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The kids are alright

'Culling is the practical option, but would be unacceptable'

by **JOHN McCALLUM**
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

FERAL goats are roaming Machrihanish village and helping themselves to plants and grass.

But villagers have been told they will just have to put up with it.

A herd of around 10 goats have made their annual 'migration' to Machrihanish village in early spring from their usual habitat on the remote cliffs of southwest Kintyre.

However, the herd has strayed further than usual this year, causing both amusement and annoyance for residents.

Wandering

Donnie Gillies, a painter and decorator from Machrihanish, said: 'The goats have been wandering around the village for weeks and we need to find a solution, but not one that in-

volves harm to the animals - they were here before the village.

'It has been nice for visitors, and even for residents, to see such impressive creatures in the village, but it is important to remember these are wild animals and they could be dangerous when cornered.

'I am especially worried about children getting close out of curiosity and getting hurt. Their horns must be at least 18-inches long and could do serious damage.'

John Armour, a South Kintyre councillor who also runs High Tirfergus farm near Machrihanish, said: 'The goats have most likely come to the village looking for food, with some of them rearing young and needing more nutritious

grass to feed on. They have come further into the village this year.

'Previously they would only go as far as the fish farm, then the bus turning point at the far end of the village, but as their need for food has got greater they have wandered further into Machrihanish.

Solution

'I agree with residents that a solution has to be found, but while culling is in theory the only practical option, having been done discreetly in the past to address this problem, it is not the option. It would be unacceptable for the public.

'However, I can see them going back round to their normal habitat within the next couple of weeks. In the meantime people should avoid close contact with them.

'These are fast, athletic

Continued on page 2



Feral goats have been roaming Machrihanish streets for weeks.

Picture courtesy of Annette Thomson.

ASBO driver has car seized

AN 18-YEAR-old man already on an anti-social behaviour order had his car seized after being stopped in Hall Street, Campbeltown in the early hours of last Saturday morning.

A police spokesman said: 'The driver had already been issued with an ASBO and with a second vehicle-related disturbance officers have the authority to seize that vehicle. As noise complaints continue to rise we will take action.

'Excessive engine noise and litter from cars is becoming a problem in certain parts of Campbeltown and we will be increasing our presence in those areas.'

Car window smashed

A CAR had its front windscreen smashed by a sandbag in Longrow, Campbeltown, around 1am on Monday.

Police are appealing for any witnesses to contact PC Hall by telephoning Campbeltown police office on 101.

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 Argyll Bute Council

The kids are alright

Continued from page 1
ic animals that will even scale walls and gates so it is best to keep your distance, especially if there are nannies with young nearby.'

Another Machrihanish resident, who did not want to be named, said: 'I really like seeing the goats around but I know for others they are pests as they eat people's plants and then leave a mess in their gardens.'

'I have never seen them come so far in to the village and for such a long time.'

A spokeswoman for Laggan Community Council said: 'People like the goats being around but we have heard concerns from residents about their gardens being decimated.'

'We understand people's frustration but we would hate to see any harm come to these animals.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'The council has no responsibility in relation to the goats as they are classed as wild animals.'

'They do not represent a disease hazard to the public.'

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Disabled spaces 'for badge holders only', drivers warned

CAMPBELTOWN town centre's disabled parking spaces are being misused by some drivers, it was claimed last week.

Campbeltown Community Council wants to see action taken against drivers who use two disabled bays on the Main Street without displaying a disabled parking badge.

A community council spokeswoman said: 'We have heard of cases of disabled badge holders not being able to park in the designated area in Main Street because people are parked there without a badge.'

'Sometimes it is even workers sitting in their vans to eat their lunch who take up these spaces.'

Members called on Argyll and Bute Council to properly enforce the area, after the issue was raised at the group's monthly meeting last Tuesday.

The spokeswoman added: 'Perhaps it was unclear whether it was an offence to park in this area without a disabled badge on display in your vehicle.'

'There is a pole on the pavement, clearly visible to approaching drivers, which says the spaces are for disabled badge holders only, and we hope non-badge holders will bear that in mind.'

'As it stands you can be fined for parking there.'

'However, the overuse of these parking spaces also shows there is still



This car was parked legally in one of the controversial Main Street spaces. 08_a17parking01

a lack of car parking space in Campbeltown town centre. People are willing to take the risk of parking illegally, which suggests they feel they do not have much alternative.'

'We hope the council will take steps to ensure the area is properly

monitored, to give drivers holding a disabled badge closer access to town centre shops and services.'

An Argyll and Bute Council spokesman said: 'Since May last year the council has been responsible for the enforcement of park-

ing restrictions in Argyll and Bute.'

'We have one amenity warden in the Mid-Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands area.'

'In terms of enforcement, disabled spaces marked with ground markings as well as a pole with a disabled

sign, such as the spaces in Campbeltown's Main Street, are enforceable as part of the road traffic order.'

The council's road traffic order, brought into force in June last year, will see drivers fined £60 if caught parking illegally.



Becky Anderson, from Southend, is one of the brides to feature in this Sunday's Explore Campbeltown Wedding Fayre.

Photo: Will Anderson

Wedding fayre just two days away

EXCITEMENT is building as Campbeltown prepares for a wedding fayre - and tickets are still up for grabs.

More than 30 businesses from Campbeltown and Kintyre will have stalls displaying their products and services in the Victoria Hall this Sunday, April 26 from 1-4pm.

Showcasing

At 1.30pm, Numero Dix Hair Salon, Eye Adore U and The Headquarters Barber Shop

will be in the spotlight, showcasing their skills with beauty demonstrations.

Two catwalk shows will take place over the afternoon featuring Jean Farmer Clothing and blushing bride models.

There will also be a raffle on the day, with some fantastic prizes up for grabs including a pair of rose gold GHD stylers, one night's bed and breakfast at Ugdale Hotel, vouchers for shops, restaurants and

beauty outlets as well as other gifts from various businesses.

Winners

Raffle tickets will be available on the day and will be priced at £1 per strip, with the winners drawn at around 3.30pm on the day.

Tickets for the fayre cost £3 per person (including a complimentary glass of champagne) and can be bought in advance from Cadendale's Whisky Shop and Numero Dix Hair

Salon. People can also pay at the door on the day.

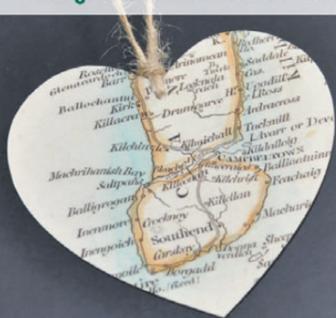
A spokeswoman for Explore Campbeltown said: 'We hope to have a strong turnout for the event and see the sort of success we had with the Christmas market in November.'

'The money raised is going to two worthy causes in Campbeltown, the Christmas weekend and the Campbeltown Leukemia Cancer Committee.'

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The LibDem vote has gone for good in Scotland. They failed to win a single mainland seat in the last Holyrood election and they now have no Scottish MEPs at all. The latest polls show they are falling further - with just 5% support. Incredibly, almost 90% of their past voters are saying they will not vote LibDem again.

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Planners blow wind farms into the dust

TWO controversial wind farm applications for West Kintyre sites have been rejected.

Argyll and Bute council's planning, protective services and licensing committee meeting on Wednesday refused to grant permission for developer RES to install 14 turbines at Blary Hill, Glenbarr, and Burcote Wind's plan for a further 18 at Creggan, in hills north east of the village.

RES manager Neil Martin said: 'We are extremely disappointed at Argyll and Bute Council's refusal to consent RES's application for Blary Hill wind farm.'

'This development would result in significant environmental and economic benefits for Argyll and Bute and Scotland as a whole. 'We will review this decision and consider our next steps.'

Police ask pupils - be road aware

POLICE are advising Campbeltown Grammar pupils to take care when walking from the school to the town centre at lunchtime and after school.

Campbeltown police have received several complaints from motorists about youths stepping off the pavement while playing, potentially putting themselves in danger.

A Campbeltown police spokesman said: 'Pupils should be careful when walking in groups on the way to lunch or when going home from school.'

'Motorists have been left shaken after nearly hitting pupils stepping onto the road without warning.'

Police are also keen to curb litter in Campbeltown town centre.

Campbeltown's own American football star

It is a far cry from kicking a ball about at The Meadows in the Wee Toon

by MARK DAVEY and JOHN McCALLUM
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

A HARD-kicking Campbeltown sports star has hit the headlines in Texas.

Former Grammar pupil Mark McPhee has helped semi-pro American football team Victoria Texans put together a five-game winning streak.

Texan paper The Victoria Advocate profiled McPhee last Saturday.

McPhee, a keen school-level goalkeeper, left for the United States in 2012 on a sports scholarship programme called Soccer Icon.

In the States his legendary straight kicking has allowed him to swap styles and join the Texans in the third week of the regular season.

Since joining the team he has been dubbed 'Legatron' and has become a regular at notching touchbacks on kick-offs in the five games he has played with the team.

McPhee said: 'An agency Soccer Icon had some trial days and I signed on with them.'

'We had a showcase in front of the American soccer coaches in London and I chose a college in America that gave me the best scholarship deal.'

'I transferred down to Victoria after the university here made an offer.'

'American football has just come around fortui-

tously this semester. If it takes me higher, which is very possible, I am up for it.'

The Texans had lost two games from two when McPhee arrived but now their season has all changed.

The team's quarter-



Mark McPhee in the Victoria Texans outfit.

back and receiver Keith Hradek said: 'McPhee is like a Scottish lucky charm.'

'We are able to kick field goals now and pin opponents on the 20-yard line.'

McPhee said: 'It is very similar to goal keeping as you can be

called on to save the day at the last minute just like in our football.'

'I could have a game when I am not involved at all and then 'boom' I have to come up trumps and save the game with a kick instead of a save.'

McPhee was spotted by fellow student Martin Bautista, who is a pal of the Texans' owner Rudy Guzman.

'McPhee, at six-foot three inches is a big guy,' said Bautista, 'And he's a goalkeeper so I knew he could kick the ball strong and hard.'

It is not all sporting action for McPhee and he splits his time between studying biology in the mornings followed by afternoon training.

McPhee said: 'I am looking to move on to the study of movement, athletic training or conditioning with a minor in sports management.'

So far the crowds have not been huge due to bad weather but McPhee said that the owner has told him they can reach thousands through the turnstiles.

It is a far cry from kicking a ball about at The Meadows in Campbeltown.



Mark McPhee kicks his way to fame in America.

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Councillors express doubt over landslides solution

A PERMANENT solution to landslides and closed roads on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful should be found as soon as possible, councillors demanded at a meeting of their transportation committee this week.

Argyll and Bute council leader Dick Walsh said he was fearful it would be generations before the problem was fully resolved and said the local authority should continue to lobby by the government on a 'very regular' basis.

Jim Smith, head of roads at the council, said: 'Only the Scottish government can supply a permanent solution.'

'I believe we are

building a master plan through a task force set up in 2012. The solutions to the problems at the Rest and Be Thankful all cost tens if not hundreds of millions of pounds and are out with the reach of any budgets at present.'

Councillor Vivian Dance, from Helensburgh, asked: 'Does the task force really see a master plan developing from its work?'

Plug the holes

'It doesn't seem like it to me. Money comes in from the government to resolve a specific incident and to plug the holes where a problem has been.'

'Where is the big master plan to deal with this?'

It is no solution to deal with last year's problem. When will there be an absolute solution to this problem?'

Councillor Walsh said: 'It is good to keep the item on the agenda and to keep lobbying.'

'It is quite difficult to see how things will move forward and it may be in two or three decades time before anything will really happen.'

The Rest and Be Thankful has been closed more than 10 times in the past two years. A petition, to set up the task force and lobby for an upgrade of the A83 road, has been included in Scottish government plans.

Forum is 'too secretive'

THE ARGYLL and Bute Economic Forum, set up to increase opportunities for employment and business in Argyll, has been accused of working 'in secret.'

Councillor Anne Horn said at a meeting of Argyll and Bute council's development and infrastructure last week that forum chairman, Nicholas

Ferguson had a conflict of interest as he was also a director of the Sustainable Inland Fisheries Trust (SIFT) and its decision to lobby for regulation in the Firth of Clyde was detrimental to the fishermen of Argyll. Members from across the council rose to the BSKyB boss's defence saying he was 'the right person for the job'.



Kintyre is made of the write stuff

MEMBERS of Kintyre Writers' Circle attended the annual conference and awards ceremony of the Scottish Association of Writers held in Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld.

Member Elizabeth McTaggart said: 'It was a resounding success for all of us, and we were

more than happy to bring home a clutch of awards.'

Small group

'KWC is a small group compared to some of the others from all over Scotland, some of whom number 50 and more. As usual, Kintyre punches well above its weight.'

Three of the members who attended are pictured, from left: Helen Watson, Meg Gannon, and Jacqui Colville.

Kintyre Writers' Circle are always pleased to welcome new members. Information about meetings etc. may be obtained from the library at Aqualibrium.

Up to 1,000 council jobs could be at risk

POSSIBLE council cuts to frontline services, including protecting vulnerable adults and children, could see up to 1,000 jobs axed.

Services could be slashed by 20 per cent as Argyll and Bute Council makes a desperate bid to balance the books.

Councillors heard last week that swingeing cuts to departmental spending was inevitable as the council planned to implement draconian budgets for the next four to five years.

Opposition councillors admitted little could be done to avoid extensive cuts, with the local authority's budget facing a shortfall of £48 million.

Drastic savings are required by all Scottish local authorities – in part due to a reduced block grant cash settlement from the Scottish government and a commitment not to increase the council tax.

Councillor Sandy Taylor, leader of the council's opposition group, said: 'The cuts may be even higher than predicted - as much as £48 million.'

'We are working in an environment where the local authority as it stands will no longer be the same. The funding

cuts will mean massive job losses.

'It may be time for the local authority to consider taking away whole services that we are not required to provide rather than cut away at every service.'

'It might be better to do some things well instead of running services we simply cannot afford to.'

A worst case scenario predicted job losses of between 500 - 1,000, as service budgets were slashed.

Councillors agreed the council will 'change fundamentally' and will no longer be able to provide the 'extra' services it does at the moment.

A report compiled for the council's policy and resources committee detailed how 20 per cent could be cut from essential services.

Addiction teams, learning disability centres, mental health support, older people's funding, child protection, looked-after children, adult learning, community centres and community development, swimming pools, classroom assistants and Gaelic education are among the 69 services on the proposed hit list.

The council plans to

invest in only four areas – economic development, projects and renewables, air services and communication and marketing.

A council spokesman said the cuts were options under consideration and not policy as the local authority tries to claw back almost £27 million over the next two years.

Council leader Dick Walsh said: 'In order to meet the budgetary gap of £11.5 million in 2016-17 and taking into account possible lead-in times for delivery of savings, it is estimated that a savings equivalent of 12 per cent will need to be delivered in 2016-17.'

Councillor Walsh also ordered a detailed report on the cost of job losses, particularly severance payments 'which could be significant'.

He said a detailed paper of staff cuts would be available by the end of this month or in May.

Argyll and Bute council's budget currently stands at £244.234 million, which means a 12 per cent saving would amount to a staggering £29.3 million.

Former council leader James Robb was less pessimistic about the

council's finances.

He argued: 'Given the cyclical improvement in the global economy and the lessening risk of public sector cuts, it seems unreasonable to assume the worst case.'

'To put that in perspective, over the next two years we will be making £4.3 million of potentially unnecessary cuts or losing 165 jobs, using the council's methodology.'

The council spokesman added: 'No decisions have yet been taken about specific levels of savings for services and how these will be achieved.'

'Services have been asked to explore options on how savings could be delivered.'

'Formal savings targets and options for services will be considered by the committee in early June; then, in October, the committee will look at detailed savings proposals.'

'If agreed, these will go out to consultation.'

He agreed decisions taken could involve different ways of delivering services rather than job cuts, such as redeployment, voluntary redundancy and other measures to maintain jobs.

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Picturesque place blighted by litter and potholes

POTHoles plaguing the A83 in South Kintyre and litter in a disused shipyard have been branded an 'absolute disgrace'.

Campbeltown pensioner Keith Abendroth said that a recent trip to New Zealand and Australia had opened his eyes to how good rural road surfaces could be and how tidy a place should appear.

He said that in both countries all the roads were a complete joy to drive on.

Mr Abendroth, 72, said: 'Just before I left Scotland, my car was damaged by potholes locally and I had to have two front springs replaced at a cost of £540.'

'When I left in mid-March resurfacing work was taking place.

Ramp signs

'However, the ramp signs were in such a place that no warning was given before you hit the ramps.

'At last those signs have been removed but the potholed roads are

just a bit further out of town.'

Mr Abendroth said that many potholes remained, highlighting one just outside Campbeltown.

A BEAR Scotland spokesperson said: 'Our inspection team identified the surface defect on April 9 during our weekly safety inspections of the A83. The pothole is programmed for repair within 28 days.'

'Due to the severe winter weather and the

increase of surface defects on parts of the north west network, route tours of the network are being undertaken in April with Transport Scotland.'

Mr Abendroth also compared the areas between towns and cities in Australia and New Zealand to South Kintyre.

He said that hedgerows between towns were almost devoid of litter accumulation by the roads but here litter was ever-present.

Mr Abendroth said: 'I should add that the beaches in the two countries are devoid of litter but most of the beaches round Campbeltown are littered with debris.'

'The state of the A83, and litter, particularly around the former Lithgows shipyard shore, is



Keith Abendroth by a marked pothole on the A83 which has remained unrepaired for months. 08_a17pothole01



Litter at the former Lithgows shipyard. 08_a17litter02

an absolute disgrace.'

He said that with a bit of imagination the shipyard site could be developed to have a hotel and marina rather than remain a dumping ground.

A Lithgows spokesman said: 'I note that the picture has been tak-

en by your reader from a position inside the site and that this area can't be seen from outside the site boundary.'

Development

'The site is available for development should anyone be interested.'

Mr Abendroth added:

'We pay a heavy burden of direct, indirect and council tax charges - why can the government and local authority not improve the overall look and vista of what is a picturesque area spoiled by appalling roads and endless rubbish?'

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The buzz of a challenge not a computer

CHALLENGING tasks and adventures are all part of the thrill of being a cub or beaver scout.

Team work is also an essential element of many scouting activities and sets them apart from solitary screen-based games.

This week we hear that since reopening its doors just 15 months ago the 16th Argyll Campbeltown Scout Group is in high demand.

This is something to celebrate in an era when the ersatz adventure of virtual challenges are all too easily available.

Some adventures such as the excitement of conquering a fear of heights to complete an abseil are easy to imagine.

The modern scouting movement includes badges for diverse activities such as do it yourself, collecting, caring for animals, home help and even fire safety.

In the past great store was placed on the ability to set a fire.

Many challenges are supported by commercial companies and perhaps open young minds to the opportunities these firms offer.

Only scouts will know that the science badge is sponsored by Rolls Royce and young navigators are supported by Ordnance Survey.

None of this great work with young minds is possible though without adult volunteers and for Campbeltown's group to grow new leaders are needed now.

Reprieve for Barr Glen

PLANNERS listened to the people in a small West Kintyre village and rejected two large wind farm applications this week.

Many voices including MSP Michael Russell and former MP Alan Reid united to condemn the plan, which may have despoiled a sensitive part of the countryside, regardless of the possible economic benefit.

Will this be the end or are revised plans already in the air?

who's who at your
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Reid's response

Sir,
I was astonished to read SNP supporters continue their disgusting campaign of accusing me of protecting paedophiles ('Question was not answered', Friday, April 17).

Many people have suffered terrible abuse at the hands of paedophiles and it is vitally important that the inquiry finds the truth and that those perpetrators still alive are punished.

I did answer Mrs Wilson's question. I quote from my previous letter: 'The Home Secretary had announced that the Official Secrets Act could not be used to stop people giving evidence to the inquiry into historic child abuse. Her statement in the House of Commons gives the lawful authority to anyone to supply information to the inquiry without fear of prosecution under that Act.'

This means that there was no point in voting for the amendment Mrs Wilson referred to. Any whistleblower already has the full protection of the law for giving evidence to the inquiry.

We cannot allow these personal attacks from the SNP to divert attention from their damaging policies.

It is vitally important to remember that the SNP's plan to cut Scotland's budget by £7.6 billion is on top of Scotland's existing large budget deficit. They also want to replace the generous Barnett formula with rapidly disappearing oil revenues.

The SNP are mounting a strong challenge throughout Scotland in this election, but on the doorstep it is obvious that a majority of people are

very worried an SNP victory will see huge tax rises in Scotland.

It is also obvious that, since the Lib Dems have won the last six UK elections in Argyll and Bute, I am the candidate best placed to see off this SNP challenge.

Alan Reid
Liberal Democrat
candidate
Argyll and Bute

How do we get broadband installed

Sir,
We would be very grateful if this letter could highlight the problem we are having getting broadband installed. We started the process in September 2014 but still no luck. Endless emails, telephone calls, even hunting down Openreach employees in person have had no success.

Is anyone else having a serious problem getting broadband installed?

We would really like to hear other people's experiences of dealing with BT and Openreach and if the process was successful please let us know how to do it.

What do we have to do get this situation sorted?

Chris and William Nelson
The Village Hall
Drumlemble.

Lib Dems made the real gains

Sir,
The opposition leaders' TV debate on April 16 was devoid of surprise, but not of interest.

They all wanted to see the back of the Tories and all present, bar UKIP, wanted to borrow more.

'Austerity' may be the new dirty word, but since when does borrowing more money, with interest to pay, actually help the future generations who must pay it back?

Of course it is essential to invest in the future, but surely not recklessly at the cost of crippling debt?

Unfortunately the Liberal Democrats were excluded from the TV debate, as they were part of the coalition government.

Perhaps this was a cunning plan to mask the achievements of Liberal Democrats during the coalition, such as raising the income tax threshold so that people pay £800 less tax, the 'triple-lock' biggest ever pension increase, and 20 pence per litre off road fuel.

Viewers did not hear from the only party which has a balanced, costed programme for government that will cut services less than the Tories and UKIP, and will borrow less than the SNP, Labour or Greens.

The Liberal Democrat policies are still the ones to beat. I am pleased Alan Reid has agreed to stand again as our MP, exemplifying the hard-working constituency presence we want as he speaks up for Argyll and Bute.

Trevor Oxborrow
A'Chruach
Campbeltown

Road campaigners - don't stop

Sir,
Last week's Courier article on the push for a pavement at the edge of Machrihanish was very interesting. It was good

to see other letters and not just politics.

In my own experience, my family has lived in West Kintyre for almost 38 years and throughout that time we have had to dodge across the main road.

Vehicles on the Tayinloan straight are travelling fast when approaching the village, such as huge supermarket, delivery and timber lorries.

The rush of air alone that they produce is frightening.

Elsewhere in Kintyre I see that Machrihanish has a 30mph speed limit but no pavement. I wish the campaigners there all the best.

Z MacDougall
Glenbarr

Conservatives are clear choice

Sir,
It is clear to see that the Liberal Democrats are finished here in Argyll and Bute.

Their doorstep campaigning has been invisible and their membership is now non-existent.

Now the Lib Dems are resorting to desperate tactics.

Deliberately setting out to mislead voters in the most cynical way possible, they have been putting out fake 'switchers' letters in a panicked bid to stem its expected wipe-out in the coming election. We are appealing to former Liberal Democrat voters in Argyll and Bute - that you now have a home with the Scottish Conservatives.

Alastair Redman
Conservative and
Unionist
Candidate
Argyll and Bute

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

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

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk; telephoning the senior reporter on 01586 554646 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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The Editor reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses must be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, are also appreciated. Anonymous letters cannot be considered. Please write to: Letters, *The Campbeltown Courier*, Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AE. Fax (01586) 553006.

email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

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

Argyll and Bute a four-way marginal

WITH less than two weeks before the general election polling day on May 7, the battle for Argyll and Bute is hotting up. The constituency stretches from Helensburgh, just 32.5 miles from Glasgow, to Islay 124 miles further west. In 2010 Lib Dem Alan Reid won the seat with 14,292 votes, 5,729 more than the

fourth placed SNP candidate on 8,563. Nominations for the constituency closed at 4pm last Thursday with five candidates declared.

Homes

Three have homes within the constituency: SNP's Brendan O'Hara from Helensburgh, the Conservative's

Alastair Redman from Islay and Alan Reid from Dunoon. Labour's Mary Galbraith is based in Bishopton, Renfrewshire, and UKIP's Caroline Santos comes from Selkirkshire.

If Alan Reid takes the chequered flag on May 8 he may be the only Lib Dem left in Scotland.

Candidates' statements



ALAN REID - LIB DEMS

Continuing the recovery

THIS will clearly be a very close election between myself and the SNP challenger, with the other parties out of the running.

People have a choice between the Liberal Democrat policy of continuing the recovery from the crash of 2008 or voting SNP with their policy of going to London to demand a £7 billion cut in the Scottish parliament's budget.

I promise to put Argyll and Bute first, as I always have done.



BRENDAN O'HARA - SNP

Secure new powers

THIS general election is not a re-run of the referendum.

In May, you have the opportunity to keep Scotland top of the UK political agenda and secure extensive new powers for the Scottish parliament.

Together we can end Westminster's unfair and inequitable austerity programme and scrap the plan to spend 100 billion pounds replacing Trident.

The SNP will ensure that new powers promised to the Scottish parliament in September are delivered in full.

This is what a vote for the SNP can achieve, not only for you and Argyll and Bute, but also for Scotland and everyone across the UK. Only you have the power to make that happen.



MARY GALBRAITH - LABOUR

Representing everyone

THIS election is about choosing who can best represent everyone in Argyll and Bute.

A Labour government will increase the minimum wage to £8, end zero-hours contracts, tackle tax-dodging, lower energy prices, abolish the bedroom tax, introduce a £1,600 future fund for school leavers and protect the NHS.

Born and reared in Argyll, I grew up on the family farm in Kintyre, was educated in local schools, then studied economics and German at Glasgow University.

It's the need to transform our prospects here that drives me to represent local people.

Argyll and Bute deserves better.



CAROLINE SANTOS - UKIP

End rule from Brussels

THE ELDEST of three, brought up and educated in Argyll, I am delighted to have been selected by UKIP for my home constituency of Argyll and Bute.

Educated at rural Rashfield primary and then Dunoon grammar schools, I worked in the tourist industry on the Isle of Tiree and then at a fish farm outside Dunoon.

I then changed direction to spend some of my career working in the care industry while bringing up three children.

If elected to represent Argyll and Bute, I will prove a doughty champion for the issues affecting the constituency whilst campaigning to end rule from Brussels and promote Scotland's place at the heart of a united kingdom.



ALASTAIR REDMAN - CONSERVATIVE

Keep economic progress going

AS A SMALL business owner in Argyll and Bute, I know the challenges faced by both the rural and urban parts of this constituency.

While our local and national economies are

starting to grow, we are still facing big challenges.

It's clear that only the Conservatives have the strength to beat the SNP and only we can safeguard Argyll and Bute's hard-fought economic progress.

Vote Conservative and Unionist at the election and I promise to work tirelessly for Argyll and Bute.



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Denzil all set for third crime caper

'I am really looking forward to the launch'

A TROUBLED Kintyre cop is back in a dark suit and singing a sad song.

Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) Jim Daley's first outing was in Campbeltown author Denzil Meyrick's debut novel *Whisky From Small Glasses* in 2013.

Now the third instalment *Dark Suits and Sad Songs* is due to hit the shelves with a launch in Oban's Waterstone's bookshop on Thursday May 14.

DCI Daley's complex relationships with his bosses, colleagues and his unfaithful but passionately-loved wife drive the crime series forward.

The novels are loosely set in Denzil's native Kintyre.

Denzil said: 'I am really looking forward to the launch and am hopeful the book will do well. My publisher Polygon, and most importantly my wife, think *Dark Suits and Sad Songs* is my best book yet.'

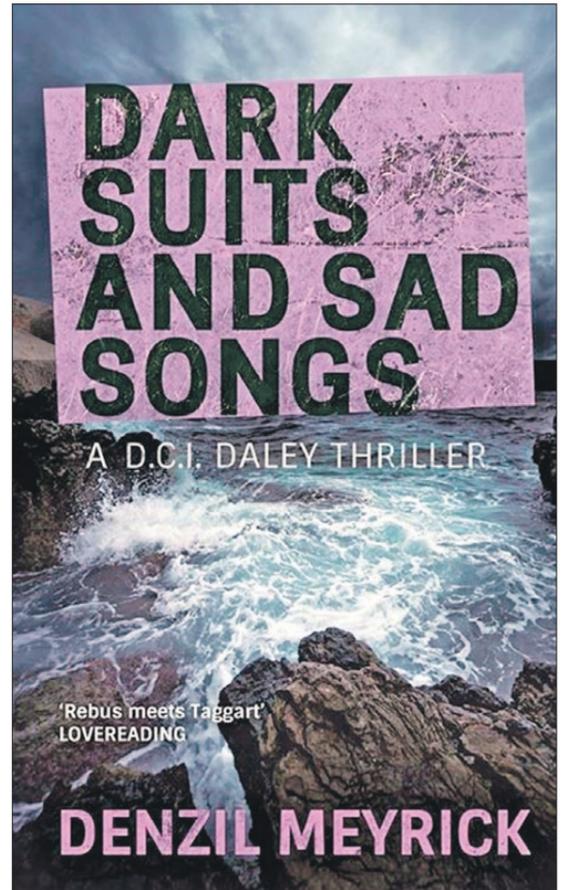
Asked what readers can expect, Denzil said: 'The underlying theme of police corruption continues. Both DCI Daley and his side kick DS Scott have their personal demons to deal with.'

'A spectacular event in Kinloch harbour sets the tone for the rest of the book.'

'It is darkly exotic, with an international presence in the story, and some strange and shocking demises as the web of crime and corruption in Kinloch unravels.'

Denzil was due to appear at the Aye Write! literary festival in Glasgow on Wednesday evening.

He added: 'The chance to rub shoulders with Scottish literary giants is a wonderful opportunity and an experience I will savour.'



Dark Suits and Sad Songs, Denzil Meyrick's latest crime novel.



Denzil Meyrick.

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Campbeltown photographer John McFadyen took this picture recently at Gauldrons Bay, Machrihanish. Do you have a picture of a Kintyre scene you would like to share with our readers? Email it to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk with a few details.

Rally en route to Kintyre

TOP rally drivers will descend on Kintyre for the second year running when the Mach 1 Stages rally comes to Machrihanish Airbase.

The community-owned site, which hosted the high-octane challenge organised by Dunfermline Car Club last July, will welcome a

host of Scottish entries - and even six Irish cars - for two days of competition on July 11-12.

Race organiser David Hattrick said: 'Last

year's rally was an unprecedented success, with more than 100 teams competing across the weekend, and spectator figures were astonishing.

Great boost

'Some of the top competitors from the Scottish Rally Championship (SRC) took part too, which was a great boost to the popularity of the event.

'This year we want to cement the Mach 1 Stages rally as the event to get in your diary early.

'Last year was about establishing the race and this year we would like to develop it further, by developing contacts and

encouraging local businesses to become involved in this summer's event, either by sponsoring a stage or a local competitor.

'There is huge potential in Kintyre from a motorsport point of view, so we are looking at the bigger picture.

'The community has been superb in its support of the event and we are keen to repay that with another great weekend for competitors and spectators.'

If you would like to get involved in this year's event, contact David Hattrick on 07717130612 or email davidh@foxconstruction.co.uk



One of the competitors at last year's Mach 1 Stages rally, which returns to Kintyre in July.

Harry and the Hendersons to perform at MOKFest

A PROMISING Glasgow band, who were one of five winners in a ferry company's music competition, will play in Campbeltown as part of their prize.

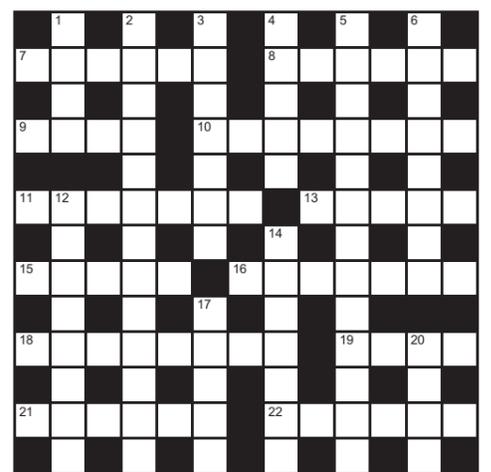
The Caledonian MacBrayne Culture Music competition pitted eight finalists against each other, from more than 50 entries, at live mu-

sic venue King Tut's in Glasgow. Glasgow's Harry and the Hendersons earned the right to play at the Mull of Kintyre Music Festival in Campbeltown in August, with four other winners being given slots at festivals across the Highlands and islands, including the Tirree Music Festival.



Harry and the Hendersons will play at this year's MOKfest after winning the Caledonian MacBrayne Culture Music competition.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- 7 Build up (6)
- 8 Not quite (6)
- 9 Betting term (4)
- 10 To a certain extent (8)
- 11 Go faster (5,2)
- 13 Wee one (5)
- 15 Relating to a velum (5)
- 16 Fine pebble-grained leather (7)
- 18 Everyday (8)
- 19 Test (4)
- 21 Rise (6)
- 22 Improvement (6)

Down

- 1 Gulf war missile (4)
- 2 Questioned (5-8)
- 3 Remainder (7)
- 4 Done gradually (5)
- 5 Female band leader (4,9)
- 6 Power type (8)
- 12 Lung trauma (8)
- 14 Man's drinking vessel? (4,3)
- 17 Late (5)
- 20 Atmosphere (4)

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Spring Farming Special

Beef producers suffer as average prices dip below last year's sales

BEEF producers are suffering severe pressure on price, as demonstrated at Islay's recent sale of all classes of cattle, where the stronger cattle were hard to sell.

Wholesale prices for Scottish steers passing through abattoirs at the beginning of April averaged just over 360p per kg – 20p per kg less than at the same time in 2014.

Islay sales prices saw bullocks sell to an average 230.08 per kilo.

That means an average finished steer weighing 600 kilos is worth around £80 per head less when it enters the

food chain compared to prices last spring.

Adding to the problem, many beef animals on Scottish farms are now ready for the market.

However, a combination of lower retail demand for beef and a weak Euro making exports more difficult – and imports more attractive – means that beef cattle are backing up on Scottish farms waiting for slots to enter abattoirs.

NFU Scotland's livestock committee chairman, Charlie Adam, said: 'Lower demand, falling prices and abattoir delays at this time

of year appear to have become perennial problems for Scotland's beef producers. While experts point to a tightening of supplies later in the year, the reality for many beef producers is that prices are now substantially lower than last year.

'While these may be offset by lower feed costs this season, the delays now being experienced in getting animals away to abattoirs when they are at their peak runs the risk of cattle no longer meeting the specification demanded by processors and the marketplace. That runs the risk

of price penalties being imposed for stock being too heavy or too fat, and any margin is quickly eroded.'

He said that currency was also a problem, with a weak Euro contributing to 'difficult' export conditions.

'NFUS will continue to work with Quality Meat Scotland through its beef marketing strategy group.

'We welcome its decision to adjust the timing of next year's beef campaign to include Easter and believe it will help stimulate demand for Scotch during this holiday period.'

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Black grouse under the spotlight



DATA: Black grouse movements will be tracked round an Argyll wind farm. Photo by Laurie Campbell

A WIND farm in Argyll is one of a number of sites being used by ScottishPower Renewables (SPR) to help improve black grouse population numbers.

At Cruach Mhor on the Cowal peninsula, native woodland habitats are being created by planting trees and moorland areas are being restored.

SPR also plans to study the movements of black grouse in relation to

wind farms, following on from a collaborative study with Newcastle University and funding from the World Pheasant Association.

The Cowal site will trial 'tagging' black grouse with data logger harnesses to track the birds' movements.

The data will provide information on the impact of wind farms on black grouse.

Changes made to First Milk's senior staff

FIRST MILK has appointed three new people to its senior leadership team.

Kenny Bain, originally from Lewis, is First Milk's new operations director with responsibility for all of the company's creameries and processing sites, its distribution network and supply chain partnerships.

He has held a number of senior roles in food manufacturing both in Europe and Asia.

Maureen Ross, an experienced human resources director with top class companies, is the new group HR manager.

Paul Miley has taken on the role of interim managing director of First Milk's sports nutrition business - CNP - with immediate effect.

He has worked in operations, marketing and finance roles for Mars, Michelin and ICI.

New chief operations officer Mike Gallach-

er said: 'These new appointments strengthen the First Milk leadership team as we move rapidly to improve the First Milk business performance. Kenny, Maureen and Paul bring high levels of leadership, drive and commercial experience to First Milk and will play key roles in delivering our turnaround plan for the business.'

He will be explaining details of the plan to members in May.

Beef farmers in line for spring payments of SBS

BEEF farmers were due to start receiving their spring payments last Wednesday, April 15 under the Scottish Beef Scheme (SBS).

Rural Affairs Secretary Richard Lochhead confirmed that around 7,600 Scottish farmers, who applied for the SBS before the Hogmanay deadline last year, would be getting a share of the £20.9

million pot.

This is the last year of the current SBS - all animals born on or after December 2 2014 can only be claimed under the new 2015 beef scheme, with payment for that due next year.

Mr Lochhead said: 'I'm delighted that farmers will be getting their payments on time again.'

'Scotch Beef is a prime product that is in demand all over the world - and last year was voted the nation's favourite food and drink product.'

'The Scottish Beef Scheme is aimed at supporting this dynamic sector.'

'This support is vital for farmers, but with every £1 of output from the agricultural sector

generating an additional 80p in other parts of the Scottish economy, the £20.9 million paid out is clearly a welcome boost for all of Scotland.'

'The Scottish Government has a good track record in meeting its payment deadlines and I am pleased to say that has continued for this year's scheme.'

Extension called for on farm greening inspections

A NEW deadline for farmers and crofters submitting the Single Application Form (SAF) has been followed by a call to allow more flexibility in farm inspections.

Scottish rural affairs

secretary Richard Lochhead was at the EU Agricultural and Fisheries Council meeting earlier this week, where he asked the committee to allow flexibility over inspections to maximise

the benefits for Scottish farmers and crofters.

Mr Lochhead said: 'Countries across Europe are dealing with the challenges of the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and

in common with many, we have already said we will make use of the extension to the application deadline that is expected to be approved this week.'

'That flexibility was

welcome for farmers applying both online and those using the paper forms that have always been available in Scotland.'

'However, I am concerned about the lack of

guidance or further information from the commission about the consequences of this.'

'We need to know what flexibilities there are around the timing and nature of Greening in-

spections as it will not be possible to identify farms for inspection until the SAF window has closed.'

The deadline for the SAF has been extended by a month to June 15.



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Unleashing your dog - a huge stress for livestock

A PET retailer is reminding dog owners that farmers have the right to shoot their beloved canine should it threaten the safety of their livestock.

The reminder arrives with the lambing season already underway.

John Cousins, Director of VioVet, an online pet medication and food retailer said: 'The nature of sheep is such that even if a dog thinks it is 'playing', it can wreak havoc among the flock.

'Sheep are flight animals, and will flee at full speed when around an unpredictable dog.

'Dogs running amuck amongst a flock of sheep can cause serious harm to expectant ewes, who could even miscarry.

It also affects the flock's future lambing ability, damaging not just the animals but also the farmer's livelihood.'

'Legal responsibility for destruction of the farmer's property, including to expect-

ant ewes and newborn lambs, lies with the dog owner

'Even some of the best trained dogs can retain a predatory instinct when presented with sheep in pasture, and our advice is simple - keep them on a lead at all times.'

Section nine of the Animals Act (1971) states when the safety of livestock is threatened, the farmer or landowner maintains the right to shoot a dog, provided the incident is report-

ed to police within 48 hours.

Mr Cousins added: 'Nobody wants their dog to be shot at or injured, just as no farmer wants to euthanise a pregnant ewe or young lamb because of an avoidable attack.'

'Farmers have often dedicated years into a breeding flock so it is heart-breaking when their hard work is decimated within minutes by an out-of-control dog.'

NFUS hosts election hustings

FARMERS and crofters in Oban and Lorn are being invited to attend a hustings involving Argyll and Bute's candidates for the general election.

Organised by the National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS), the meeting at the Corran Halls in Oban on Monday April 27 at 7pm is

open to anyone with an interest in agriculture.

Speakers for the evening will be candidates Brendan O'Hara (SNP); Alan Reid (Liberal Democrats); Mary Galbraith (Labour); Alastair Redman (Conservative) and Caroline Santos (UKIP).

NFUS regional manager for Argyll and is-

lands Lucy Sumsion said: 'The event will be a valuable opportunity to put questions to the panel on many of the key issues currently facing Scottish farmers - how we can promote Scotland's fantastic produce at home and abroad, Scotland's future in the EU, and indeed in the UK.'

'Following the fantastic engagement of the rural community in last year's referendum on independence, NFUS urges all members and those living and working in rural Scotland to use this opportunity to quiz candidates on what their vision is for the future of our sector.'

Reduced processing time on crofting forms

CROFTERS face a new, more in-depth form when applying to the Crofting Commission for changes to crofting activities.

This includes appor-

tionment of common grazings land, transferring a tenancy, decrofting, division, enlargement, exchange, letting, sub-letting, short-term letting of crofts or cre-

ating new crofts. The commission is asking for more information on its application forms in order to reduce the processing time.

It is also putting out

new information leaflets and fact sheets to help crofters understand the whole process when planning changes to a croft or common grazings.



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High-level talks deal with rural crime

TACKLING crime in the countryside was on the agenda last week when NFU Scotland met with officials from the Crown office.

Sheep worrying, a key issue which played a large part in the push for a change in the punishments handed out to rural criminals, follows an incident earlier this year in which an NFU member lost 100 of his sheep, with £20,000 worth of damage caused.

Despite being convicted, the offender was only fined £400 and was not given a compensation order.

Ms Thomson announced a review of prosecution policy for

agricultural crime in response to NFU evidence to the Justice Committee, submitted in February.

Allan Bowie, NFU president and Gemma Thomson, the union's legal and technical policy manager, met with the solicitor general and Catriona Dalrymple, the head of policy at the Crown Office and procurator fiscal service (COPFS), and Paul Miele, procurator fiscal depute, at the Crown Office in Edinburgh to discuss how to progress the issues raised by NFUS members, and from the evidence session.

During the meeting, concerns were shared

about a rise in countryside crime, with NFU Scotland emphasising the impact of agricultural crime needing to be considered by prosecutors, ensuring information and the impact on the victim and the business is presented as a matter of course to the court.

NFU Scotland President Allan Bowie commented: 'Agricultural crime in rural areas is on the increase, some of it by opportunist thieves, but there are links to organised crime.'

'The system needs to reflect the full damage and impact caused, for example fines and compensation orders reflect-

ing their severity.

'NFU Scotland looks forward to playing an active role in the review process with a view to implementing necessary amendments needed to tackle agricultural and rural crime.'

The Solicitor General, Lesley Thomson QC, said: 'We recognise the devastating impact agricultural crime can have on Scotland's farming community in Scotland.'

'We look forward to working with NFU Scotland and other interested parties to look at the extent of agricultural crime, and will continue to ensure all powers are used to tackle it effectively.'



Allan Bowie, NFU president, and Lesley Thomson QC, solicitor general for Scotland, met to discuss rural crime and its prosecution.

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MARKET REPORTS

CALEDONIAN Marts Ltd at Stirling on Monday April 20 sold 576 store cattle.

All classes were up in prices from two weeks previously.

Bullocks (271) averaged 238p per kilo selling to 310p per kilo for five Aberdeen Angus from W L Chambers & Son, North Moorhouse, Newton Mearns and to £1,380 for an Aberdeen Angus from J Walker, Glenwhilk, Doune.

Heifers (258) averaged 221p per kg to 286p per kg for Limousins from M/s Harrower, Craigievern, Drymen and to £1145 for Herefords from FB Sangster, Badenkep, Buchlyvie.

Black and white and Ayrshire bullocks (43) averaged 165p per kg selling to 208p per kg from T J Paterson, Alton Muirhouse, Newmiln and to £740 from J D Stevenson & Sons, Bowridge, Denny.

Caledonian Marts Ltd also conducted a special sale of beef breeding cattle which included the stock dispersal of cows with young calves from Flemington Farm, Cambuslang.

The 50 cows and calves from Jamie Robb, topped at £2,700 to average £2,010 with 10 fetching over £2,400.

In calf heifers (12) from the same farm topped at £1,800 to average £1,505.

Heifers with Young Calves at Foot (6) from Wester Thomaston Farm, Banknock sold to £2,750 to average £2,625. Other cows with calves sold to £1,420, Blaircressnock; bulling heifers £1,020, Middle Bankhead; young Lim bull £1,550, Craighead.

Leading prices per head:

Bullocks: 0-250kgs - £775 North Moorhouse; 251-300kgs - £870 Alton Muirhouse; 301-350kgs - £895 Craigievern; 351-400kgs - £1000 Badenkep; 401-450kgs - £1070 Muirend; 451-500kgs - £1170 Gillandersland; 501-550kgs - £1265 Haddockston; 551-600kgs - £1280 Badyen; 601-650kgs - £1295 Gillandersland; 651-700kgs - £1370 Glenwhilk; 701-750kgs - £1380 Glenwhilk.

Heifers: 251-300kgs - £730 North Moorhouse; 301-350kgs - £840 Alton Muirhouse; 351-400kgs - £900 Martnaham Mains; 401-450kgs - £1080 Callendoune; 451-500kgs - £1110 Bowridge; 501-550kgs - £1145 Badenkep.

Leading prices per kilo:

Bullocks: 0-250kgs - 310p North Moorhouse; 251-300kgs - 292p Craigievern & North Moorhouse; 301-350kgs - 290p West Kelt; 351-400kgs - 278p Hilton of Beath; 401-450kgs - 261p Muirend; 451-500kgs - 238p Badyen; 501-550kgs - 243p Haddockston; 551-600kgs - 214p Ardgate; 601-650kgs - 204p Gillandersland; 651-700kgs - 199p Glenwhilk; 701-750kgs - 196p Glenwhilk.

Heifers: 251-300kgs - 286p Craigievern; 301-350kgs - 257p West Kelt; 351-400kgs - 244p Easterton; 401-450kgs - 260p Callendoune; 451-500kgs - 226p Bowridge; 501-550kgs - 208p Badenkep.

CALEDONIAN (Stirling) Ltd sold 607 store hoggets, ewe hoggets and ewes with lambs at foot at its Stirling auc-

tion on Monday April 20.

All classes of sheep sold to sellers' advantage.

Hoggets (207) averaged £53.19 (-0.37p) selling to £81 for a pen of Continentals from N McNaughton, Duallin, Lawers.

Ewes Hoggets (312) averaged £48.39 selling to £70 for Blackface and Texel hoggets from W Manning, Dirnanean and M/s Seymore, Carie.

Ewes with lambs at foot 36 (52 lambs) sold to £166 cross ewes with twins from A Kinnimonth, Kinnighallen.

Leading prices:

Hoggets: Mule x - £73 Duallin, Tex x - £69 Ballendall, Cont - £64 Ford, BF - £66 Easterhouse, Cross - £66 Duallin.

Ewe Hoggets: BF - £68 Duallin, Swale x - £58 Dirnanean, Cross - £61 Carie. Shet - £34 Tingwall.

Ewes with twins lambs (bm) Kinnighallen £160, Ewes with single lambs (bm) Kinnighallen £144, Mule with single lambs (bm) Bankhead £140, Chev with single lambs (bm) Bankhead £132.

UNITED Auctions sold 1,249 store cattle at its annual Perth show and sale on Monday April 20 sponsored by W. Walker, Haulage Contractor, Strathkiness and judged by W Dandie & Sons, Learielaw, Broxburn.

Bullocks (642) averaged 235.20p (-2.9p) to 282.50p per kg for a 400kg LimX from Ballechin Farms and £1,350 for a 638kg LimX from Newton of Arbirlot.

Heifers (607) averaged 234.10p (+6.0p) to 282.20p per kg for a 450kg LimX from Muirhouses and £1,530

for a 616kg CharX from Monzie Farms.

Leading prices per head and per kg:

Store cattle:

Bullocks: 301-350kgs- Monzie Farms £890, 259.90p; 351-400kgs- Ballechin Farm £1130, 282.50p; 401-450kgs Monzie Farms £1180, 269.40p; 451-500kgs Ballechin Farms £1300, 273.50p; 501-550kgs Letham £1310, Little Inch 254.00p; 551-600kgs Letham £1330, 239.00p; 601-650kgs- Newton of Arbirlot, 211.60p.

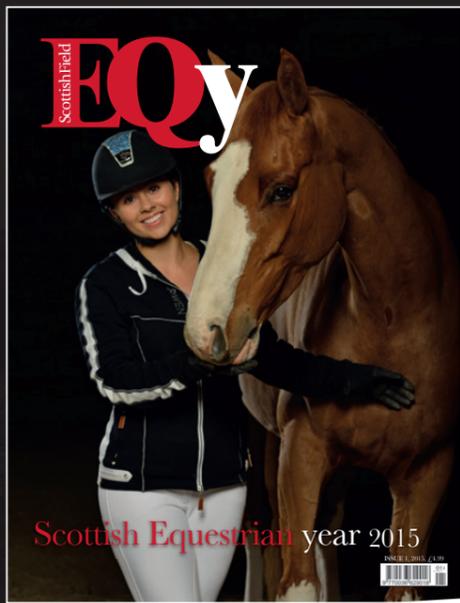
Heifers: 251-300kgs- Wester Bonhard £690, 253.80p; 301-350kgs Monzie £900, 256.40p; 351-400kgs- Wester Bonhard £1040, 261.30p; 401-450kgs Muirhouses £1270, 282.20p; 451-500kgs Monzie £1260, 259.40p; 501-550kgs Newton of Arbirlot £1310, East Buchanty 25.000p; 551-600kgs Newton of Arbirlot £1430, 242.20p; 601-650kgs- Monzie Farms £1530, 248.40p.

Show prize list;

Champion: Ballechin Farms 494kgs £1,300; Reserve Champion: Monzie Farms 616kgs £1530; Best Charolais: Monzie Farms hfr 616kgs £1,530; Single Heifer: 1 Monzie Farms 538kgs £1,380, 2 Prentice Pittentian 496kgs £1,200; Single Bullock: 1 Cameron, Wester Bonhard 448kgs £1,420, 2 Monzie Farms 542kgs £1,360; Pen of eight bullocks/heifers: 1 Monzie Farms 476kgs £1,240, 2 Cameron, Wester Bonhard 366kgs £930; Pen of four bullocks: 1 Cameron, Wester Bonhard 474kgs £1,180, 2 Monzie Farms 393kgs £1,050; Pen of four heifers: 1 Monzie Farms 435kgs £1,180, 2 McLaren, Muirhouses 450kgs £1,270.

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Stirling family buys Caledonian Marts

A FARMERS' co-operative auction mart company, which leases Oban Mart, has been bought over by a family of Stirling farmers and livestock breeders, writes **Marian Miller**.

Caledonian Marts (Stirling) Ltd officially went into administration on Monday but was immediately sold to the firm of John, Brian and Steven Gilvear, which had previously been announced as the preferred bidder for the auction mart firm.

The new company

is called Caledonian Marts Ltd and the independently-owned business will continue to operate along similar lines from its base at Millhall in Stirling and as the operator of the Oban Livestock Group's market at Oban.

The business structure and staff will remain the same, but has a new board of directors under chairman and Doune farmer Niall Bowser, including a new managing director, John Kyle, previously operations director.

Mr Kyle said: 'It is a tremendous relief to have moved past any uncertainty and be looking to the future.'

'We fought long and hard to keep the market operating and cannot thank our loyal clients enough for their continued support.'

'The Gilvear family has been a large operator in livestock for decades and knows the auction system well.'

'They are dedicated supporters, not just of Caledonian Marts but of other firms too, and I

look forward to working with them.'

'Competition is a crucial component of Scottish agriculture and our Stirling and Oban sites will ensure that we never lose sight of this.'

Mr Bowser said: 'It's still early days, but I would like to see a practical bolstering of our auctioneering staff.'

'This would be with a view to having a much greater presence on farms, drawing buyers and sellers to the market.'

'I would like to investigate further developing

specialist areas of marketing such as show cattle, native breed sales, butchers' cattle and perhaps breeding sheep sales.'

'Of course, I would also like to see progressive increase in turnover, perhaps then with a view to some modernisation of the premises.'

Caledonian Marts (Stirling) Ltd had run into financial difficulties, with irrecoverable debts of £3.75 million and had tried but failed in January to re-capitalise through the issue of

new share sales.

Instead bids for the 52-year-old company were invited and included one from rival firm United Auctions Ltd.

Around £800,000 is understood to have been tied up in the company from members' loans.

The money from the sale of the company will be used to pay off creditors, with none of the more than 3,000 members getting any proceeds from the sale.

Andrew Davison, joint administrator with Ernst and Young, said: 'Unfortunately, in recent times, the business has faced financial difficulties due to a build-up of bad debts and, having explored a number of other options, the directors took the decision to appoint administrators to help safeguard the future of the business.'

'We are pleased to announce that a sale has been completed that sees the business assets and all employees transferring to the new company, with the business continuing to trade without interruption.'

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Successful scouts plan to grow

THE 16th Argyll (Campbeltown) Scout Group has gone from strength to strength since it reopened its doors in November 2013.

The original cub pack has now been joined by a beaver scout colony for younger boys and girls and both sections are in high demand.

Lindsay Kenny, group scout leader, said: 'Scouting offers challenge and adventure to 400,000 young people aged 6-25 in the UK.

'We believe in helping our members fulfil their potential by working in teams and learning by doing and thinking for themselves.

'We're working to make scouting available to everyone and we're passionate about what we do.

'Through the adventure of scouting, young people get to take risks in a safe environment, and have their first taste of responsibility. We give young people exper-

iences they'll never forget. When a beaver scout wakes up the morning after a sleepover, or a cub scout has just got over her fear of heights by completing her first abseil - that's adventure.

'However, scouting isn't just about activities for their own sake. We encourage our young people to feel the buzz of the challenge and then reflect on what that means. Did they have fun? Do they feel more confident? Would they do it again?

'This summer our cubs will be going on camp and we aim to have a few days out to try outdoor pioneering and backwoods cooking, weather permitting of course.

'The beavers will be finishing off their healthy eating badge soon and will get to experience some outdoor activities now that the lighter nights are here.'

The leaders of the Campbeltown Scout Group hope to grow the group and be able to offer fun, challenge and adventure to more young people, and plan

another beaver scout colony and cub pack to meet the demand for places.

'To do this adult volunteers are needed to become part of the leadership team,' added Lindsay.

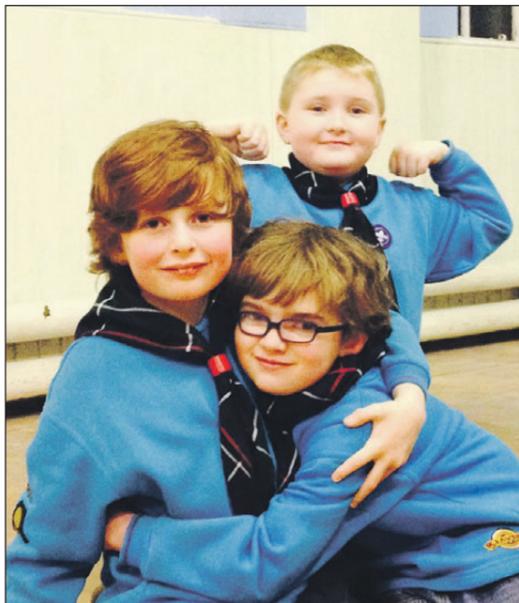
'Volunteering can be flexible, so if anyone can help out not only on a weekly basis but also fortnightly or monthly they are welcome to become a part of the scout group.'

Anyone over the age of 18 interested in joining should contact the leader Lindsay Kenny by email at 16thargyll@gmail.com for more information.

Top right: Some of the Campbeltown cub scouts.

Left: Three of the beaver scouts.

Right: Scouts get to take part in fun outdoor activities.



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Crackdown on misuse of disabled parking

A CAMPAIGN to allow the confiscation of badges from drivers and passengers who are suspected of abusing the Blue Badge scheme for the disabled is being backed by Argyll and Bute Council.

From the end of March, the council's amenity and environmental wardens will have powers to deal with possible cases of misuse.

A council spokeswoman said: 'They will have the authority to approach people who have parked in a disabled bay and inspect any Blue

Badge being displayed. If they have reasons to believe the badge is being incorrectly used they are authorised to confiscate the badge and pass it to the council's social services department for investigation.

Councillor Dougie Philland, the council's policy lead for adult care, said: 'The council is committed to making it possible for people in our communities to live active, healthier and independent lives, and this includes protecting the use of Blue Badges which provide

an essential service for disabled people by allowing access to parking bays which are normally closer to work, shops and other community services.

'It is a criminal offence to misuse a Blue Badge. Hopefully this new legislation will make people think twice before they do so.'

Blue Badges are issued by the council and remain the property of the council and it can ask for a badge to be returned if it is being misused.

For more information on Blue Badges and the rules and regulations around their use, please visit www.bluebadgescotland.org

For information on how to apply for a Blue Badge in Argyll and Bute please visit <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/blue-badges>

Project aims to restore empty land

A PLAN to rejuvenate Scotland's town centres could help revive parts of Campbeltown.

Stalled Spaces Scotland is inviting community groups to apply for small grants to encourage the temporary use of stalled development sites, underused green spaces and vacant and derelict land. Campbeltown is one of five Argyll towns involved in the project and those interested are invited to a drop-in session at the Aqualibrium on Thursday April 30 between 11.30am and 2.30pm.

For further details, please contact lorna.pearce@argyll-bute.gov.uk or anna.watkiss@argyll-bute.gov.uk

More details can also be found at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/stalled-spaces-scotland

Planners beat target

PLANNERS at Argyll and Bute council gave themselves a pat on the back this week after achieving a better than expected turn around rate of applications and one of the highest rates of approval in Scotland, a report has revealed.

Ninety five per cent of applications to the council were approved within 10 weeks, against a target of 12 weeks.

festivals

in the west



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WEST COAST FESTIVAL SCENE: Rich in culture and steeped in history, the stunning scenery of Scotland's west coast creates the perfect backdrop for a whole host of events, festivals and concerts

Introduction

We are delighted to produce our first comprehensive guide to the many festivals that fill the islands, lochs and glens of the West Highlands and islands with the sound of music and laughter.

The rise of the festival in these parts is a remarkable success story. Islands such as Mull, Islay, Colonsay, South Uist and Tiree and mainland venues like Oban, Tarbert, Lochgilphead and Kintyre now play host to thousands of visitors each year.

From humble beginnings, these festivals have gained a glowing reputation that reaches far beyond the borders of Scotland.

People from both far and near flock to these stunning locations to savour the best that Scottish music and culture has to offer while at the same time experiencing the vibrant, informal and friendly atmosphere of a true West Highland gathering, be it in a bar, beach, public hall or playing field.

Our guide also has a practical purpose as it highlights the essential services festival-goers need to make their visit truly memorable. From great places to eat and drink to accommodation that is the very epitome of Highland and island hospitality; from taxis to convenience stores, chemists to a laundry, this publication will prove invaluable.

We hope this supplement will whet your appetite for an authentic slice of Highland and island culture and will help make your stay as much fun as we had in producing it.

Pauline McCart,
Sales Director,
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It's festival

West Coast festival se showcases area's vibr

THE WEST Coast is bursting with exciting culture. From music to dance, from literature to food and drink, a thriving festival season showcases the 'best of the west.' And if 2014 is anything to go by, 2015 looks to be the best year ever for the festival scene.

Billed as 'the best free festival in the world', the Mull Music Festival in April sees four days and nights chock full of music in the pubs and hotels of Tobermory.

Dubbed a 'literary lock-in', the Colonsay Book Festival in April welcomes renowned authors, poets and book lovers for workshops and readings, while the Colonsay Spring Festival looks forward to its fifth year with over 60 events celebrating all things Spring.

Campbeltown hosts two outstanding festivals this season. With a well-earned reputation as 'the friendliest festival in Argyll', the Kintyre Songwriters Festival in May is a delightful showcase of up-and-coming songwriting talent.

Also in May, the Islay Festival of Music and Malt, or Feis Ile, features a diverse programme of music, dance, Gaelic language and the quintessential Scottish pastimes of

golf, bowling and whisky tasting.

The much-anticipated Skerryvore Decade concert in May in Oban will feature a celebration of the band's favourite tracks, as well as new collaborations with guest artists including Dougie Maclean, Red Hot Chilli Pipers and Skipinnish.

The Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival held in the first weekend of May is one of Oban's biggest annual events, drawing top talent from all over the world. Future festival headliners are born at Ceòlas, a summer school for Gaelic music, song and dance on South Uist held in July.

The Mid Argyll Music and Arts, or MAMA Fest, held in September, is one of the most popular live music events of the season. And Tarbert is ground zero for festivals all season long, with the Scottish Series, Seafood Festival, Traditional Boat Festival, Tarbert Music Festival, Fair and Book Festival.

These and a plethora of small and large festivals on the West Coast leave visitors and locals alike spoiled for choice. Friendly shops and service providers in the area welcome guests and provide everything needed for a relaxing festival experience. There is much on offer, so pack a rucksack and get ready to make festival memories that will last a lifetime!

A bit of preparation can make attending a festival more comfortable, so here are some tips to make the most of your experience:



time

ason

ant culture

Festivals in Scotland are amazing - if it doesn't rain. But even if it does rain, the fun doesn't stop. So make sure to pack a mac and wellies, as well as a change of clothes. And speaking of clothes, always take a warm jumper even if the weather seems warm - you never know when a cool breeze or cloud may appear, plus at night the temperatures drop.

Don't let clouds fool you into thinking you don't need sunscreen- rays bounce off clouds and water. A straw hat and sunglasses, along with maximum SPF, can prevent a miserable burn.

Make sure your camera and phone are charged up, as you won't want to miss a single shot of all the great music, fabulous food and cute kid moments.

Tents can be a great way to protect yourself from the elements and provide a quiet place for a rest. But keep in mind you will have to carry all your gear from the car, so don't overload.

Fun items such as glow sticks, bubbles and glitter are a great way to jazz up your experience and keep the kids entertained.

One of the best parts of any festival is the food, but stock up with your own water and snacks to help get you through the day. Also, it never hurts to carry a bit of toilet roll in case the portable loos run out.

And last but certainly not least, don't forget the tickets! There is nothing worse than arriving at a festival just to remember you left them on the kitchen table. Some festivals have print-your-own tickets, so make sure you do this at home in plenty of time.



Programme of Events 2015

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Mull Music Festival	Tobermory, Isle of Mull	23 - 26 April
Colonsay Book Festival	Isle of Colonsay	25 - 26 April
Colonsay Spring Festival	Isle of Colonsay	27 April - 17 May
Highlands & Islands Music & Dance Festival	Oban	1 - 3 May
Bute Jazz Festival	Isle of Bute	1 - 4 May
Brew at the Bog	Bogbain Farm, Inverness	2 - 3 May
Loch Fyne Food Fair	Loch Fyne Oysters, Cairndow	16 - 17 May
Islay Festival of Music & Malt	Isle of Islay	22 - 30 May
Oban Festival of the Sea	Oban	22 - 31 May
Skerryvore Decade	Oban	30 May
Skye Accordion & Fiddle Festival	Portree, Isle of Skye	21 - 23 May
Bluebell Music Festival	Inveraray	23 - 25 May
Kintyre Songwriters Festival	Campbeltown	29 - 31 May
Kyles Festival	Argyll Secret Coast	1 - 7 June
FyneFest	Glen Fyne, Inveraray	12 - 14 June
Tee in the Port	Isle of Bute	27 June
Mendelssohn on Mull	Isle of Mull	29 June - 4 July
Iona Music Festival	Isle of Iona	3 - 4 July
Tarbert Seafood Festival	Tarbert	4 - 5 July
Cantilena Festival	Isle of Islay	5 - 10 July
Tiree Feis	Isle of Tiree	5 - 10 July
Ceolas	South Uist - various concerts	5 - 10 July
Heb Celt	Stornoway, Lewis	15 - 18 July
Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival	Tarbert	17 - 19 July
The Away Game	Isle of Eigg	July
Lomond Folk Festival	Balloch	July
Bute Fest	Isle of Bute	17 - 19 July
Tiree Music Festival	Isle of Tiree	17 - 19 July
Tarbert Fair	Tarbert	30 July - 2 August
Belladrum	Beauly, Inverness	6 - 8 August
MOKfest	Campbeltown	19 - 23 August
Craignish Arts Festival/Galley Fest	Ardfern	August
Loch Lomond Food and Drink Festival	Loch Lomond	5 - 6 September
BLAS festival	Various locations	September
MAMAFest	Lochgilthead	4 - 6 Sept
Lagavulin Jazz Festival	Isle of Islay	11 - 13 Sept
Mull Mod	Isle of Mull	11 - 12 Sept
Best Of The West Festival	Inveraray	12 - 13 Sept
Ceòl Cholasa	Isle of Colonsay	September
Tarbert Music Festival	Tarbert	18 - 20 Sept
Jura Music Festival	Isle of Jura	25 - 27 Sept
Loopallu	Ullapool	25 - 26 Sept
CowalFest	Cowal	2 - 11 October
Ullapool Guitar Festival	Ullapool	2 - 4 October
Islay Book Festival	Isle of Islay	3 - 4 October
Callander Jazz & Blues Festival	Callander	3 - 5 October
Feis na Mara	Mallaig	2 - 3 October
Royal National Mod	Oban	7 - 17 October
Skye Swing & Jazz Festival	Isle of Skye	29 Oct - 1 Nov
Islay Sessions	Isle of Islay	November
Tarbert Book Festival	Tarbert	28 - 29 Nov
Oban Winter Festival	Oban	Nov - Dec
Hogmanay in Oban	Oban	31 December

Wyvex Media believes this information to be correct at time of going to press but would recommend checking with individual festivals for latest details.



Mull hosts 'world's best free music festival'

THE FACTS

LOCATION

Various venues in the vibrant town of Tobermory - the capital of Mull

HISTORY

The festival started in 1978 and has grown every year since then

GENRE

Everything from folk rock to traditional Scottish music

TICKETS

No tickets needed, just turn up and join the party - it's FREE!

DID YOU KNOW?

At the Mull Music Festival, even the camping is free

FAVOURITE MOMENT

When Skerryvore missed the last ferry to Mull and one of the local fishing boats was sent to pick them up. The band arrived in full tune with bagpipes blasting, and was met by a crowd of followers as they pulled into the pontoons at Macgochans.

TOBERMORY is the place to be April 23-26 for what is billed as 'the world's best free music festival'.

During the Mull Music Festival, this ordinarily sleepy village comes alive with melodies that flow like whisky from various pubs and venues.

Music fans will find lots to love, whether their preference is folk-rock, traditional fiddle and accordion, Gaelic singing or good old-fashioned ceilidh dancing.

Last year's festival was one of the busiest weekends on the island, according to organisers, and this year's line-up is the biggest ever, featuring Ho-Ro, Trail West, Ceol An Aire, The Red Pine Timber Company, The Raggaels, Mull Historical Society, Holy Ghosts, Gentlemen of Few, Chunks, Gunna Sound and more.

In addition to crowd-pleasing acts, musicians from all over come to join in ad hoc sessions that tend to pop up through the week.

The festival brings a whole new dimension to the traditional pub crawl, with a full slate of entertainment at

MacGoachans, Mishnish, The Western Isles Hotel, MacDonald Arms, Park Lodge and the Tobermory Hotel over the four days.

Warm Scottish hospitality and delicious food and drink are on offer to fuel foot stomping festival-goers. 'The festival is totally free for visitors, including free camping,' said organiser Neil Morrison.

One of the most high-energy festivals of the season, wonderful memories have been made in its 37 years.

'One year Skerryvore missed the last ferry over to the island and were due to play first thing the following day, so we got one of the local fishing boats to steam to Oban to pick the boys up,' Neil shared.

'On arrival at Tobermory the band was in full tune with bagpipes blasting as they were met by a crowd of followers as the pulled into the pontoons at Macgochans.'

Booking accommodation early is advised, and for those who are wild at heart, the festival is tent and campervan friendly. As they say, no tickets needed, just turn up and enjoy the party!

THE MULL MUSIC FESTIVAL
 23rd 24th 25th & 26th
APRIL 2015
 TOBERMORY, ISLE OF MULL
NO TICKETS NEEDED... JUST TURN UP AND JOIN THE PARTY

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 MACGOCHANS-TOBERMORY.CO.UK
 FACEBOOK: MACGOCHANS-TOBERMORY

MISHNISH
 MAIN STREET, TOBERMORY
 TEL: 01688 302300
 THEMISHNISH.CO.UK

THE WESTERN ISLES HOTEL
 WESTERN RD, TOBERMORY
 TEL: 0 1688 302012

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 WESTERN RD, TOBERMORY
 TEL: 01688 302400
 PARK-LODGE-TOBERMORY.CO.UK

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 TEL: 01688 302018

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 MAIN STREET, TOBERMORY
 TEL: 01688 302001
 MACGOCHANS-TOBERMORY.CO.UK
 FACEBOOK: TOBERMORY HOTEL

MAIN STAGE
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CHUNKS
TORRISON
TRAIL WEST
CEOL AN AIRE
GUNNA SOUND
CROOKED REEL
GENTLEMEN OF FEW
HOLY GHOSTS
BAR BEAG - COME AND HAVE A TUNE WITH ALAN IRVINE & ALAN CROOKSTON, JOHNATHAN & JOHNNY, DAVIE HOOT
THURSDAY NIGHT 8PM
MULL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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 SUPPORT BY SORRAN MACLEAN
 £10 COVER CHARGE

MAIN STAGE
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THE MAD FERRET BAND
ARCHIE MCALLISTER
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CEOL AN AIRE
2 BOB ROCKET
 AND LOTS MORE INCLUDING IMPROMPTU SESSIONS
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MUSIC ALL WEEKEND WITH
DUNCAN BLACK,
RUSSELL HUNTER &
IAIN STRETCH MACFADYEN
 PLUS GUEST PLAYERS & BANDS
 INTRODUCING THE SCOTTISH DANCE BAND QUIZ ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON.
 WE WILL BE ROASTING A PIG ON A SPIT ALL WEEKEND SO THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF FOOD!

MUSIC ALL WEEKEND WITH
LOMOND CEILIDH BAND
GEMMA DONALD & ALAN SHALL
KILLIN TYME, BIG DUNCAN
MACKINNON & JOCK THE BOX
UNION AVENUE
 OPEN MIC SAT FROM 12.30-3.30
 SUN: UNION AVENUE COVERS IRISH CASH

HECTOR MACFADGEN CEILIDH BAND
 PLUS VARIOUS SESSIONS THOUGHT-OUT THE WEEKEND - BAR FOOD AVAILABLE -

THE RAGGAELS, NICKY MACMICHAN & FRIENDS
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Park Lodge Hotel
 All Rooms En-suite

Park Lodge Hotel
 Tobermory

Park lodge is situated in the upper part of the harbour village of Tobermory on the Isle of Mull.

We are a local family run hotel offering affordable modern accommodation to suit all from families on the Balamory trail to hill walkers and wildlife enthusiasts.

The hotel is open all year and the fully licensed Auld Mull lounge bar offers evening meals from 6.30pm.

Western Road, Tobermory, Isle of Mull, PA75 6PR
 Tel: 01688 302 430 Fax: 01688 302 564
 Email: enquiries@park-lodge-tobermory.co.uk
 www.park-lodge-tobermory.co.uk

WIN! WIN! WIN!

A meal for two at the Mishnish

To celebrate the Mull Music Festival, The Mishnish Hotel in Tobermory has teamed up with the Oban Times to offer readers the chance to win a delicious three course meal for two people.

The Mishnish Hotel are delighted to be one of the festival venues hosting bands and sessions throughout the weekend, including performances from The Mad Ferret Band, amongst others. The Mad Ferrets are a Scottish duo from Perth, Scotland, known on the folk scene for their hard hitting blend of traditional and contemporary folk music. Their lively, energetic performances are packed with fast Mandolin solos, tight harmonies, driving Cajon beats and earth-moving Guitar sounds. The influence from both Scottish and Irish folk music has helped shape their unique sound.

01688 302500 www.themishnish.co.uk info@themishnish.co.uk

To enter the competition, simply answer the following question, complete the coupon and post it to: Mishnish Hotel Competition, Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.
 Entries must be submitted by Thursday 30th April 2015.

QUESTION: Which band will be performing at the Mishnish Hotel during Mull Music Festival?

A: Crazy Badger Band B: Mad Ferret Band C: Nutty Squirrel Band

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Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. The prize can be redeemed 7 days a week for lunch or dinner but must be pre-booked. Drinks are not included. The prize is valid throughout 2015. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. Winners with the correct answer will be chosen at random. Winners must be willing to take part in publicity and their name may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website.

Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival attracts world's top talent

ONE of the most anticipated events of the year, the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival, takes place in ten venues over the weekend of May 1 to May 3 in Oban. Established in 1984 as a way to encourage young talent to pursue

traditional music and dance, it's become one of Scotland's major cultural festivals.

Last year saw more than 1,110 participants and 125 competition classes, bringing in an estimated £1 million for the local economy. Oban's

population swells during the festival, with music filling the air and colourful dancers showing their stuff.

Disciplines include piping, accordion, fiddle, clarsach, piano, recorder, singing, Highland dancing and choreography.

'The woodwind and brass section won't be happening this year, but it will be back in 2016 as normal,' said organiser Riona MacInnes.

In addition to the many competition classes, the festival hosts several special events each year,

including The Highlands and Islands Fiddle and Accordion Masters, The Scottish Choreography Challenge and the always-popular Festival Fringe.

'The accordion and fiddle masters will be on Friday May 1 at St John's Cathedral and will be

broadcast at a later date on Oban FM,' Riona said. The McQueen Brothers events trailer will be at Queens Park Place all weekend with live music. To round off the weekend there will be a family 'Festival Fling' dance at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls.



FESTIVAL DIARY

Friday 1st May
Action Songs, Choirs, Groups, Ensembles, Recorder, Singing - Corran Halls
Accordion and Fiddle Masters - St John's Cathedral
Scottish Area Finals - Atlantis Leisure Centre

Saturday 2nd May
Accordion - St Columbas Cathedral Hall
Clarsach - Congregational Hall
Fiddle - Regent Hotel
Highland dancing - Atlantis Leisure Centre, Corran Halls
Piano - St John's Cathedral

Piping - Oban High School
Scottish Choreography Challenge - Corran Halls
Singing - Glencruitten Church Centre & Glencruitten Church
Festival Fling - Argyllshire Gathering Halls

Sunday 3rd May
Scottish Choreography Challenge - Corran Halls

Make sure you buy your copy of The Oban Times following the Festival for coverage of this spectacular event, which brings so much talent and enjoyment to the town.



The 32nd
Highlands & Islands
Music & Dance Festival
www.obanfestival.org
1 May - 3 May 2015

Festival Fringe 'The Highland Fling'

The following establishments warmly welcome all festival competitors and visitors to come in and eat, drink and play music.

Barn Bar, Lerags	Sunday from 4pm
Chocolate Shop	Saturday from 10am
Corachie Clematis, Taynuilt	Saturday from 10am
Cuan Mor	Saturday from 9.30am
Grassroots Community Cafe	1st - 3rd May 12 - 4pm
Loch Melfort Hotel	Friday 9.30pm - 1am
Markie Dan's	Friday and Saturday from 9.30pm
	Sunday 5-8pm
Olive Garden	Saturday from 8.30pm
Poppies, Connel Road	Saturday from 10am
Royal Hotel	Friday and Saturday from 8.30pm

The festival gratefully acknowledges the support of



The Oban Times & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES COMPETITION

AN OVERNIGHT STAY WITH DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST AT THE TAYNUILT HOTEL

WIN

Music is the food of love - and food can generate the love in you too. Give yourself - and your partner - a treat! This historic coaching inn has a particularly high reputation for food (including lunches) and wine, and its bar stocks more than 80 whiskies.

Nestling at the foot of Ben Cruachan between Loch Etive and Loch Awe, it is owned by Chef-Patron John McNulty, formerly at the renowned Kilberry Inn seafood restaurant. The 10-bedroom hotel is also perfectly situated as a base for exploring the Hebrides and West coast.



To celebrate this year's wide range of music festivals throughout Argyll and the Isles, the Taynuilt Hotel is offering 1 lucky reader the chance to win bed and breakfast (in a Superior double room where possible) for two with a £15.00 dinner allowance per person.

To enter simply answer the following question, complete the coupon and post it to: **Taynuilt Hotel Competition, Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.** Entries must be submitted by Monday 4th May 2015.

QUESTION: How many bedrooms does the Taynuilt Hotel have?

Answer.....
Name.....
Address.....
Postcode.....
Telephone..... Email.....
 Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive information from the Taynuilt Hotel

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. The prize can be redeemed 7 days a week but must be pre-booked. The prize must be used by 30 November 2015. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. Winners with the correct answer will be chosen at random. Winners must be willing to take part in publicity and their name may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website.

Colonsay festivals celebrate spring and literature

FOR such a small island, Colonsay has a lot going on this spring.

Described as one of the smallest and most remote literary events in Britain, the Colonsay Book Festival welcomes renowned writers and poets to this small island on April 25 and 26.

'Excitement is building ahead of the fourth instalment of the Colonsay Book Festival,' said Dilly Emslie, director of the festival. 'Yet again, we've lined up a fantastic programme with something for everyone to enjoy. On behalf of all the organisers, we can't

wait to welcome our visitors and authors to Colonsay.'

This year's programme features eminent Scottish crime writer and screenwriter Lin Anderson, roofer-turned-poet William Letford, cookery writer Mary Contini, novelist Sara Maitland, nature writer and poet Jim Crumley and award-winning author James Buchan, grandson of The 39 Steps writer John Buchan.

The two-day event was conceived and produced entirely by the island's residents. Dubbed a 'literary lock-in', Colonsay Book Festival

has carved its own niche in Scotland's book festival calendar since it launched in 2012.

The Colonsay Festival of Spring kicks off its fifth year on April 27 and runs until May 17 with a celebration of all things spring.

More than 60 events are planned over the three weeks as the isle welcomes the lighter and brighter days. This eclectic festival shows off the best of this stunning island and includes guided nature and foraging walks, art exhibits, textile workshops, cooking classes, foraging, local music and history.

**COLONSAY
BOOK
FESTIVAL
2015**

"the best wee fest"

Val McDermid

"a literary lock-in"

Sara Sheridan

Colonsay Book
Festival

Conversations @ The Edge

Colonsay
book festival 2015

25th & 26th April

featuring

- Lin Anderson
- James Buchan
- Mary Contini
- Jim Crumley
- William Letford
- Sara Maitland

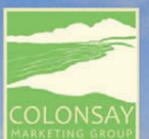
For details of tickets and accommodation, see www.colonsaybookfestival.org.uk

Don't miss this literary treat – book now!

conversations@theedge

THE ISLE OF COLONSAY Festival of Spring

April 27th to May 17th 2015



Come to our Festival of Spring - 27th April to 17th May and enjoy nature, craft & cooking events. Where better to celebrate the end of winter than in the Hebrides, on the amazing Isle of Colonsay?

For the fifth successive year the island will open its shores and welcome in the lighter & brighter days of the year with its three week Festival of Spring. The festival has an eclectic mix of nature, art, foraging, craft, heritage and baking events, with rspb guided walks, textile workshops, cooking classes, island history lectures & local music to name but a few.



The full 3 week programme can be viewed online as well as accommodation and other island info

www.colonsayevents.co.uk

www.colonsay.org.uk

THE ISLAY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND MALT



Friday 22nd May –
Sat 30th May 2015

Why don't you take a trip west this year to the Southern Hebrides and visit Fèis Ìle on the Isle of Islay? Truly you will receive a warm welcome, kindness, songs, poetry, history, piping, food, classes for Gaelic song and language and more. You will be pleased you came.

Every year we have a diverse programme featuring traditional music, ceilidhs, Gaelic lessons, golf, bowling and whisky tasting.

You can see the full festival programme plus buy tickets on the festival website:

www.islayfestival.com



Islay Festival of Music & Malt offers authentic Gaelic experience



 **WIN** www.calmac.co.uk

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Hebridean & Clyde Ferries

£100 worth of CalMac vouchers



Caledonian MacBrayne operate award winning ferry services to the islands and peninsulas on the west coast of Scotland. Our service spans some of the most spectacular coastlines and landscapes in Scotland from Campbeltown in Kintyre to

Lewis in the Outer Hebrides. Sailing to 24 beautiful island destinations on Scotland's stunning west coast, each island offers its own distinctive beauty with plenty of things to see and do. You could travel there for the day or have a longer stay and no matter if it's

spring, summer, autumn or winter. To help you discover the beauty of the Hebridean islands, and in conjunction with this music festival guide, Caledonian MacBrayne are offering one lucky reader the chance to win £100 worth of vouchers.

To enter, answer the following question, complete the coupon and post it to: CalMac Competition, Oban Times, PO Box 1, PA34 4HB.

Entries must be submitted by Friday 8th May 2015.

QUESTION: How many island destinations on Scotland's west coast do CalMac Ferries Ltd sail to?

Answer.....

Name.....

Address.....

Tel..... Email.....

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive information from CalMac Ferries Ltd

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. The prize can be redeemed on any CalMac route or on board until October 2015. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entry coupons will not be accepted. Winners with the correct answer will be chosen at random. Winners must be willing to take part in publicity and their name may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website.

ISLAY is well known for its whisky, but love for music and food also abounds on this wee isle.

All are on display at the annual Islay Festival of Music & Malt, or Fèis Ìle in Gaelic, held the last week of May.

In its 30th year, this small but popular festival offers music, dance, Gaelic lessons, food, bowling and, of course, whisky tastings.

Ramsay Hall is the place to be throughout the week for a top-notch line-up of musical delights. Perennial favourites Skipinnish, with the Rowan Brothers, opens up the week's entertainment on May

23.

Award winning country music sensation Lee Matthews performs on May 29 and the Whistlin' Donkeys from Ireland will headline the final fling on May 30. In between the bigger acts, the hall will be busy with folk and traditional music, a whisky nosing and ceilidh dancing.

Distilleries across Islay, some of the finest in the world, will be hosting open days throughout the festival, so guests need not worry about getting a dry throat after kicking up their heels.

Other events include Gaelic chorus with Katherine MacLeod,

a 'come and try' tin whistle session for all ages and abilities and a Gaelic song and mixed instrument class.

Islay House is hosting a Garden Party, with cask samples, a luxury picnic featuring the island's fine produce and an evening of jazz.

For an authentic Gaelic experience in a breathtaking setting, Islay Festival of Music & Malt is not to be missed!



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The Islay Hotel

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Bridgend Hotel is located in the idyllic village of Bridgend, at the heart of Islay and offers the perfect base to explore the island. We offer island hospitality, and local seasonal produce features on both our menus. Each of our eleven ensuite bedrooms is individually decorated to ensure your comfort and relaxation.

Opening Times
Tea / Coffee from 11.00am
Lunch from 12.00-2.00pm Dinner from 6.00-9.00pm

Bridgend Hotel, Isle of Islay, PA44 7PB +44 (0)1496 810212 info@bridgend-hotel.com www.bridgend-hotel.com

Kintyre songwriters festival is all about the love of music

SIR Paul McCartney made the Mull of Kintyre famous with his love song to this stunning part of the world.

Music is in this area's DNA and the best is on offer at two stellar summer festivals, Mull of Kintyre Music Festival and Kintyre Songwriters Festival.

Dubbed the 'friendliest festival in Argyll', the Kintyre Songwriters Festival, held May 29-31 in Campbeltown, showcases musical talent in a relaxed atmosphere.

Founded in 2008, the

Festival attracts the best emerging and established talent from Scotland and further afield.

This year's line-up includes The Boy Who Trapped the Sun, Irenie Rose, Black and White Boy, Ross Macinnes

and Kathryn Joseph.

In addition to intimate performances, a seminar

programme lets festival-goers and budding musicians meet the guest artists and learn more about writing, performing and the music industry.

A grass roots event that focuses on artistic development, this festival is considered one of the most artist-friendly in Scotland.

Find out what inspired Sir Paul to say, "Carry me back to the days I knew then, nights when we sang like a heavenly choir, of the life and the time of the Mull of Kintyre."



Campbeltown Motor Company

Delighted to support
Kintyre Songwriters Festival




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KINTYRE SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL 2015

SPONSORED BY


Friday 29th May

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VIOLENT ECHO / GULLION / THE SHIFT / BOB ROSS APPRECIATION SOCIETY
MEDIUM HIGH / DAVID FEE / CUCKOO'S NEST / PARALLEL PROOF

WHISKY MACS 8PM-LATE - FREE ENTRY

Saturday 30th May

COLIN MACLEOD (THE BOY WHO TRAPPED THE SUN)
THE GILCHRISTIANS / FUJI ABOVE THE LIGHTNING / CHARLOTTE BRIMNER
ROSS MACINNES / MISS IRENIE ROSE / VIOLENT ECHO / THE SHIFT / DAVID FEE
NEIL DUNCAN / BOB ROSS APPRECIATION SOCIETY / GARETH CROLL
RACHEL ADIE / PARALLEL PROOF

WHISKY MACS - OPEN MIC - 1PM-5PM - FREE ENTRY - ALL WELCOME
SEMINAR WITH A PANEL OF MUSIC INDUSTRY EXPERTS - WHISKY MACS - 3PM-4PM
WHITE HART - ACOUSTIC SHOWCASE - 7PM-LATE - TICKETS £15

Sunday 31st May

HECTOR BIZERK / KATHRYN JOSEPH
ADAM FORTUNE / THE TWISTED MELONS / GULLION / MEDIUM HIGH
BLACK AND WHITE BOY / THOMAS JORDAN / CUCKOO'S NEST / IAIN MCINTYRE
RHIANN MIDDLETON / MATT MCALLISTER

WHISKY MACS - OPEN MIC - 1PM-5PM - FREE ENTRY - ALL WELCOME
WHITE HART - ACOUSTIC SHOWCASE - 7PM-LATE - TICKETS £15
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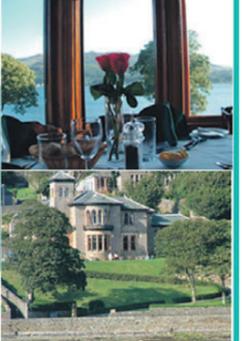


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TOP 10 FESTIVAL CAMPING TIPS

1. Buy a suitable tent

If there are two of you, don't choose a two-man tent. A two-man tent is perfect for one person, but once you are both inside there will be little room for anything else. Ideally you want space to keep any wet clothes away from your sleeping area. Make sure your tent is waterproof.

2. Practice pitching your tent

Before you leave, have a trial run pitching your tent. Make sure you have all the necessary bits and that you know how to set it up quickly. You don't want to spend your time wrestling with your tent in the campsite when you could be enjoying the music.

3. Buy a good quality sleeping bag and sleeping mat

You may not plan on doing much sleeping, but when you do, you will be glad you've spent the extra money on a good sleeping bag and sleeping mat.

4. Choose your spot

Get there early to have the best picks. You don't want to be too far away from the toilets, but you don't want to be too close either. Choose a spot roughly in the middle and preferably downwind from the toilets. Remember where you have pitched your tent. It might help to tie a coloured ribbon or balloon to the top of your tent so it stands out from the crowd.

5. Keep your valuables with you

Most people are trustworthy, however, there are the odd exceptions, so do not leave any valuables in your tent. Money, car keys, tickets, phones and cameras should all be kept with you at all times in an arm wallet, bum bag or small day pack, allowing you to keep your hands free to bust out your best dance moves.

6. Do not lock your tent

It might seem like a good idea to lock your tent, but the opposite is true as it says to potential thieves there is something valuable worth stealing in your tent. A small knife will easily cut through the fabric of your tent rendering the lock useless.

7. Stock up on essentials

Food and drink can be expensive at festivals and although many won't allow you to bring alcohol in, you should plan to take plenty of water and non-perishable food items with you. If you are planning on cooking, take a small camp stove and frying pan. Do not use an open fire.

8. Make friends with your neighbours

You will be living in close quarters, so introduce yourself.

9. Bring midge repellent

Let's face it, if you are outdoors in the west of Scotland, the dreaded midge won't be far away. Don't let them ruin your festival experience. Bring a good quality midge repellent with you and test for any potential allergic reactions before you leave. Top this up with a basic first aid kit.

10. Bring your wellies

It's Scotland, chances are the rain won't be too far away, even if the sun is splitting the sky. Keep your feet dry with a decent pair of wellies and change your socks regularly.

Camping essentials checklist

- Tickets
- Money
- Ear plugs
- Torch
- Poncho
- Bin bags
- Wet wipes
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Arm wallet/bum bag
- Portable phone charger
- Midge repellent
- Food
- Water
- Toiletries/first aid
- Sun cream
- Wellies

Keep safe and enjoy your festival experience!

Gaelic tradition is alive and well at Ceòlas

CEÒLAS on South Uist is where future festival headliners are born. Exploring the vital connections between the many traditional Gaelic music genres, Ceòlas runs events and activities throughout the year, such as symposiums, lectures, concerts and cultural demonstrations.

assets, and I would very much like to see that taking the fore,' said Gaelic development officer for Ceòlas Liam Alastair Crouse.



The 2015 programme welcomes back Howie MacDonald and Dwayne Cote tutoring fiddle workshops.

The flagship event of the year is the Gaelic Music and Dance Summer School, where singing, fiddling, piping, dancing and language classes are on offer July 5-10.

Margaret MacLellan and Paul MacCallum will be tutoring in song, and Jayne MacLeod will teach step dance.

Other classes include clasarch with Patsy Seddon and Gaelic Immersion with Catriona MacIntyre and Catriona Black.

'Uist has an incredibly unique wealth of Gaelic linguistic and cultural






Fun for the whole family on tap at MAMA Fest

THE MID Argyll Music and Arts Festival, or MAMA Fest kicks off a weekend of music September 5-7 in Lochgilphead.

Live music of all styles and genres is on offer at the outdoor stage, weather permitting, and at ticketed venues throughout the weekend.

The fun starts with a parade on Saturday, followed by a family day featuring stalls, food tastings and kids entertainment.

'We are focusing on Argyllshire-based acts, especially showcasing new talent,' said organiser George Durnan. 'We really like to see the

younger bands get a chance to perform.' Sunday afternoon singer/songwriters get a chance to debut original material, and everything winds down with 'The Immortals Night', where bands and revellers can socialise, enjoy a well-earned rest and enjoy impromptu music sessions.



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MAMAFest

2015 MID

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Tarbert looks forward to festival season

THE CHARMING fishing village of Tarbert plays host to several festivals this season that celebrate its rich heritage in music, sport, food and literature.

The excitement kicks off in May 22-25 with the Silvers Marine Scottish Series.

The Clyde Cruising Club organises this long-running event, in which keen sailors enjoy passage racing and Olympic triangles in Loch Fyne. This year's programme includes the opening 'Clyde Challenger Race' from Largs for white sail, family class and cruisers.

The laid-back atmosphere and good craic of this event have

sailors and non-sailors alike coming back year after year.

The Seafood Festival, which is held in July 4-5, gives visitors the opportunity to sample Tarbert's culinary delights. The harbour bustles with food stalls and a fisherman's market, with cookery demonstrations and tastings on offer.

A highlight of the weekend is the crowning of the Seafood Festival Queen and her princesses, who arrive in a flourish by sea and parade through the village led by the Mid Argyll Pipe Band.

Live music and kids' activities round out this family-friendly festival.

The Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival draws beautiful vessels of all kinds from across Scotland and Ireland the weekend from July 30-August 2, providing a spectacle in the harbour for on-lookers.

Visitors enjoy boat tours, stalls, live music, demonstrations and family activities.

One of the longest running music festivals in Argyll, the Tarbert Music Festival has been celebrating song and food for 27 years.

Held the weekend of September 18-20, it features kids' activities and a full programme of concerts by local talent, turning out everything from rock to reggae to

traditional music.

Impromptu sessions are encouraged and attract musicians from far and wide. Visitors will enjoy the fantastic local seafood and the relaxed vibe.

Rounding out the festival season are the Tarbert Fair, which has been running since 1705 on the last Thursday of July, and the Book Festival, which runs September 18-20.

Camping is available in the shadow of Robert the Bruce's castle, and scenic walks along the adjacent Kintyre Trail make Tarbert an ideal destination weekend for the whole family, so pack a tent and come along!



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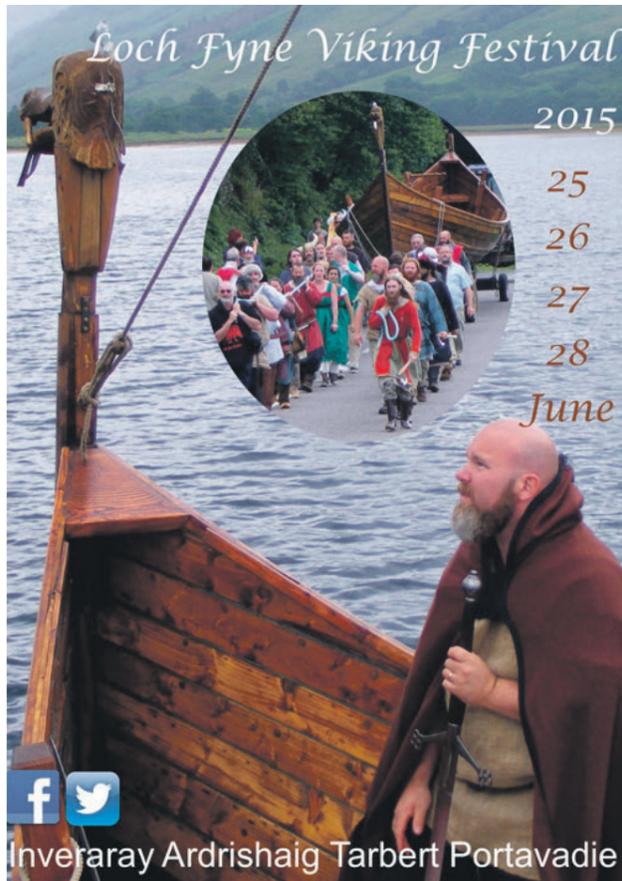
THERE ARE SEVERAL FESTIVALS HELD DURING THE YEAR WHICH ENCOMPASS TARBERT'S FISHING HERITAGE AND ITS AFFINITY WITH THE SEA.

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30TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST 2015 TARBERT FAIR
18TH - 20TH SEPTEMBER 2015 TARBERT MUSIC FESTIVAL
28TH - 29TH NOVEMBER 2015 TARBERT BOOK FESTIVAL**



www.tarbertfestivals.co.uk



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Kilmartin House Museum also have a range of festivals throughout the year, please visit www.kilmartin.org for more details

For help and further information please us at the above address or email chairman@heartofargyll.com tel 077825 470 966

FANS from all over the globe will converge at Mossfield Park, Oban, on May 30 for Skerryvore Decade.

The open-air show will feature the band's favourite tracks, as well as collaborations with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, Sharon Shannon, the Scott Wood Band, Skipinnish and Trail West. Other special guests include Jill Jackson, Mary Ann Kennedy and Stuart Cassells.

'Having these friends being part of our special event will only add to the festival feel and help make it a celebration of past and present - with a few surprises thrown in for good measure,' said founding member and accordion player Daniel Gillespie.

Internationally acclaimed musician Dougie MacLean will join Skerryvore for a highlight of this very special event.

'We get a fantastic response when covering 'Caledonia', so we can't wait to be finally sharing a stage with the man himself,' Daniel said. 'It's brilliant to be a part of Skerryvore's tenth anniversary gig,' Dougie said. 'I've played festivals with the band but we've never shared a stage, so it will be a completely unique performance. Looking forward to what's going to be a great night in Oban!'

Skerryvore formed on Tiree in 2005 and has since grown in band size and sound, creating a fusion of traditional music with rock, pop and funk. They have

performed in more than 25 countries, but look forward to coming home to Argyll.

'As a band we really wanted to mark our tenth year by holding the biggest and best Skerryvore gig to date,' said Daniel. 'We chose Mossfield Stadium, as Oban is the heart of Argyll and the Isles and it felt natural to return to the region that was so prominent in the early development of the band.'

When tickets went on sale in February, they sold out in less than an hour, so more tickets were made available. Bid4Oban and travel provider Caledonian MacBrayne are sponsoring the event.

See back page for full details of the event.

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SKERRYVOREDECADE.COM



Dunaverty Village Hall will create a 'lasting legacy' for Southend village, it is hoped. 20_c17dunhall02

Village hall build 'gathering pace'

'The hall will create a lasting legacy for the community which will serve them for years to come'

SOUTHEND'S brand new village hall site was opened to villagers on Sunday - and the project received rave reviews.

With construction beginning in December, a harsh winter meant slow progress, but with better weather arriving the man overseeing Dunaverty Village Hall's regeneration is confident building work will be completed during the summer.

Ian Osborne, project manager for developer McEwan Osborne, said: 'We are building a modern, multi-purpose facility for both the Southend community and visitors to the area to use.'

'After a slow winter the work has gathered pace in recent weeks, and we have put the basic timber structure in place, as well as going above and beyond in terms of roof insulation,

to make sure it is as energy efficient as possible.

'There is obviously still a lot of work to be done internally but the design is taking shape.'

'There is a high roof in the main hall, making it suitable for badminton and other sports, as well as various functions such as weddings and christenings.'

Perfect venue

'There is a strong amateur dramatics tradition here too and the main hall will also feature a stage, making it a perfect venue for plays.'

'When completed this will be a great facility.'

'Being a Southend homeowner and frequent visitor to the area, I can see how much it means to residents to have a village hall to be proud of once again.'

'The feedback we got was very positive.'

'We hope the facility can be ready in time for Southend Highland Games in late July, as a venue with both shower and kitchen areas could really help boost visitor numbers.'

Margaret McDowall, Dunaverty Hall Committee treasurer, said: 'There has been a remarkable change over these past months, and from the enthusiastic responses we heard during the open day people can't wait to see how it will turn out.'

'The hall will create a lasting legacy for the community which will serve them for years to come.'

'We have already had enquiries from a local work badminton club, and an exciting one from a couple saying they would like their wedding reception to be at the hall next year.'



The main hall when completed will feature many events such as wedding, sports and plays. 20_c17dunhall01

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Sad end for injured puffin

‘It was unusual for a puffin to be ashore at this time of year as they are marine birds’

IT WAS a bittersweet moment for one holidaying family last Wednesday when they found a lone puffin wandering the Gauldrons shore.

The fragile seabird was recovered by Rachel Thiele and her two young children, who were ecstatic to see it up close.

Mrs Thiele said: ‘We were up visiting family for a few days from Staffordshire and being by the sea is just great.

‘When we were out walking on the Gauldrons we came across a puffin on the shore. It was actually well camouflaged against the black rocks but we caught a good glimpse of it.

‘We soon realised though that it must have been injured and we took it to Machrihanish seabird observatory for the warden Eddie Maguire to have a closer look.

‘The children were delighted to see the bird up close, but it was in a bit of distress after a while so we were keen to take him to the observatory.’

However, joy turned to sadness when the bird died only hours later, having been monitored by Eddie until the evening and housed overnight in the observatory.

Eddie said: ‘Unfortunately the puffin succumbed to its injuries

overnight, which is a real shame. It was unusual for a puffin to be ashore at this time of year as they are marine birds.

‘It was unsteady on its feet which makes me think it could have sustained internal injuries. There was no indication its wings or legs were

damaged. The puffins in this area primarily nest at Sanda Island and the RSPB site on Rathlin Island so it was certainly an unusual find, but

the Thieles did the right thing.

‘If left stranded on the shore it could easily have fallen prey to other birds.’

MACHRIHANISH



A close-up of the puffin, which did not make it through the night after being found at the Gauldrons last Wednesday.

Photo: Eddie Maguire

Scottish Field

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SKIPNESS

Pupils share their war project

SKIPNESS primary School pupils recently held a sharing day for parents and the community at the end of their World War Two topic.

The children had created a short film on what it

would have been like to be an evacuee.

They gave presentations on their research of Skipness bombing range and the mock invasion that took place there.

The bombing range

was used by RAF pilots for bombing practice and their accuracy was charted by the Wrens that were stationed there.

The mock invasion took place in early De-

cember 1941, ready for troops going to north Africa.

Special thanks went to Mr and Mrs Shaw who shared photos and were interviewed about events by the children.



Two pupils giving a presentation on their World War Two project.

CAMPBELTOWN TAYINLOAN

ATM sign plan

A PLANNING application to display four replacement illuminated signs, an ATM surround and a non-illuminated nameplate at 11 Castlehill, Campbeltown, has been submitted to Argyll and Bute council.

Two anemometer masts

TWO PLANNING applications to erect two separate 80-metre anemometer masts for two years, on land south east of Achnafad Largie Estate, Tayinloan have been submitted to Argyll and Bute council.

ARDRISHAIG PUBLIC HALL

AGM

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Kintyre Community Education Centre Council

AGM

Wednesday 13th May at 6.30pm
in the
Community Centre
Good turnout would be appreciated
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Mairi Semple Fund

AGM

Monday 27th April at 8pm
in **Tayinloan Hall**
All welcome

AGM

Kintyre Piping Society
7pm Sunday
10th May 2015 in The Ardshiel Hotel Campbeltown

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Argyll Bute COUNCIL

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
15/00638/PP	Erection of agricultural building for silage storage	Carskey Home Farm Southend Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6RU	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
15/00829/PP	Erection of agricultural building for silage storage	Carskey Home Farm Southend Campbeltown Argyll and Bute PA28 6RU	Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown
15/00858/PP	Formation of operations compound including erection of operations building.	Cour Wind Farm Carradale Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Carradale
15/00859/PP	Temporary use of land, construction of a compound for site accommodation, storage and car parking.	Cour Wind Farm Carradale Argyll and Bute	Sub Post Office Carradale

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
15/00934/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land East of Springbank Manse Brae Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office
15/00936/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land West of Movern Manse Brae Lochgilphead Argyll and Bute	Mid Argyll Area Office

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

The Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed during normal office hours at Planning and Regulatory Services, Central Validation Team, 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead PA31 8RD.

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

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

Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

WATER ENVIRONMENT AND WATER SERVICES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2003
WATER ENVIRONMENT (CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2011

**APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF AUTHORISATION
EILEAN GRIANAIN MARINE CAGE FISH FARM,
EILEAN GRIANAIN, KILBRANNAN SOUND**

An application has been made to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) by Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd to vary water use licence number CAR/L/1078064 authorising the carrying on of a controlled activity at, near or in connection with Eilean Grianain marine cage fish farm, as follows:

Description of controlled activity	Waters affected	National grid reference
Alteration to the layout of fish cages and an increase in the amounts of chemical therapeutants used.	Kilbrannan Sound	NR 1644 4086

SEPA considers that the above changes to a controlled activity may have an impact on the water environment.

A copy of the application and any accompanying information may be inspected free of charge, at the SEPA Registry below, between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday (except local and national holidays). Alternatively, the application may be viewed on SEPA's website at: www.sepa.org.uk/water/water_regulation/advertised_applications.aspx

Any person affected or likely to be affected by, or having interest in, the application may make representations to SEPA in writing within 28 days beginning with the date of this advertisement, at the following address, quote reference number CAR/L/1078064: Registry Department, SEPA, Dingwall Office, Graesser House, Fodderty Way, Dingwall, IV15 9XB

Written representations received by SEPA within 28 days of this advertisement will be taken into consideration in determining whether or not to grant the application. Before determining the application, SEPA will:

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

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

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PERSONAL NOTICES

To Karen Johnstone of Kilmartin

I love you,
You're the love of my life,
I want to spend the rest of my life with you.
I'm sorry for everything over the last few years.



Lots of love
Iain Lachie MacLean

Lee Garden Takeaway

Ronnie and Amy Yip would like to announce their retirement and that effective from 25th April 2015 Lee Garden Take Away will be under the management of Ming and his family.

They would like to thank their loyal customers and suppliers in the Mid Argyll area for the support and friendship extended to them and their children since arriving in Lochgilphead 35 years ago.

Ronnie and Amy retire with many happy and fond memories and would like to wish everyone the very best in the future.

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PERSONAL NOTICES

Happy 18th Birthday

Gavin

Have a great night!
Lots of love,
Mum, Robert, Dad,
Robert, Jordan,
Imogen, Ryan & Scot.



Thank you

May McDonald, Craigholm
would sincerely like to thank all her friends and family for all cards and support during her recent stay in hospital. Also special thanks to all the medical staff during her stay and continued care.

Thank you

Jean Robb
would like to thank everyone for cards, phone calls and flowers since returning home from hospital. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Happy Birthday

Happy 75th Birthday Helen Watson
Lots of love
James, Suzie & Lucy xxx



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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



THE vibrancy of the gorse bushes made Gigha look even more beautiful.

It was a perfect day. The island basked in sunshine and showed off her white beaches and turquoise seas like an advert in a travel brochure. It was a perfect day.

We were coming back on the ferry and enjoyed the welcome and chat from Jane and the crew, who always make people feel at home.

There were only two other passengers on that ferry. We had seen these men on the jetty and I was intrigued. They rolled a tyre onto the ferry and carried a plastic bag.

They had nothing else.

They were enjoying the beauty of the day and sharing the joy they found in it. I smiled as I watched them navigate their tyre on the deck and 'park' it carefully against the railings.

As we chatted to them the man with the plastic bag cheerily told me that they had left their tyre on the island yesterday.

I wondered how this had happened and why they didn't have a car with them that needed a tyre.

However, before I could ask about this, he revealed the secret of his plastic bag.

It contained halibut, and he shared the fact that he loved fish.

I thought just how wonderful it was to have this conversation with someone I had never met, yet who made me laugh over a tyre and a bag of fish.

I wondered what Jesus would have made of this and thought he may well have seen a parable in this amusing encounter. Maybe the forgotten tyre presented an opportunity to return to a place of wonder.

Maybe the bag of fish would be enjoyed with friends later that day, or maybe God just wanted to share this little encounter and enjoy the fun.

After all, Gigha is 'God's Island' - is it not?

Halibut on the menu for ferries

To produce a fully grown fish, ready to harvest, takes up to four years

A TOP quality Gigha fish produced entirely on land is the latest offering on Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) ferries this summer.

A series of pop-up tastings on selected sailings will offer passengers the chance to try Gigha halibut, a rare farmed variety, usually only found in

top London restaurants. The fish starts its life in the marine hatchery at Otter Ferry opposite Lochgilphead on Loch Fyne, before being transferred to Gigha when it is around 18 months old.

On Gigha sea water is pumped onto land and into large flat sol-



CalMac ferries will be serving up Gigha halibut



Gigha halibut.

id based tanks in a system recommended by the Marine Conservation Society.

To produce a fully grown fish, ready to harvest, takes up to four years.

This is just one product offered in the special tastings which also include beers from Arran and Colonsay breweries, Cobbs Cakes and drinks from Burns Stewart Distillers.

As well as using Scottish sourced ingredients throughout its menu where possible, CalMac's coffee shops and retail outlets also stock

all manner of local produce and goods

However, there is a much more serious side to all this good grub. CalMac uses 67 retail suppliers on board its ferries.

Of these 62 are from Scotland and 44 from the islands, making it a serious customer of some small and unique businesses.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'In cold hard figures, this amounts to a spend with these suppliers of some £5.188 million per annum - a not inconsiderable financial boost.'

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

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

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

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

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CHURCH NOTICES

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 Bishopston 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, Poltalloch, 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 (SCO02876)

WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Services 26th April 2015 - all welcome!
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
 Charity No. SC016097
 Morning Service in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray
 Charity No. SC016665
 Morning Service in Inveraray Church at 11.30 am

TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 26th April 2015
 Tarbert Service 11.30am
 Angela Stather - Reader
 For all church enquiries and pastoral care
 Telephone 01880 821012
Everyone very welcome
 SC002622

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 26th April
 Morning Worship Ford 11.45 am
 Rev. C. Acklam
 All welcome
 Kirk Session -
Tuesday 28th April 7.30 pm
 SC0 02121

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
 Mondays 1.15 - 1.45pm
 Ladies Bible Study 2pm (fortnightly)
 Soup Lunch Monthly (last Thursday)
All welcome.

lochgilphead baptist church
 All Welcome
 Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 26th April 2015
 11.00am
 BIG WELCOME
 If you've never been to church before or it's a while since you've attended, please come along to our cafe style service where you will be made very welcome
Mainly Music
 Tuesday at 10am
Jumpstart
 Friday from 10am
 Scottish Charity SC015187

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN
Sunday 26 April 2015
 11.00am
 Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
 Speaker: Graham McLean "A River of Resurrection Life"
Thursday 30 April 2015
 10.00am
 Praise, prayer & sharing
All Welcome

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 26th April 2015
 11.00 am COMMUNION SERVICE
 Rev. Hilda Smith
 Coffee Morning
Saturday 25th April
 10am - 12 noon
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
 More info. at www.lpchurch.co.uk
 Lochgilphead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

Campbeltown Corps Church and Community Centre
 Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009359
 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 Scoulding

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
 Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 26 April
 Inverlussa Church 10 am
 Morning Worship
 Rev. C. Acklam
 All welcome
 Enquiries 01546 606926
 www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

Highland Parish Church

 SCO02493
Sunday 26th April
 The service will be led by Rev Catriona Hood and will be held in the Church at 11.15am
Everyone very welcome
Saturday 9th May
 Flower Festival in Highland Parish Church

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
 Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 26th April
 Morning Service 11.15 am
 Creche, Triple C, Next Generation
 Rev P Wallace
 Kirk Session meet 10.45am
Tuesday 28th April
 Tiny Tots New Hall 9.45am
 BBs Church Hall
 Anchor Boys 6.00pm
 Junior Section 7.15pm
Thursday 30th April
 Choir 7.30pm
Friday 1st May
 Lunch Club 12.00 noon

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

 75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 26th April 2015
 11.00am Family Communion Service
 Mr Kelvin Moller, Clachan
 4pm - Service in Lorne Campbell Court
Thursday 28th April
 7.30pm Bible Study and Prayer
 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise
 Psalm 145 v3
 To hear Christian music, conversation and Thought for the Week, tune in to Argyll FM - 106.5/107.1 & 107.7fm - on Monday mornings from 8am to 9am and listen to the Breakfast Show. For details and other enquiries contact Pastor Ross Ferguson 01586 551200
 www.springbankchurch.co.uk
 SC014646

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

Argyll Street, Campbeltown
 St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
 Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 26th April
Fourth Sunday of Easter
 Holy Communion 10.45am
 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

free church of scotland

 George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 26th April
 11.15am Worship Service
 Calum Ferguson
 11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 29th April
 12.30pm
 Bible Study and Prayer
 2.00pm - 4.00pm
 Water of Life Cafe
 All Welcome
 www.campbeltownfreechurch.co
 Scottish Charity Number: SC009980

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

 We are a member of the Baptist Union of Scotland SC043322

KINTYRE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
 meeting to be held on Friday 1st May at 7.30pm in Salvation Army Hall, Campbeltown.
 Guest Speaker: Mr Martyn Boyd of Scripture Union, Scotland.
 Tea/Coffee served after the meeting.
Everyone most welcome.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'The Lord ... will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no-one can fathom' (Isaiah 40:28).

BIRTHS



BARNETT - MACLEAN

Kieron and Karen are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Murray John, on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. A wee brother for Finlay. First grandchild for John and Rhona, Cabrach, Manse Brae and fourth grandchild for Neil and Irene, Caolila, Islay.



GILCHRIST - HART

Billy and Pauline are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their daughter, Halle Faye, born on March 13, 2015 at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley. A lovely little sister for Billy.

MARRIAGES



HARRISON - COCHRANE

On Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Broomhall Castle, Menstrie, near Stirling, Barry Robert Harrison, son of Andy and Sandra Harrison, Campbeltown, to Lynne Cochrane, daughter of Mary Cochrane and the late Jim Cochrane, Stirling. Sunshine and enjoyment all day long, an amazing day was had by all.



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DEATHS

BELL - At her home, 1 Ross Crescent, Lochgilphead, on April 17, 2015, with her daughter by her side, Margaret Ferguson Fleming Bell, née Sutherland, in her 88th year, beloved wife of the late David Bell, much loved mother of Graham and Eleanor, loving grandma, dear mother-in-law and aunt to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held in Lochgilphead Baptist Church, today, Friday, April 24, 2015 at 1.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired, to Alzheimer Scotland, in memory of David.

GEMMILL - Suddenly, as the result of an accident in London, on April 9, 2015, Moira Elizabeth Gemmill, in her 56th year, dearly beloved daughter of John and Helen Gemmill, Ifferdale, much loved sister of Andrew and Jennifer and dearly loved sister-in-law of Monica and Angus.

HADDOW - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on April 18, 2015, Patricia Martin (Pat), in her 83rd year, 27a Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Ian Haddow, much loved mother of Duncan, Iain and the late Martin and a loving and much loved gran of Neil, Douglas and David.

MCCASKILL - Peacefully, at the Lynn of Lorne Nursing Home, on April 19, 2015, Peter Norman McCaskill, aged 93 years, of 19 Kilmartin, Kilmartin, beloved husband of the late Mima MacKellar. A dear brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. Funeral service will be held in Kilmartin Parish Church, on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 12.00 noon, thereafter to Kilmartin Cemetery. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

MCKINNON - On April 18, 2015, peacefully at home with his family and friend Josephine, Thomas (Tommy) McKinnon, in his 91st year, beloved husband of the late Netta, much loved father of Alan, Peter and Janet, dearly loved grandfather of Ruairaidh, Fergus, Myles, Katy, Mairi, Thomas, Nicholas, Louise, Fiona, Karen, Haley and Charlotte and great grandfather of Freya, Catriona, Sebastian and Mia. Sadly missed by all. Funeral service at St Brendan's Church, Skipness, on Monday, April 27 at 1.00pm, interment thereafter at Skipness Cemetery, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for RNLI.

MCKINVEN - Peacefully, at the Lorne and Islands District General Hospital, Oban, on April 21, 2015, Catherine McKinven (Renee), in her 95th year, 8 Millers Park, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late John and Margaret McKinven, much loved sister of Duncan and the late Dan and Robert and a loving aunt. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation.

MCKINVEN - Peacefully, in the loving care of St Anne's Nursing Home, Musselburgh, on April 16, 2015, Elizabeth McMillan (Beth), in her 95th year, formerly of Lorne Campbell Court, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Daniel McKinven, cherished mother of Mhairi and Sharman, devoted mother-in-law of Mike and a wonderful grandmother and great grandmother. Service will take place in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Friday, April 24, 2015 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the RNLI.

MCLEAN - Suddenly, on April 16, 2015, Hector MacDonald McLean, aged 77 years, of 1 Fernoch Drive, Lochgilphead, much loved husband of Anne, loving father of Jacqueline and Sandra, adored grandad of Marie, Erin and Luke, much respected father-in-law and a dear brother and uncle to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held in Cardross Crematorium, on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. Sadly missed.

MURPHY - Peacefully, on April 18, 2015, with his family by his side, in Durban, South Africa, Danny, loving husband of Marjorie (Thomson), beloved father of Brian, Kevin and Kirsten, much loved mother-in-law, grandfather and great grandfather. Private cremation took place in South Africa, on April 21, 2015. RIP.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GALBRAITH - Mary. Following the death of our much loved mum on April 6, Sadie, Margaret and Mary have many people to thank. For their thoughtful and respectful attention to every detail on the day of the funeral, we would like to thank Alasdair and Kenneth Blair and all their staff;

Rev Phillip Wallace for a very comforting service; Johnny MacKinnon for the perfect eulogy; David Cosgrove, organist; and Frances, Ian and all their staff at Muneroy for the wonderful purvey following the burial at Keil. Doctors, nurses and staff in Southend Surgery were always immensely kind, thoughtful and attentive, supporting Mum throughout her last years. Mum had spent a few days in Campbeltown Hospital recently and we thank all the staff there for her care. All the neighbours in St Columba's Way have always been very friendly and attentive, even when Mum left the phone off the hook accidentally! Mum always enjoyed visits from her nieces and nephews who called in regularly. Finally, Mum was able to stay in her own home because of the marvellous carers who tended to her every need several times a day. We all saw them in action and Mum was very fond of each and every one of them, and they her. Mum will be sorely missed by us all.

MACFARLANE - The family of the late Rita MacFarlane would like to thank everyone most sincerely for the many kind expressions of sympathy received in their recent bereavement. Special thanks to all staff at Ardfenaig for the kind care and attention received, to Rev Thomas Bryson for a comforting service, to Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services, to the Tarbert Hotel for catering and to all who paid their last respects at church and graveside. The collection raised £245 for Ardfenaig.

MCMURCHY - The family of the late Janet McMurchy would like to say thank you to all her friends, neighbours and colleagues for the kindness shown to her during her short illness. Thanks to the very caring nursing and ambulance staff at Campbeltown Hospital, with special thanks to Dr Ian Norrie and Kitty Millar, Macmillan Nurse. Thanks also to Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for caring and efficient funeral arrangements, to the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, to the Ardshiel Hotel for providing refreshments and finally to all who paid their respects at church and graveside. A very generous sum of £1150.18 was raised for the Mcmillan Nurses.

MCNAUGHTON - Mhairi, Sandy, Carol, Robert and family would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers. Thanks to doctors and nurses at Campbeltown Hospital for all their care given to mum. Thanks to

Alasdair and Kenneth Blair for their services and to the Ardshiel Hotel for catering. The retiral collection for Kidney Dialysis Campbeltown raised £517.78.

SINCLAIR - Donald, Anne, Duncan, Jennifer and families would like to express their sincere thanks to all relatives and friends for their many expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers received following their recent sudden loss of Jenny. Much appreciation to the police and ambulance staff in attendance, who carried out their duties to a high standard. Grateful thanks to Matthew Ramsay for conducting an uplifting and comforting service and to Marjorie Kelly for the beautiful music provided. Thanks to Alasdair, Kenneth and Rhys Blair who provided a highly professional, yet personal and attentive service to us all. Finally, heartfelt thanks to all who attended the funeral and for the donations received for the British Heart Foundation, and to the staff at the Bellochinty Hotel for the tea.

IN MEMORIAMS

KERR - Remembering on April 24, our precious son and brother, Steve, dearly loved and sorely missed.

- Mum, Craig and Barrie, Lochgilphead.

MACALISTER - In loving memory of a dear nephew and our cousin, Scott, who has been lost at sea since April 25, 2013.

Always in our thoughts.
- From Auntie Alice and family.

MAXWELL - In loving memory of Florence (Bunty), who died on April 17, 2013.

Sadly missed.
- Tom and family.

MCDUGALL - In loving memory of Agnes McDougall who passed away April 26, 1975. Forever in our thoughts.

Alan, Johnny, Maureen and Gordon.

MCLEAN - Stuart, promoted to glory, on April 21, 2013.

Thankful for the times we shared
Thankful for the love you gave
Thankful for the faith you shared

Till we meet again.

- Carolin, Michael, Jacqui, grandchildren Laura, Gillian, Stefan, Finlay and great grandchildren and brother.

MCLEAN - Treasured memories of our dear brother and uncle, Stuart, taken from us so suddenly on April 21, 2013.

Safe in the arms of Jesus.
- Rene, Flora, Senga, Maureen and families.

ROBERTSON - Loving memories of Jim, much loved husband, dad and grandad. Passed away on April 28, 2014. Loved and missed every day.

Jan, Jim, Stuart, Jamie and Meg

ROBERTSON - In memory of Jim, much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who died April 28, 2014.

From Mac, Agnes and family.

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WILLIAMSON - In memory of a much loved mum, grandmother and great grandmother, Christina Alice (Allie), who died April 27, 2010. Missed every day.

- Sylvia, Simon, Malcolm, Ross, Aimée and Lynne.

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Youngsters' football starts again

CAMPBELTOWN and District Juvenile Football Association's (CDJFA) coaching sessions begin again tonight (Friday) - and the group is keen to welcome more budding young footballers.

P2-3 age group coaching is between 6pm-7.15pm and P4-6 training runs from 6pm-7.30pm.

P1 sessions will start next Friday (May 1) from 6-7pm.

All sessions will be held at the Meadows Millennium Playing Fields.

Monday sessions start again this Monday (April 27) at the Meadows, with P2-3 and P4-6 running at the same time as the groups' Friday sessions.

P6-S2 runs from 5.30pm-7pm and S3-S5 training is 6.30pm to 8pm.

David Paterson, CDJFA chairman, said: 'All primary school sessions are split into age-specific groups. We are always keen to welcome new players along to our sessions.'

Meanwhile, the CDJFA's Campbeltown Football Festival will be held on Saturday May 30 this year, with the association looking to emulate the success of last year's festival when 450 primary school youngsters from across Scotland played games at the Meadows.

Mr Paterson added: 'We still have some spaces across the 2004-09 age groups for this year's festival but places are filling up quickly.'

'We are looking forward to another football festival here in Campbeltown, now the biggest in Argyll and Bute. If any teams are interested in attending, please contact us at enquiries@campbeltownfootball.com'

Lotto jackpot jumps to £400

THERE was no winner in the Machrihanish golf club lotto drawn on Monday, meaning the jackpot now stands at £400.

The numbers drawn were 5, 7 and 17.



Spring Meeting winner Terry Smith, left, receives his prize from Dunaverty club captain Ken MacMillan.



George MacMillan, left, receives the scratch prize from Ken MacMillan.

Terry and George pick up the prizes at Spring Meeting

FORTY-three Dunaverty golf club members turned out for the first major competition of the season last Saturday, the club's Spring Meeting.

Dry weather, albeit with a cool and strong wind, made for tricky conditions for the early starters.

Youngsters Stuart MacBrayne and Robert Irvine were the best of the morning players, both returning scratch scores of 72, with Stuart leading the handicap on 64.

George MacMillan parred the course with

a 66 during the afternoon session, on a round which included holing his shot from the bunker at the 16th for a two.

Tony Haysom took the lead for the Captain's Prize with a nett 62, before Terry Smith and Campbell McCallum produced an incredibly close finish, with Terry winning by half a stroke on the inward half, recording a nett 61 to win the Captain's Prize of several golf accessories.

George MacMillan won the scratch prize over the last six holes from Campbell McCallum, receiving the Lorne

Medal and a bottle of whisky by one stroke. CSS for the day was 63.

Results were as follows: Terry Smith 77-16-61(bih), 2 Campbell McCallum 66-5-61, 3 Ian Docherty 77-15-62 (bih), 4 Tony Haysom 70-8-62, 5 Duncan Watson III 68-5-63, 6 Stuart MacBrayne 72-8-64 (bih).

Scratch: George MacMillan 66 (better last six), 2 Campbell McCallum 66, 3 Duncan Watson III 68, 4 Hayden Chambers 69, 5 Tony Haysom 70, 6 David Irwin 71.

End of season for Lodge St John's bowls and pool results

THE BOWLS and pool season has ended for Lodge St John's 141.

Trophy winners and runners up for bowls were as follows:

The McTaggart Bowl Championship was won by Billy Bruce, runner up Ian McAlister.

The Archie McKinlay Shield was won by Ian McAlister, runner up Billy Bruce.

George Cook Pairs was won by

Billy Bruce and Donald Milloy, runners up Adam McLelland and John Morrison.

In the pool competitions:

The Robert Bone Shield was won by Graeme Husband, runner up Adam McLelland.

The Malcolm McGougan Shield was won by Ian McAlister and Ronnie McNally with runners up Graeme Husband and Keith Millar.



Campbeltown Pupils 2005s at the Hamilton Academicals youth football tournament last Saturday.

Pupils play at Accies tournament

A YOUNG squad of footballers from Campbeltown had a fantastic day out last Saturday when they played at the home of Scottish top-flight team Hamilton Academicals.

The team hosted Campbeltown Pupils 2005s and 15 other sides for a festival of football, with a schedule lasting more than four hours.

A Campbeltown and District Juve-

nile Football Association spokesman said: 'The squad played five games, often against teams with youth players on the books with SPFL sides. It was a great learning experience.'

'Tournaments like this are invaluable for us as the players experience games against established youth teams, and the club can make friends and connections for future matches.'



James Prentice scored a hat-trick for Tarbert in their 4-0 win over Milton of Colquhoun.

On-form Tarbert take league top spot

TABLETOPPERS
Tarbert made it seven wins in a row last Saturday after routing Dumbarton side Milton of Colquhoun.

The home side were still hurting after losing the reverse fixture in north Kintyre, and looked in battling mood after dominating the opening stages.

However, Tarbert held firm as Milton were restricted to long range efforts that failed to trouble John Martin in goal.

The opening goal arrived after 25 minutes when on-form David Ronald made the breakthrough.

Determined play from Craig Johnstone and Iain Johnson gave the midfielder a sight of goal and he made no mistake from 12 yards to give Tarbert a precious lead.

This installed a confidence in the Dookers who started to play some excellent football on a difficult surface and Jamie

Milton of Colquhoun	0
Tarbert	4
SAFL Division 1B	

Stuart was unlucky as he saw his effort from the edge of the box hit the post and bounce to safety.

Tarbert doubled their lead when they were awarded a free kick 20 yards from goal and top scorer Prentice stepped up to drive the ball into the bottom corner.

Milton were stunned by the excellent counter attacking display from the visitors and on 44 minutes Tarbert were 3-0 up. Andrew Guy won a free kick on the left hand side and delivered a teasing ball into the box, with Prentice lurking to divert the ball past the keeper.

The Dookers were forced into a change when Stuart was replaced by Liddell as the Tarbert Hotel-sponsored side shuffled

the pack in midfield. Milton were in no mood to give up, despite the three-goal deficit, and continued to press, winning a series of corners and free kicks on the edge of the area, but they could not find the net.

With an hour played, Tarbert sealed the points thanks to the hard work of Stephen Campbell in attack. The attacker harried the Milton

right back into losing possession, allowing him to square for the unmarked Prentice, who coolly finished into the bottom corner to seal his hat-trick.

The Dookers saw the game out with ease, making a number of changes to freshen up the team in the closing stages. It was a top performance from Tarbert, who now have five league games remaining to seal promotion. Tomorrow (Saturday) they play Carlton YM in their final home match of the season.

SAFL Division 1B

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Tarbert AFC	15	12	0	3	36
Bridgewater AFC	14	11	2	1	35
FC Clydebank	18	10	3	5	33
Shawlands F.P (B)	16	10	1	5	31
Rosehill Star	15	10	1	4	31
FC Argyll	16	7	3	6	24
Carlton YMCA AFC	15	7	1	7	22
Milton of Colquoun	15	6	3	6	21
Eaglesham AFC (B)	18	4	1	13	13
Whitehill FP AFC	20	1	4	15	7
Rossvale AFC	16	1	1	14	4

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT **£3400**

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
R Conley
 Lochview Avenue
 Campbeltown
K McDonald
 Ross Crescent
 Lochgilphead

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.



Name

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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
£3400!

Vary your routes and training surfaces

THE distances are stepped up again in week nine of the beginners' preparation for the MOK 10K on May 23.

Session 1 goes up from 25 to 30 minutes, session 2 from 25 to 35 minutes, and session 3 from 30 to 35 minutes.

There are also changes to the half marathon schedule. Session 1 is a 10-mile run, session 2 is 4 miles hard, session three is 5 miles quality running and session 4 is 4 miles easy running.

This week's tip is vary your training routes as much as possible. Doing the same route will leave you feeling stale. Mix things up as much as possible. Mix surfaces as well. Your legs will welcome easy runs on grass or forest paths.

Islay Golf Club results

RESULTS from Islay Golf Club's April Medal, played Sunday, April 12: 1 R MacIntyre, 74-5=69; 2 A Livingstone, 81-10=71; 3 N Carmichael, 77-4=73 CSS 72.

Higginbotham Trophy, played Sunday, April 19: 1 D Livingstone 39 points, 2 K MacDonald 39 pts, 3 J Rozga, 36 pts. CSS 70.

SAFL results and fixtures

LAST Saturday's results: Jimmy Marshall Cup - quarter final - Oban Saints 1, Haldane United 0; Premier Division - Campbeltown Pupils no game; Premier Division One - Dunoon 2, Inverclyde 3; Lochgilphead Red Star no game; Division 1B - Milton of Colquoun 0, Tarbert 4.

This Saturday's fixtures: St Joseph's v Campbeltown Pupils; Kings Park Rangers v Oban Saints; Premier Division One - Jamestown v Dunoon; Premier Division Two - Cente v Dunon Athletic; Neilston v Lochgilphead Red Star.

Carradale in cup stroll

Erskine Town	2
Carradale	6
Thomson Trophy	

CARRADALE hit their hosts for six last Saturday to advance to the next round of the league cup.

The Kilbrannan-sponsored side kicked off on a warm spring day in Erskine and on a pristine artificial surface.

The home side had the most of the early possession in the opening stages but without testing McMillan in the Carradale goal.

However, the visitors stunned their hosts by taking the lead after seven minutes, as Craig Rodgers' tidy footwork in the opposition box saw him brought down and a penalty awarded.

Cammy Maguire took the spot kick, squeezing it in at the keeper's left-hand post.

Maguire had a good chance 10 minutes later

when he drove into box, but his shot went wide of target.

The home side drew level in the 22nd minute, as good work by the full back down the right flank saw his cross pick out the number ten and he finished nicely from 10 yards.

The game ebbed and flowed without either keeper being tested until the 38th minute, when the Erskine keeper made a great save from David Johnstone as he bore down on goal.

Deft touch

The Kintyre side regained the lead three minutes before half time, when a 40-yard free kick was flighted in by Ewan McIlroy, which deceived the home defence, and Johnstone applied a deft touch with his head which bounced in at the near post.



Declan McAulay scored with a volley to put the game beyond Erskine Town. 08_c17carrfoot01

Then, four minutes into the second half, Johnstone was unlucky not to get his brace from a cracking shot from 15 yards, which cannoned off the underside of the bar after Maguire's cut back.

Third goal

Carradale had just three minutes to wait before their third goal arrived. Mark Gillies picked up a loose ball 30 yards from goal before shrugging off a couple of challenges and unleashing a fierce shot from the edge of the box

that flew high into the net.

The visitors took control of the game but surprisingly the home side pulled one back in the 71st minute with a perfectly-aimed free kick which gave the keeper no chance.

Within five minutes the East Kintyre side regained their two-goal cushion.

Adam Graham set up Ryan McConnachie, whose shot was blocked by a defender, before the ball arrived to Declan McAulay whose sweet

volley from 15 yards found the net.

The visitors' final two goals, in the 81st and 87th minute, came from two Maguire free kicks, the first bent over the wall from 22 yards, and the second scored from the edge of the penal-

ty area. Carradale's man of the match was David Johnstone.

Tomorrow's (Saturday) fixture is an away league match against Millerston. After a 1-1 draw when the two sides last met another close encounter is expected.



David Johnstone was Carradale's man of the match after impressing in midfield again. 08_c17carrfoot02

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