Friday's event will be used at the end of February when the group goes bowling or go-karting.

North Argyll Young Farmers is also planning a shearing competition at Balliemeanoch, Dalmally in the spring time.

The Young Farmers group is for anyone living in the North Argyll area aged between 14 and 28.

To find out more see the group's facebook page or phone John on 07454185094.



NEW START: Helping to revive the North Argyll Young Farmers Club are, from left: secretary Mhairi Dempster, treasurer Callum Leitch and chairman John Gillies. 16_104young01

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Getting hardwood into the market

WOODLAND management and sustainable thinking will be high on the agenda for three courses being run by the Argyll Small Woods Co-operative (ASWC).

Reaching out to woodland owners who would like to know

more about inspecting stems, grading timber, selling woods, access the market and spotting problems will be held at Dunollie Estate on February 12.

The co-operative was set up in 2014 to support small scale woodland management in

Argyll.

ASWC has recently taken on a joint hard wood sales initiative between a number of businesses, facilitated skills training and supporting members. Open to woodland owners and workers it aims to be an

honest broker between members and the wood market.

For more details about next month's events, which will also include two maintenance and cross cut chainsaw courses, contact Neil Donaldson on 07810 810 818.

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PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-17:00hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Written comments for the following list of applications should be made to the above address within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02933/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit A)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02934/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit B)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02935/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit C)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
14/02936/MIN	Temporary mineral working in association with windfarm development (Borrow Pit E)	Tangy Kilkenzie Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6QD	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown

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

Ref	Proposal	Site Address	Location of Plans
14/02998/PP	Installation of antenna	Unit 1 Argyll House Harbour Street Tarbert Argyll and Bute PA29 6UA	Sub Post Office Harbour Street

Argyll and Bute council encourages planning applications to be made on-line through The Scottish Government website: <https://eplanning.scotland.gov.uk>
The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.
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- **Chain free** – Being part of a long property chain can be extremely stressful and often cause unforeseen delays. With a new home,

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- **High levels of satisfaction** – Results from the 2014 industry survey on customer satisfaction with new homes, facilitated by NHBC, found that 94 per cent of people surveyed said that they would buy a new build home again, with a similar proportion indicating they would recommend their builder to a friend.
- **Better security** – New homes come with security features as standard, including smoke detectors and robust locks on front and back doors. And to meet the demands of modern lifestyles, electrical circuits in new homes are designed for even the most gadget-intensive families.
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The Scottish Salmon Company 

Temporary Technical Systems Coordinator – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll

40 hours per week for a minimum of 4 months – Salary £20,000 pro rata
Ref: TSSC/Jan 15

As Technical Systems Coordinator you will analyse the site Quality Management System.

- Pull together all paper based processes from the Quality Management System for centre filing and logging, including for example SEPA reporting etc.
- Update the internal QMS document management system (QPulse)
- Analyse the interfaces between the Technical Department and Engineering/Processing functions.
- Make recommendations to improve communication processes and information flows.

The successful candidates must be Graduates interested in a career in Technical/Food Safety/Quality Management/Food Science/Microbiology degrees

Temporary Business Systems Coordinator – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll

40 hours per week for a minimum of 4 months – Salary £20,000 pro rata
Ref: BSSC/Jan 15

As Business Systems Coordinator you will analyse the site Business Management System.

- Pull together all paper based non-food safety/quality management information for central filing and logging.
- Update the internal QMS document management system (QPulse) with all training records (across whole company).
- Audit all Maintenance, Hygiene, Purchasing, Supply Chain and Processing files and records.
- Make recommendations to improve communication processes and information flows.

The ideal candidates must be Graduates in Business/Operations Management Studies.

For an application form and job description for the above posts, please contact:
Angela Gibson, HR Officer,
The Scottish Salmon Company,
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH
Tel. No. 01499 600 430
Email: angela.gibson@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 4pm Friday 30th January 2015
Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com

The Scottish Salmon Company 

The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading independent producer of high quality Scottish Salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.

Pool Staff and Processing/Plant Maintenance Vacancies – Salmon Processing Plant Cairndow, Argyll
Ref: 01/PS/15 Pool Staff
Ref: 01/PRO/15 Processing Supervisor
Ref: 01/ES/15 Engineering Supervisor

As a result of an exciting growth and investments in new equipment and processes, we are delighted to be holding our recruitment drive for numerous additional staff across several departments at our Cairndow Processing Plant.

The Scottish Salmon Company delivers a consistently high quality product in the global market to high-end customers with rigorous requirements. The journey our product makes from hatchery to farm to customer relies on strong teamwork and good communication throughout. This means that all our staff must be prepared to be flexible in their roles and, on occasions, work beyond their normal working hours to fulfil production/processing requirements.

Applicants should be aware that due to the nature of the business, we work with a fresh product, flexibility is essential: some extended shifts and weekend work may be required to meet production/processing targets. Successful applicants should be reasonable fit and be able to meet the physical demands of the role, hardworking, flexible and co-operative in their attitude.

As well as having a sound understanding of the prime importance of food hygiene, applicants must be committed to meeting our quality standards, be good timekeepers and be able to work effectively as part of the team.

We now require to recruit the following posts:

- Numerous Pool Staff positions: staff to be deployed in several departments and therefore will be trained to multi-skilled staff (processing – maintenance- hygiene (day/night shift) – technical). Ideal candidates will have: a high sense of flexibility and responsibility, be self-motivated and enthusiastic, experience to work independently or as part of a team, has a 'can do' approach.
- Several Processing/Engineering Supervisor roles: to assist with and/or to deputise for Management with the day to day operations within the plant, to achieve plant/factory objectives and to assist with the supervision and to provide leadership to staff. Successful candidates will have excellent organisational leadership, communication and interpersonal skill.

A full clean driving licence and own transport is essential for all positions. Contract, T&C and salary depending on role and experience but all jobs minimum guaranteed 30 hours. Basic hourly rate £7.996 (after 12 week training period)

For an application form and job description for the above posts, please contact:
Veronica Anderson, HR Coordinator,
The Scottish Salmon Company,
Ardkinglas Estate, Cairndow, PA26 8BH
Tel. No. 01499 600 415
Email: veronica.anderson@scottishsalmon.com
Closing date for applications: 4pm Friday, the 30th January 2015
Visit our website: www.scottishsalmon.com

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Argyll College UHI Registry Administrator

Based in our Oban centre, we would like to recruit a **full time** Registry Administrator. The post involves the processing of further and higher education student enrolments, results, all other data and associated tasks. This post is a challenging one with constant tight deadlines throughout the academic year, requiring someone who can multi-task and constantly review priorities. The post holder, along with other members of the small registry team, will implement internal business processes, reviewing and evaluating these on a regular basis to improve the processes as well as the information and reporting requirements of internal and external stakeholders.

Accuracy and attention to detail are paramount. Candidates should have experience in administration, excellent written and verbal communication skills and a good level of competency in Microsoft Office software. Training will be provided in the specialised student information system used (SITS).

The salary for the post will be within the range **£16,546.78 to £18,856.18** depending on skills and experience.

Successful applicants will be subject to an application to join Disclosure Scotland Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme.

All applications must be made on the Argyll College application form. An application form and job description can be found on the vacancies section of our website www.argyllcollege.ac.uk

Please post/email completed application form to:

Lorna McDonald, Argyll College UHI Ltd, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban PA34 4RY or e-mail lorna.mcdonald@uhi.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is **Monday 2nd February**

The Scottish Salmon Company



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Biology Assistant x 2
Western Isles and Argyll
Salary: Dependent on experience

Due to operational expansion of our Biology Department, and to fully support our regional Biologists an exciting opportunity has arisen to recruit a Biology Assistant in both our Western Isles and Argyll regions. This new role will involve planning and monitoring field trials, auditing of freshwater and marine sites, and providing invaluable support to our site based teams throughout the production cycle to ensure the highest standards of fish health and welfare are maintained.

The ideal candidate must have a degree or equivalent qualification in Aquaculture or Biology, with an aquatic specialism preferred. A full clean driving licence is also essential, along with a flexible and independent approach to enable full support to our site teams across a varied geographical area. Experience of working within the Scottish salmon industry would also be advantageous.

Applications are requested by CV and covering letter to the address below before 6 February 2015.

For a detailed job specification please contact;
Lisa Connell, Training and Development Manager,
The Scottish Salmon Company,
8 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7JA
Email: lisa.connell@scottishsalmon.com
Visit our website at www.scottishsalmon.com

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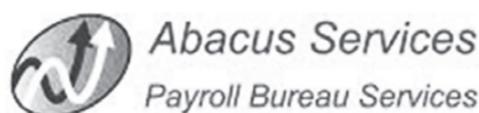
CONTACT BELOW.

Unit 4B5, Blar Mhor Ind Est, Fort William, PH33 7PT
Tel : 01397 703732. Fax : 01397 701737
e-mail : alex@iesuk2.fsnet.co.uk

Loch Fyne Seafarms Ltd is seeking a trainee food production Supervisor for its shellfish factory in Tarbert Argyll.

The trainee Supervisor will assist with all aspects of production including data collection, quality control and sales. As part of a small team the trainee Supervisor will also carry out various production processes as part of the training to gain experience and to support product preparation. Interested applicant must be a good team worker and willing to work with shellfish processing. Training for this post will be provided.

Please contact: Loch Fyne Seafarms Ltd., Unit 7, Tarbert Trading Estate, Campbeltown Road, Tarbert, Argyll PA29 6SX. Tel: 01880 820 100



Payroll Assistant

Abacus Services are looking for a payroll assistant to join our very busy office in Oban. Candidates with payroll processing experience preferred but training can be given. The job is full or part time and salary is commensurate with experience. Excellent working environment available in modern office building for the successful candidate.

Please apply in writing, enclosing your C.V. to Helen Clark at R A Clement Associates, 5 Argyll Square, OBAN, PA34 4AZ, or by email to hc@raclement.co.uk



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11.5 million drivers missing out on cheap



MILLIONS of drivers could be missing out on savings of around £860 per year in fuel and tax because myths still exist about running electric and plug-in hybrid cars.

The findings are the result of new research released by Go Ultra Low, a joint initiative by government and the UK automotive industry.

According to the research, around 11.5 million motorists could benefit from the lowest cost, tax-free motoring by switching to pure electric vehicles, because in a typical year they don't drive further than 80 miles in a single trip. Millions more could benefit from other ULEVs, which can travel between 150 and 700 miles between charges thanks to range-boosting petrol and diesel assistance.

Huge potential for electrically-powered cars

The Go Ultra Low research shows that 70 per cent of car owners are planning to change their car within the next four years, while three in 10 say they have considered purchasing a ULEV. Two thirds of motorists under the age of 24 have considered a ULEV compared to just a quarter of drivers over 55.

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per motoring

The survey reveals that the majority of motorists still don't fully understand how electrically-powered vehicles work and believe outdated myths across a number of topics, from range and charging to cost and practicality.

Motoring journalist Quentin Willson said: 'Ultra low emission vehicles make so much sense, they are cheap to run, hugely practical and now almost every major manufacturer has something to offer. The Go Ultra Low research shows that a host of misconceptions are hampering consumer uptake and more needs to be done to educate people about the numerous benefits of these vehicles.'

Range anxiety persists, despite short journeys

A quarter of motorists misunderstand the range capabilities of ULEVs, with 16 per cent believing electric vehicles are unable to travel 50 miles without recharging. Yet the research also shows that more than a third of drivers said the furthest they drove in a single journey during 2014 was 80 miles or less. With pure-electric vehicles able to travel up to 100 miles on a single charge and other

plug-in ULEVs boasting up to 700 miles' range, electrically-powered cars are a viable, low cost option for millions of motorists.

Public understanding lags behind reality

The survey reveals that there is widespread lack of understanding about the speed at which the batteries in ULEVs can be recharged. Nearly 50 per cent of drivers were unaware of rapid-charging facilities that can refuel a vehicle in 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, motorists were well informed about recharging methods and infrastructure, with more than 90 per cent aware that electrically-powered vehicles can be recharged at home and via on-street charge points. However, almost one in 10 wrongly believe that electric cars cannot be driven on the motorway, while nearly one in 20 think it's dangerous to recharge them in the rain.

£4,150 savings on fuel and tax over five years

More than one quarter of motorists are of the opinion that ULEVs are more expensive to run

than a conventional diesel or petrol-powered car. This opinion is considerably higher among men (32 per cent) than women (25 per cent). However, despite falling fuel prices in recent months, the cost of fuelling a ULEV remains far cheaper than a petrol or diesel vehicle, being as little as 2p per mile, compared to around 12p per mile for a typical petrol or diesel car – representing a saving of £660 a year for the average motorist.*

Thanks to CO2 emissions of less than 75g/km, all ULEV vehicles are exempt from road tax, yielding potential savings of around £850 compared to the average car on the road over a five-year period.

Alex Michaelides, spokesperson for the Go Ultra Low campaign, said: 'With more than eight million families in the UK running two cars or more, pure-electric vehicles are the perfect family run-around, while hybrid and range-extended cars offer great long-distance options. Whereas once there was only a handful of ULEVs on offer and limited recharging infrastructure, today there are all sorts of types and sizes of car, backed-up by a nationwide network of recharging points.'

Go Ultra Low is a campaign to help motorists understand the benefits, cost savings and capabilities of the raft of new ultra-low emission vehicles on the market.

The collaborative campaign is the first of its kind, bringing together the Department for Transport, the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, SMMT and a consortium of leading car manufacturers: Audi, BMW, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Renault, Toyota, and Volkswagen. Further details are available at www.GoUltraLow.com.

*Based on average annual mileage per motorist of 8,266 miles (calculated using Department for Transport figures for total miles travelled per year and SMMT data for UK total car parc size)

*The research for Go Ultra Low was conducted between 24 December 2014 and 5 January 2015, on a sample of 1,690 UK adults who drive a car.

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PERSONALS

Happy 21st Archie

Lots of love, Mum, Dad and all the family xxx

Happy 21st Birthday Leanne

Lots of love Mum, Dad and family. Have a fab time!

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Happy 70th birthday on 25/1/2015 Granny

Love Kay & Lewis xx

Happy 21st Birthday Leanne

Love from Granny and Tina

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY KENNY CRAWFORD

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Happy Birthday

Happy 70th Birthday Isabel
 25/1/2015
 Love George & family

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DINING TABLE AND CHAIRS mahogany oval shape dining table and four chairs - beige velour seat pad, good condition £50 Telephone 01631 566811.

HALL TABLE half moon dark wood hall table £5 Telephone 01631 564848 Office Hours.

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



SO often we talk about the weather and it can just be a conversation filler at times.

However, these past weeks have been worthy of comment.

The gales have battered us relentlessly and the hail and sleet have stung our faces like icy needles.

Dog walking has been a challenge. We are exhausted before we leave the house as we don all the waterproof gear to face the elements once again.

The wind whips across the ocean and spares nothing in its path.

Local caravans have been destroyed as gales and trees have done their worst.

We see the black clouds pause over Islay and Jura before they deposit yet another blanket of snow.

Yet in all this, there is amazing beauty.

The snow-capped peaks now glisten in the morning light as the wind and the storms cease their shouting.

The heather sparkles in the frost and crunches under our boots.

Happy pups race through the woods, chasing the echo of their own barks.

There is stillness again and the waves calm themselves.

No doubt there will be more storms, but these too will pass.

The snowdrops have appeared - these white messengers of hope, telling us that spring will come again.

Their fragile stems defy the ice bound earth and remind us that life is emerging from its winter sleep.

Whatever happens, spring will come bringing new life, new hope, and shouts that the winter will be transformed.

The earth will bring forth new life again and thus it always will be.

The rhythm of life is always beating; the promise of life and not death is our gift, and we must grasp it.

The wintering of our lives will melt into the beauty of spring and we will once again be the Resurrection people we are called to be.

Election banner blackout is 'undemocratic'

A PROPOSED ban on election materials on council property in Argyll has provoked a furious response.

One protest group has accused Argyll and Bute Council of being 'anti-democratic'.

Grassroots Oban condemned the council's proposal, which would see a ban on political party material on council property, including lampposts, in the run-up to this year's general election.

A spokeswoman said: 'The ban is unnecessary and represents a curb on political expression, contradicting advice given by the Electoral Commission and giving neither the council nor the public time to raise alternative suggestions.'

'Making it more difficult for the public to access political information is anti-democratic.'

Councillors voted 8-7 in favour of the proposed ban at an environment, development and

infrastructure committee meeting last week, with chairwoman Ellen Morton casting the decisive vote.

The proposal was due to go before a full council meeting yesterday (Thursday).

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, said: 'The Scottish Independence referendum heightened the public's interest in politics across Scotland.'

Public displays

'The council's two responses so far have been to ban the Saltire from its flagpoles and to seek to ban regulated, time-honoured public displays of election material.'

'I hope it will be reconsidered, as it is opposed by those who have no political allegiance but simply treasure the open exercise of democracy.'

Independent MSP John Finnie wrote to each of Argyll and Bute's 36 councillors asking them to reject the ban.



Victoria McLachlan, pictured centre, serves Flora Gillespie, left, and Lily Morrison at the Salvation Army coffee morning. 20_c04salv01

Hot coffee and food melts thoughts of snow

THE Salvation Army's Campbeltown corps praised the generosity of those who went to its coffee morning last Saturday.

Those who braved the morning snow were rewarded with teas, coffees, home baking and freshly-made pancakes.

Lieutenant Mark Scoulding, corps

officer, said: 'Our coffee mornings are a great opportunity for people to socialise and make friends. Funds raised allow us to organise events, including weekly get-togethers such as our lunch club and our craft group Make and Munch Mob, running Wednesdays from 7-9pm, when anyone is welcome to come along.'

Businesses asked to play a role to help Argyll thrive

BUSINESSES in Argyll are being invited to play a role in efforts to boost the area's economy and reverse population decline.

Four representatives are being sought for the new Argyll and Bute Sustainable Economic Forum, part of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP), after Argyll and Bute Council's economic summit in October endorsed the forum as a way forward.

A spokesman for the council's Business Gateway said: 'Meeting

no more than four times a year, the forum will not be a talking shop - it will enable a focused group of decision makers to advise the CPP on how best to exploit economic opportunities.'

Priorities

'The expertise of the private sector could help determine priorities for action.'

'Argyll and Bute faces a serious challenge that will impact all of us - a declining and ageing population. Encouraging more people to live, work, invest in and visit

the area is key to all our futures. The sustained success of businesses here is critical, as this creates the employment opportunities to keep people here.'

Anyone interested in being on the forum should email, by January 30, a summary of their key skills, experience and the reasons why they wish to be on the forum to Fergus Murray, head of economic development and strategic transportation at fergus.murray@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Chance to discuss mental health in rural areas

MENTAL health issues in rural areas will be discussed in Campbeltown on Monday.

The Mental Health Foundation's Michaela Goan will be at the Kintyre Link Club, based at the Community Education Centre on Stewart Road, 1.30pm, with anyone welcome to attend.

Michaela will gather people's experiences on living with mental health issues in a rural area, with information treated anonymously.

Travel expenses can be covered and tea and cake will be provided after.

Contact

If you would prefer to meet in person, to email or talk on the phone, please contact Michaela on michaela.goan@gmail.com or on 07895 383751.

You can also complete an anonymous survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/P8X-QVPV or ask Michaela for a printed copy of the survey.

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MP's message on phone delays

'SERIOUS' delays to repairs to landline and mobile phone services in Argyll were brought up in parliament by the area's MP Alan Reid last week.

Mr Reid said: 'Following a storm over a month ago, BT have still not restored a landline ser-

vice to many of my constituents. Mobile phone services remain affected too.'

Unacceptable

'These delays are unacceptable, and an urgent statement is needed from the department of culture, media and sport on steps to make

these companies conduct repairs much quicker.' Mr Reid added that landline and mobiles can be a lifeline in an emergency and called for Ofcom and the Government to impose target times for repairs and to fine companies failing to honour them.



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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'When I said, "My foot is slipping," your love, O Lord, supported me' (Psalm 94:18).

BIRTHS



VEITCH

Olivia and Harrison would like to welcome their new baby brother, Caleb Joshua, born December 21, 2014. Thank you to the midwives at Mid Argyll Hospital.

WATT - Mark and Kate (nee Wright) are delighted to announce the birth of Zack Robert, on January 5, 2015 at Paisley Royal Alexandra Hospital. A first grandchild for Gill and Keith Wright, Campbeltown and first grandson for Thelma Watt, Fochabers.

ENGAGEMENTS



HODGSON - TREES
Isabell and Fred Hodgson are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Penny, to Steven Trees, Pudsey, Leeds. Everyone thrilled.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

MCFAZDEAN - TAYLOR
On January 22, 1965 at Castlehill Church, Campbeltown by the Rev John R H Cormack, Dick to Emily. Present address, 61 Roading, Campbeltown.

DEATHS

BROWN - Peacefully, in the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice, Glasgow, on January 16, 2015, Elizabeth Dailly McGeachy, in her 79th year, 12 Barochan Place and formerly of Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Walter Brown, much loved mum of Jacqueline and John, loving mother-in-law to Willie and Fiona, devoted granny to Sharon, Alex and the late Kerry and wee nana to Finn and Lois.

BURGESS - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on January 16, 2015, Donald Burgess, aged 84 years, of Tigh Na Croit, Tayvallich, (retired blacksmith), son of the late Donald Burgess and Flora McLachlan, and beloved husband of the late Janie Barclay. A dear cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held in Tayvallich Parish Church, on Thursday, January 22, 2015, followed by interment at Carsaig Cemetery. Sadly missed.

CHRISTIE - Peacefully, after a long illness, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on January 17, 2015, Brian Robert Christie, aged 66 years, of 10 Dun Mor Avenue, Lochgilphead, (former Strathclyde Police), beloved husband of Margaret MacKinnon, and loving father of Claire and Stewart and much loved Sheanair of Eilidh, Kalin, Lauren and James. A much respected father-in-law of Scott and Sandra and dear brother to Jo-Anne and Sandy. A dear brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service will be held in Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Monday, January 26, 2015, at 11.00am, thereafter to Cardross Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the local Red Cross and to the Kintyre Dialysis Campaign.

DEMPSTER - Suddenly, at Lynn of Lorne Care Home, Benderloch, on January 19, 2015, in his 76th year, George, beloved husband of the late Margaret, nee McKnight, loving father of Lorraine, Caroline, Michael, Donald, Valerie and Lilian, papa and great-grandpapa and a much loved brother. Sadly missed. Funeral will take place at St Oran's Church, Connel, on Saturday, January 24, at 10.30am, thereafter to Pennyfuir Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Retiring collection/donations, if desired, for Alzheimer Scotland (Oban and Lorne Branch).

FOYLE - Ann Judith Foyle passed away peacefully, at Oban Hospice, on January 12, 2015, after bravely facing cancer, aged 69. Much loved mother of Suzanne, she will be sorely missed by all who knew her. A memorial service will be arranged at a later date. Donations in memory of Ann to be sent to Cancer Research.

GRAHAM - On January 19, 2015, peacefully at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, Flora Graham, nee McDougall, in her 87th year, beloved wife of the late Dugald Graham, much loved mother of Sandra, Kenneth, Deirdre and the late Dugald John, a dearly loved granny and great granny. Funeral service at Glassary Church, Kilmichael, on Friday, January 23 at 12.00 noon, interment thereafter at Achnabreac Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland.

GRAHAM - Peacefully, at Rosepark Care Home, Uddingston, on Saturday, January 17, 2015, Mary, beloved wife of the late Dugald Graham, formerly of North Lodge, Ormsary and Oakcliffe, Ardrishaig. Funeral service will be held at Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Friday, January 23 at 11.00am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, will be taken for Mary's Meals.

HODGSON - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 17, 2015, Margaret Morran Wareham, in her 85th year, 18 Hall Street, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Eric Hodgson, much loved mother of James and Louise Smith and a much loved grandmother. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery, to which all friends and family are respectfully invited.

MACARTHUR - Peacefully, at Ardfenaig Residential Home, Ardrishaig, on January 20, 2015, Effie MacArthur, aged 81 years, of 21 Dewar Avenue, Lochgilphead, beloved daughter of the late Donald and Elizabeth (Bessie) MacArthur and loving sister of Betty, Walter and the late Donald. A dear sister-in-law, aunt and cousin to all the family. Funeral service will be held in Lorne Street Funeral Parlour, Lochgilphead, on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 11.00am, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery.

MARTIN - Peacefully, at Moorburn Manor, Largs, Margaret, much loved wife of the late Malcolm, loving mother of John, Kathryn and Calum and granny of Kerry, Jamie, Duncan and Lachlann. Private funeral in Ayrshire.

STEWART - Alexander (Alistair), July 18, 1930 - January 13, 2015. Sadly passed away in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Doreen for sixty years, loved father of son Robert and daughter Suzanne and grandfather to Michael and Daniel Stewart. He leaves his sister Jessie Graham, brother James and their families. His ashes will be brought to Campbeltown at a future date for interment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LAMONT - John, Kenny and their families would like to extend their thanks to friends, neighbours and work colleagues for the many kind expressions of sympathy received following the recent sad passing of Norrie. Our sincere thanks to local police and ambulance staff for their efforts. Our thanks are also extended to Rev Hilda Smith for a comforting service and a most fitting tribute to Norrie; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for caring and efficient arrangements; and to the Stag Hotel for fine purvey. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at church and graveside to pay their respects, especially Norrie's work colleagues, whose kindness and support was greatly appreciated.

MCVICAR - David, Margaret, Helen and families would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for kind expressions of sympathy, cards and phone calls following the loss of Margaret, their dear mum, nan and great gran. The family's sincerest gratitude is conveyed to all nursing care and doctors in attendance to Margaret over the past years for all the dedicated care and kindness provided to her. Very special thanks to Canon Keith Pagan for a most personal and comforting

service and to Alasdair Blair for his dignified professional services. Thank you also to the Ardshiel Hotel, Campbeltown for the excellent funeral tea and to all who attended the church and graveside to pay their respects. The collection at St Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church, for the Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital, raised £304.06.

IN MEMORIAMS

HALL - Remembering a dear mum, nana and mother-in-law, Maggie, died January 23, 2006. No longer in our lives to share. But in our hearts you're always there. - Marina, Craig, Rhian and Walter xxx.
HARKNESS - In memory of Chris, a loving husband, dad, father-in-law and papa, who died January 20, 2000. - From Ellen and family.
JENKINS - In loving memory of our daughter, Margaret, passed away January 26, 2013. The depths of sorrow we cannot tell. Of the loss of one we loved so well. And while she sleeps a peaceful sleep. Her memory we shall always keep. - Mum, Dad and family.
LEESMOFFAT - In loving memory of Captain John Leesmoffat, who died January 21, 2014. Always so good, unselfish and kind, None on this earth your equal I'll find, Honourable and true in all your ways, Loving and faithful to the end of your days. Honest and liberal, ever upright, Just in your judgement, always right, Loved by your friends and all whom you knew, One in a million that husband was you. One year has passed, our hearts are still sore, As time rolls on we miss you more, A loving father, tender and kind, What beautiful memories you left behind. - Margaret, Elizabeth-Isla (Poppy), Daniel, Mathilda and Zephyr.

MCLELLAN - Loving memories of a much loved mum and nana, Agnes, who died on January 23, 2000. Mum, it's fourteen years since you were taken away. But you're loved and remembered every day. - Loving daughters Margaret, Sandra and families.
MUIR - Fondest memories of a dear mum, gran and great gran, Bessie, died January 22, 2011. Always in our thoughts. - Jean, Jessie and family.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

Scottish Episcopal Churches Everyone Welcome
Christ Church
Bishopotn Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sundays
11.00 am Eucharist service
4th Sunday of the month 10am Mattins
& 11am Eucharist Service
Coffee & Cake follows the service
St Columba's, Pultalloch, nr Kilmartin (SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month 9am Eucharist service
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Scottish Prayer Book
All Saints, Inveraray (SC025646)
Saturdays 5.30pm Eucharist Service
Father Simon Mackenzie
Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD
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)

WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Services 25th January 2015 - all welcome!

Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Moming Service
in Cumlodden Church at 10 am

Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Moming Service
in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 25th January
Sunday Worship
Ford 11.45 am
Rev. C. Acklam
Congregational Board Date of next meeting
Tuesday 27th January 2015 at 7.30pm
A new loop hearing system has been installed.
All welcome
SC0 02121

free church of scotland
George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 25th January
11.15am Worship Service
Calum Ferguson
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 28th January
12.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
2.00pm - 4.00pm Water of Life Café
All Welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.com
Scottish Charity Number: SCO09980

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 25 January
Tayvallich Church 10 am
Moming Worship
Rev. C. Acklam
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 25 January 2015
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: Mrs. Heather Allen
"Worship in the Wilderness"
Thursday 29 January 2015
7.30pm
Praise, prayer & sharing
All Welcome

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT:
Tarbert 10.00am, located on School Road.
Lochgilphead 11.30am, located on Lochnell Street/Manse Brae
Minister: Rev. R Macleod
Prayer Time (fortnightly)
Mondays 1.15 - 1.45pm
Ladies Bible Study 2pm
Soup Lunch Monthly (last Thursday)
All welcome.

lochgilphead baptist church
All Welcome
Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 25th January 2015
11.00am
with communion
Monday 26th
2.30pm
Ladies Meeting
Rev. Walter Ritchie
Kilmartin
mainly music
Tuesday at 10am
Jumpstart
Friday from 10am
Scottish Charity SC015187

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
SUNDAY 25th JANUARY 2015
11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
Every Tuesday
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Bumps, Babies and Toddlers
Every Wednesday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Drop-In Cafe
All Welcome
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church
Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 25th January
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
10.45am Holy Communion
All Welcome
Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

Highland Parish Church
SC002493
Sunday 25th January
The service is in the Church at 11.15am and will be led by Elizabeth Kennedy.
Badminton Club meets in Kirk Street Hall on Tuesday
Primary 1 - 5: 6.30 - 7.30pm
Primary 6 - 7: 7.30 - 8.30pm
Everyone very welcome

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 25th January
11.15 am Service
Creche Triple C Next Generation
Rev. P Wallace
Monday 26th January
Messy Church 3.45 - 5.30pm
Guild 7.30pm New Hall
Tuesday 27th January
Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am
Boys' Brigade Church Hall
Anchor Boys 6pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Thursday 29th January
Choir 7.30pm
Friday 30th January
Lunch Club 12noon New Hall

The Salvation Army Campbeltown Corps
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Worship
Tuesday
12.15pm Lunch Club
1.30pm Home League
Wednesday
7.00pm The Make & Munch Mob
Thursday
7.30pm Bible Study & Prayer
Lt. Mark Scoutinging

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH
75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 25th January 2015
11.00am Family Service with Communion with crèche
Pastor Ross Ferguson
4.00pm Service in Lorne Campbell Court
Wednesday 28th January
10am Toddlers Group
7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
For details and other enquiries contact Pastor Ross Ferguson
01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Service
11.00 am
with Sunday School followed by refreshments
Baby & Toddler Group
10.00 - 11.45 am
every Thursday (term-time)
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

Campbeltown Community Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Scotland SC043322
For Funeral Directors Blair, MacDonald and Lupton please turn to page 23.

Maureen's in the money

Congratulations to Maureen Neate who successfully chose the winning numbers in Dunaverty Golf Club's three number lottery on Sunday and collected £200.

The winning numbers were 2, 9 and 19.

The next draw will take place on Sunday, February 1 with a jackpot of £100.

Tickets are available from the clubhouse, committee members, Muneroy Stores and the Burnside Bar.

Shuttlecocks at the ready

TOP young badminton players will be in action at the Victoria Hall in Campbeltown next Saturday, January 31.

The Argyll and Bute Badminton Championships are open to the area's primary five, six and seven pupils.

The event will run from 11am to 4pm.

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

Town gears up for sporting weekend

CAMPBELTOWN has been earmarked for the development of sport - and is set for a huge weekend of coaching.

The Big Sports Weekend, run by Campbeltown's community sport hub, will be held in venues around the town between February 6-8.

It is designed to increase sports opportunities available to young people and the number of coaches who can deliver them.

Campbeltown is one of only two community sport hubs in Argyll and Bute along with Rothesay.

Up to 17 courses will be available, including tennis, swimming and athletics leaders - senior pupils who organise opportunities for younger pupils to get involved in sport.

There will also be coaching for rugby and football and advice on the delivery of first aid.

Jillian Gibson, community sports hub officer for Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Campbeltown was chosen as

one of the places that would benefit most from sportscotland's sport hub initiative, created to increase the number of people of all ages participating in sport in Scotland.

'The Big Sports Weekend means sports clubs can increase their number of qualified coaches, improve the knowledge of existing coaches and support the backroom staff who make sport happen in the community.'

Innovative

'It is part of an exciting, innovative approach to delivering sport.'

All information and booking forms can be found at www.argyllsportshubs.com

Booking forms should be taken along with payment, where relevant, to Aqualibrium. Bookings for all courses will close on Monday, February 2.

For further information contact Jillian Gibson at jillian.gibson@argyll-bute.gov.uk or telephone 07747 118 283.



Pictured are some of the young footballers in the P2-4 age category who had lots of fun at CDJFA's first Sunday coaching session of 2015.

Sunday football for youngsters is under way

CHILDREN in the P2-4 age group are being encouraged to go along to Campbeltown and District Juvenile Football As-

sociation's Sunday football coaching.

3G pitch It is held at Kinloch's 3G pitch from midday until 1pm, the sessions

will run each Sunday until the Easter school holidays.

School Primary two indoor football will begin on

Friday, January 30 at Campbeltown Grammar, from 5-6pm.

The P3-4's Friday football is at Kinloch from 6-7pm.

Successful fundraiser for dialysis campaign

PICTURED are some of the teams who took part in the recent four-team

football tournament held in Campbeltown in aid of the Kintyre Kid-

ney Dialysis Campaign. The afternoon's football, featuring 50 play-

ers from across Kintyre, raised a magnificent £350.



Campbeltown Boys over-35s won two out of their three matches. 20_c01boys01



Tarbert's over-35s team was boosted by a number of younger players from Campbeltown. 20_c01tarbert01



Campbeltown Loyal, the town's Rangers supporters club, did well against more experienced heads. 20_c01loyal01



Pictured are Burnside's Captain's cup-winning pair Charles Robertson, left, and Martin Coffield.

Charlie checks out in darts cup final

CAMPBELTOWN and District Darts Association's Captain's Cup produced a classic final in the Commercial Inn last Thursday.

Burnside pair Martin Coffield and Charlie Robertson took on The Fiddlers' Vince and Stephen Jordan in a match full of excellent darts, with Stephen hitting two 180s.

With the score 2-2 the Fiddlers scored well in the final leg but failed to check out. Charlie Robertson took

advantage to win the cup for Burnside.

The association thanked the Commercial Inn for providing the venue and donating the bottle prizes.

Results

Week 11 results: Ailsa 5 Southend 5, Kilbrannan B 6 Kilbrannan C, 4 Fiddlers 8 Commercial 2, Burnside 8 Fiddlers B 2, Kilbrannan A/Bye.

Jimmy Umpherton hit a checkout of 102 for Southend.

West coast sailing and much more

David Adams McGilp, Argyll regional director VisitScotland

MOST people who enjoy messing about in boats hope that a stormy winter heralds a good summer, permitting many hours of pleasure on the water.

I am one of them, forever optimistic that perfect weather conditions will coincide with spare time.

It rarely happens that way, but even poor days can be made better by the wealth of improvements that have been made up and down the west coast over the last couple of decades.

New and upgraded marinas and transit facilities have made it much easier for the majority of recreational boaters to plan passages and spend longer periods ashore, satisfied that their pride and joy is secured to a sturdy and sheltered pontoon.

Frequent and varied experiences ashore appeal to everyone, even the saltiest of skippers, and offer wel-

come breaks from doing everything at an angle of 30 degrees.

Towns, villages and tiny settlements that welcome visitors arriving by boat have an opportunity to make the most of a growing market.

While a core of resident pleasure craft exists at most locations, recent years have seen significant growth in recreational sea angling, kayak, canoe and board activities.

These enthusiasts are always on the lookout for places that can accommodate their basic needs, and there are any number of communities that could develop local specialisms.

A place to be able to launch and recover small boats is immediately improved by nearby space to park cars and trailers.

If there is a shop, pub or restaurant on the scene, so much the better, but they need to be open. Business opportu-

nities may well exist on site for secure storage of boats and equipment, and the supply of basic, relevant goods and services.

We are lucky to have such a network of places with facilities for visiting boats and crews, and Scotland is the envy of other international destinations. Partnerships exist across the country, dedicated to celebrating some of the best marine environments in the world, and to help understand these assets as foundations for economic recovery and growth.

Accommodating diverse sector requirements is essential, and some communities already manage the co-existence of commercial and recreational interests quite successfully.

What's good for one sector can very often provide benefits for others. For example, cruise liner passengers will be more likely to ex-



Marine tourism is a growth market with companies like Seafari leading the way with multiple destinations throughout Scotland. The Seafari boat is pictured on the Corryvreckan whirlpool.

plore destinations if it's easy for them to disembark; and if they are afforded a warm welcome will be much more inclined to return as inde-

pendent travellers with more time and money to spend. Visitors respond to events and festivals in much the same way, and as long as they meet

or exceed consumer expectations can function as investments in the future.

I am already looking forward to visiting

some beautiful, friendly and welcoming places around the coast this year. In perfect sunshine and a steady breeze, of course.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2750

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
H Wardrop
Smith Drive
Campbeltown
D Wallace
Stewart Road
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. 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.



Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

Name

Address

.....

..... Tel No.

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

spot the
ball jackpot
now at
£2750!

What happened to 'all-weather'?



Kinloch Park's 'all-weather' 3G pitch was anything but last Saturday as two scheduled matches were postponed. 20_c04snow01

One inch of snow forces second cancellation of cup tie

CAMPBELTOWN footballers suffered a fixture blackout, or rather a whiteout, last Saturday as a snow-bound 'all-weather' pitch at Kinloch forced two games to be called off.

Campbeltown Pupils' league cup tie with Dunoon Athletic was postponed when Kinloch's 3G artificial surface was covered by an inch of snow.

It means Kintyre's top side will, by this week-

end have gone six weeks without having kicked a ball in anger.

It has been a frustrating time for a group of players keen to return to the fray after picking up good momentum prior to the break.

Campbeltown Pupils' under-13s also had a home tie called off.

A spokesman for the Aqualibrium, the leisure centre in charge of the pitch, said: 'We were forced to close the pitch as it would not have

been safe for players. The artificial surface became slippery underfoot.

'There would also have been an issue with clearing the touchlines of snow.'

Tomorrow (Sat-

day) Campbeltown Pupils will make a third attempt to play their first round Jimmy Marshall Cup tie against Dunoon Athletic.

Sitting fifth and faring well in the Premier Division of the SAFL, the team will also be hoping to make inroads in the league cup competition.

The last time the two sides met was in the SAFL's Centenary Trophy at Dunoon in August 2012. The McFadyens-sponsored Pupils won 4-2 through goals from Gregor Croll, John McCallum and a brace from captain Paul Grumoli.

Scottish Amateur League fixtures

ALL SAFL games were postponed last Saturday due to the weather.

This weekend's fixtures: West of Scotland Cup 4th round - Harestanes v Oban Saints; Jimmy Marshall Cup 1st round - Campbeltown Pupils v Dunoon Athletic; Lochgilphead Red Star v Haldane United. Coronation Cup 1st round - Rossvale v Tarbert.

Machrihanish lottery

THERE were no winners of the Machrihanish Golf Club lottery on Monday when the numbers picked were 2, 17 and 18.

The jackpot goes up to £300 for the Monday, January 26 draw.

Results from Islay Golf Club

ISLAY Golf Club December Medal played Sunday, January 18 - 1 Neil Johnston 83-10=73, 2 R MacIntyre 83-4=79, 3 N Carmichael 83-4=79.

Young Pupils back in action

CAMPBELTOWN Pupils under-13s are on their travels tomorrow (Saturday) as they return to action against Westerton United in the Dumbartonshire Football Development League.

The Glasgow side are pointless after eight games while the young Pupils have enjoyed seven wins out of 11 matches this season.

It is the youngsters' first match since December 20 when they beat Milngavie 4-1.

Carradale hope for third time lucky



Ruaridh McGregor is one of the new arrivals at Carradale having played for Campbeltown Pupils youth and Campbeltown Loyal.

08_c04carrfoot01

CARRADALE are hoping to finally return to West of Scotland AFL action with a fixture away to Cardross.

The East Kintyre side have been without a match since December 20 after two postponements so far in January.

Nonnie Macalister, Carradale manager, said: 'Hopefully this weekend the pitch will be okay at Cardross; it is a grass park, so there was no chance of the game being on last Sat-

urday with the freezing weather.

'Our last encounter ended up being a 7-7 draw in the cup, with extra time and an eventual win on penalties, so we are expecting another tight game.

'We are looking for at least a point which would cement our place in the top half of the league before it splits into two divisions of eight.

Cardross are also looking for one of those

places, so it should be an interesting contest.'

Macalister has seen his team sheet change on a weekly basis this season, with some new players like Ruaridh McGregor and Joseph Boyd introduced to the squad.

He said: 'We are confident we can go away and pick up points as our form on the road has been good this season, but at amateur level a lot depends on the squad available to you.'



Joseph Boyd has joined Carradale after playing as an attacker for summer teams Kintyre Select and Meadows. 08_c04carrfoot02



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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