



Wishing all our readers and advertisers a happy New Year

Good Samaritan's holiday home is a help for heroes

by **CLAIRE THOMSON**

editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

A VETERAN guardsman has played Santa all year by offering his Glenbarr holiday cottage to war heroes.

Philip Heard, 84, built a holiday house next to his own home, and – by working with military charities, including Help for Heroes – rents the property for free to service personnel and their families.

Speaking to the *Courier* last Thursday, Mr Heard said that Help for Heroes was an organisation that is 'very close to my heart'.

His own father served in France in the First World War in the Light Infantry, was mentioned in the dispatches and awarded a military medal.

'My father suffered from frostbite and lost all of his toes, which meant he couldn't bal-

ance. His left lung was seriously damaged, along with his left arm.'

Following his father's path, Mr Heard was a sergeant in the Grenadier Guards.

'I joined in 1950 and stayed for nine years,' said Mr Heard. 'I served in Egypt on the banks of the Suez Canal. I earned my three stripes within two and a half years.'

Army life

He left the army in 1959 because, as he said: 'The woman I was going to marry didn't want the army life so I went back to Exmoor farming.'

Following the death of his wife, he moved to Scotland. Mr Heard said: 'I'd been up to Scotland to show Highland cattle and met a lot of friends there and moved to

Kintyre about 26 years ago.' His lucrative farming career allowed him to build from scratch two years ago. In total, the project has cost Mr Heard more than £375,000. He estimates 80 veterans have taken a 'much-needed break' in Glenbarr.

But the coastal location isn't the only thing which makes the Kintyre retreat special.

There is a unique camaraderie between Mr Heard, himself an ex-soldier, and the veterans who visit.

Though weaponry and technology may have changed since Mr Heard's time, he believes the military experience is similar.

'I don't think there's much difference in it to be honest,' explained Mr Heard, 'but I do think it affects them nervously more than it used to; it's amazing how many of their nerves are affected.



Philip Heard outside the home he lets veterans and their families use for free.

25_c53helpforheroes10

'One man who had his leg blown off would come and start talking to you and then

he'd freeze.' For booking information, contact Band of Brothers at Help

for Heroes on 01980 844280.

See page four for more on this story.

INSIDE YOUR COURIER THIS WEEK

Still game

A DISTILLER has started a new chapter in his life after retiring aged 70.

Full story, page two.

Icy swim

SWIMMERS Dipping for Dosh in Dalintober may face a freezing forecast.

Full story, page three.

A83 crash

A TEENAGE driver was charged with dangerous driving after an A83 collision.

Full story, page three.

Hospital heroes

CAMPBELTOWN Brass Band trumpeted together for patients on Christmas Day.

Full story, page eight.

Bags boost

TOURISTS will see a revamped Esplanade thanks to Catherine Dobbie's determination.

Full story, page 18.

Rabies alert

A QUARTER of a century ago a cat from a ship wreck sparked rabies fears.

Full story, page 18.



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Council hosts cutting-edge digital event for youngsters

THE HIGHLIGHT for Dalintober primary pupils at a digital leader event in Inveraray was winning one of two mini drones.

Organised by Argyll and Bute Council's Learning Technologies Team, the recent event saw 244 pupils from more than 40 local primary schools take part in a number of workshops aimed at training pupils to become digital leaders who are able to support their peers and, perhaps even

teachers, with technology in schools.

Supported by iTeach, workshops included training in leadership, digital creation, designing, coding and programming.

The council's policy lead for education and lifelong learning, Councillor Rory Colville, said: 'This was an innovative and inspiring event.'

'It enabled pupils to apply the skills they learn in school to a work context.

'With a growing number of employment opportunities for young people with an interest in digital technology, and more and more jobs relying on it, it is important that young people are confident in using technology.'

'The young people who attended were extremely engaged in the work and their own learning. I look forward to seeing this great work developing further.'

Whisky man uncorks a new chapter

A MASTER distiller has seen many malts mature since joining Glen Scotia in the early sixties.

Finally, Jim Grogan, 70, has decided to put the cap on his working life at the Campbeltown distillery. He has seen the business go through turbulent times, including being made redundant himself twice and rehired on each occasion.

It was straight into heavy lifting in the warehouse when Mr Grogan first turned up, aged 16, at what was then known as A Gillies Distillers.

Mr Grogan said: 'There were no forklift trucks and all the barrels were moved by hand.'

'My first boss was Barry Smith and his son, Mike, was learning the ropes at the same time.'

In his time with the business there have been a number of owners, including



Master distiller Jim Grogan receives a quach and bottle of very special Glen Scotia on his retirement from his boss Iain McAlister. 25_c53retirement01

Gibson International before Loch Lomond Group took over in 1996.

Boss Iain McAlister said: 'Jim started work at Glen Scotia Distillery in the early sixties, a time when the industry was very different from the industry we have nowadays. The work was hard, but the characters and individuals within the distillery were timeless.'

'Jim is highly respected within the industry and has worked in all parts of the Glen Scotia process. He started his career within the

warehouses and finally ended up as a skilful distiller, so I guess you could say his DNA is an integral part of the place.'

'He has seen the highs and lows of the whisky industry and most recently was part of the team which has taken Glen Scotia Distillery to its new dizzy heights, passing on his unique skill set to the younger generation, which will make sure the whisky industry is prevalent and strong in Campbeltown for the foreseeable future.'

Vehicle may have been hit

BETWEEN 6pm on Thursday December 22 and 8am on Friday December 23, a red and yellow Peugeot van, parked on Argyll Street, Campbeltown, was damaged.

Police suspect the van's rear doors and bumper were struck by a vehicle which failed to stop.

They are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses.

Car is taken and damaged

A CAR parked in Burnside Street, Campbeltown, was allegedly taken and driven off without the permission of the owner or valid insurance.

The incident is believed to have occurred between 4am and 8am on Saturday December 24.

The vehicle was returned but had been damaged by a collision. A 19-year-old man was arrested and has been charged with the offences.

A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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Sea cadet cruises through seamanship exam

CAMPBELTOWN sea cadet Ellie Lowrie is on the crest of a wave after gaining her advanced seamanship qualification.

Ellie, 14, is one of just 45 young people to achieve the award in the UK this year.

Ellie, who attends the Campbeltown Sea Cadets Unit, sailed through challenges testing her rope work, rigging, splicing, whipping and canvas work.

The qualifications are supported by a na-

tional partnership of Carnival Corporation and Cunard.

A spokesperson for the Sea Cadets said: 'This scheme enables 14,000 cadets aged 10 to 18 to broaden their career options in the maritime industry.'

'Across the UK, young people gain a seamanship qualification with Sea Cadets, learning a range of skills essential to operating in the maritime environment.'

'It is the foundation

of a career at sea and any water-based activity.'

Ellie, who is an Ordinary Cadet, said: 'I am really pleased to have my advanced seamanship qualification.'

'I enjoy Sea Cadets - I like the boating, especially sailing and kayaking. Maybe I'd like to have a career at sea.'

'It has given me a lot of opportunities.'

Her mum, Helen, added: 'I'm very proud of her for this - she thoroughly enjoyed it.'

Youngsters who fancy a life before the mast can come along to a parade night in the Cadet Hall at Campbeltown's Hazelburn Business Park on Monday evenings from 6.45pm to 9pm.



Qualified seafarer Ellie Lowrie.

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Firms' free deal to secure Seasports feasibility funding

by **MARK DAVEY**
 editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

IT IS full steam ahead for the plans to revitalise Campbeltown's Seasports.

A pair of city firms have given their support free of charge as the Seasports project team seeks extra cash to hit its full business feasibility target of £80,000.

John Renshaw Architects (JRA), of Edinburgh, which specialises in designing

community waterfront facilities, has created sketches and plans of how the facility may look, although the final design would involve all partners.

JRA was introduced by Martin Latimer of Blue Sea Consulting, based in Greenock, following completion of the outline business case.

A spokesperson for

the project said: 'JRA and Blue Sea are demonstrating their belief in the project.

'We have to compete for every pound we can get, from CHORD and all other possible sources.

Benefit

'Linking the new project sketches with the now widely acknowledged community benefit gives us an extra shot in the locker, but we must redouble our efforts to hit the target.'

Behind the scenes, three officers led by Campbell Fox are working on purposes, the object and constitution to try to turn the project into a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

In addition, Seasports has been invited to apply make a formal expression of interest for matched LEADER funding which has just awarded £600,000 to 14 groups in Argyll.

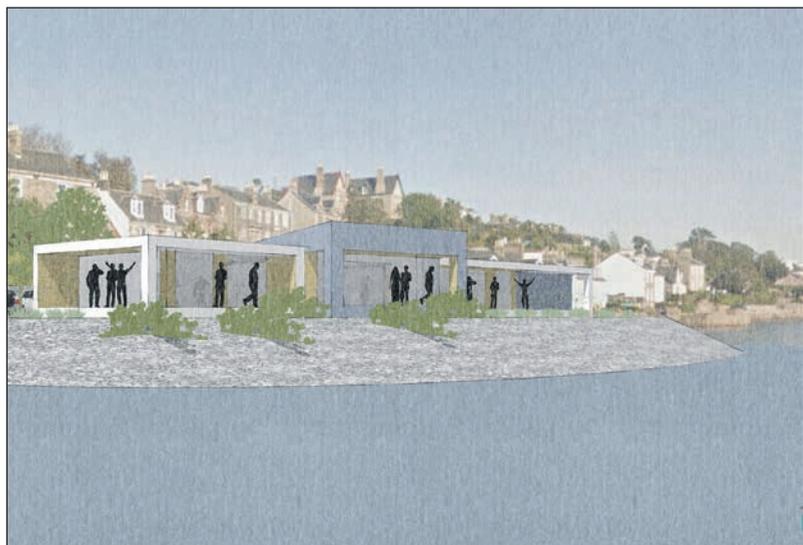
Fancy dress dippers dolled up for dosh

DIP FOR Dosh charity swimmers will have a blast as they show off their outfits splashing around in Campbeltown Loch.

The fun starts on Dalintober Beach, Northshore Street, at noon on New Year's Day and this year may have a bumper crop of crazy outfits as the push for the Seasports centre gathers steam.

One swimmer taking part is no stranger to cold water swims. Kirsty Black, 26, has been in the sea for the past 30 days consecutively and, if she makes it on Sunday, will be up to 32.

Afterwards there will be a chance to warm up in the sailing club with a hot shower, soup and swap fishy tails. For more information, call Jamie MacLean on 07796 637735.



An artist's impression of how the Seasports centre might look.



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South-bound cars queue at West Loch Tarbert at 4.20pm. 25_c53blocked01

Smash blocks the A83

A DRIVER has been charged with suspected dangerous driving after a crash on the A83.

A teenage man was driving a black hatchback near West Loch Tarbert when a collision occurred which also involved two lorries.

No one was injured in the smash which happened at about 2.30pm last Friday. Traffic was held up in both directions for more than two hours while police cleared the road. A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

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Only connect: Heroes' cottage creates crucial connections

THE OWNER of a holiday home let out for free to veterans, told the *Courier* of the lasting bonds formed there.

Philip Heard, 84, a former Grenadier Guardsman, said: 'Today people look at war differently. They ask:



Sergeant Heard in his army days.

by **CLAIRE THOMSON**
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

why is it worthwhile? Why do we do this?'

'Before, we just did it. We knew we were fighting for Queen and country and that was it.'

He still finds it easy to connect with the house's visitors and their experiences;

Company

He added: 'As well as them getting time to relax, it's company for me. I don't have much family, most of them are in Australia, Canada or the USA.'

Mr Heard has connected with many of his visitors, and he has witnessed them form new connections too.

Mr Heard told the *Courier* of one visitor who made a break-

through with his children.

'I had one young couple stay with me who had two young sons.'

'His wife told me that her husband, an ex-serviceman, didn't really associate with the kids after he came out of the army.'

'There's a collie dog around the house and one of their sons was making a fuss of it.'

'I suggested they take a photo of the boy with the dog, and the father went up to them with a camera.'

'The next day, after four years of not associating properly with his children, he took them down to the beach.'

But the scars of Mr Heard's visitors are not just mental, they are often physical.

'There was a young fella, 24, who drove up from London in a specially adjusted car,' explained Mr Heard. 'He said he joined the army because his parents were always falling out.'

'He only had six inches of his left leg and had lost the other just above the knee.'

To accommodate injured servicemen, Mr Heard has ensured that wheelchairs are able to access the property.

Outdoors, there is a flat patio for garden access and the village of Glenbarr is accessible via pavement.

The ground floor is entirely level and a bathroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner



A veteran's family enjoy a break at the beach.

and bedroom are located on the ground floor.

However, there are two bedrooms upstairs.

He said: 'If I can get a stairlift fitted, it'll make a big difference to the visitors.'

Alison Richmond of Help for Heroes said: 'We are so grateful to Mr Heard for his generosity in donating his lovely holiday home so our wounded, injured and sick veterans and their families can enjoy a holiday in such peaceful and scenic surroundings.'

The house is available to servicemen and women from all British regiments.

Help for Heroes is keen to promote its accommodation to veterans from all over the country.



One of the cottage's bedrooms 25_c53helpforheroes05

Charitable Trust takes a step forward

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

At a recent Kilmory council meeting, members approved the business case, which was carried out by Ernst and Young, and agreed to take the next steps to implement a trust.

A CT is an independent, not-for-profit external organisation, widely used by local

authorities to operate a range of public services.

They offer many financial and commercial benefits that can help to sustain the future of these services in the face of growing pressure on public spending.

The council's policy lead for community and culture, Councillor Robin Currie, said: 'The model for Argyll and Bute includes four swimming pools and fitness suites; one

sports centre; nine community halls or centres; 11 libraries; and one mobile library service.

'These are facilities that are critical to improving the overall health and fitness of our residents.'

'They are social places where people meet and are a valued part of local communities.'

'This approach has been adopted by most local authorities and has worked extremely well.'

'There are many benefits to a CT. They can access more funding streams; they can be marketed as a single, branded body; and can benefit from commercial revenue growth and improved financial performance.'

'Creating a CT to deliver library and leisure services in Argyll and Bute provides an opportunity to deliver even better services and savings without impacting the front-line.'

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Dalintober classes consider citizenship

DALINTOBER Primary School and Early Learning Centre pupils and their teachers tackled the big questions recently as they held a citizenship week across the entire school.

The week's focus was on rights and responsibilities, questioning facts and opinions and bias and persuasion; from local issues to global concerns.

Head teacher Caroline Armour said: 'The week was hugely successful, opening up even more community links for the school and we would like to extend our thanks to Shopper-Aide, Tesco, Co-Op, the Elderberries, Messy Church, Chris Holden, Kintyre Food Bank, the Salvation Army, CGS4 Gambia, Rotary Campbeltown and all others who helped us.'



Pupils participating in citizenship week.



Dalintober's primary fours with Campbeltown Salvation Army captain Ruth Russell.



Pupils learn about the plight of refugees.

Kintyre's arms must be certified

SCOTLAND'S air weapons must be licensed or surrendered by tomorrow (December 31). From this date it will be an offence to use, purchase, acquire or possess an air weapon in Scotland without an appropriate licence.

Air weapon owners must either obtain an air weapon certificate or surrender their weapon.

Officers will be on hand to accept and destroy surrendered weapons at Campbeltown Police Office, Hazelburn Business Park.

Applications made since October 31 will not be processed until 2017.

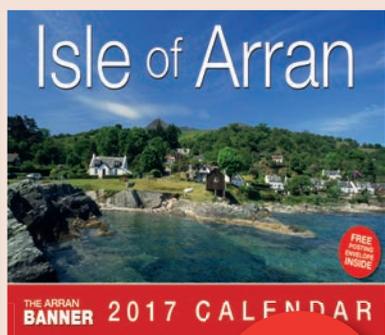
Those who do not make alternative arrangements for their air weapons while waiting for certification will be committing an offence.

For more information please visit the Police Scotland website.

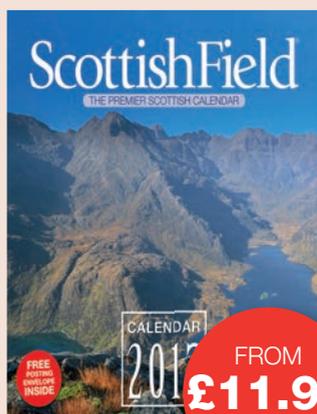
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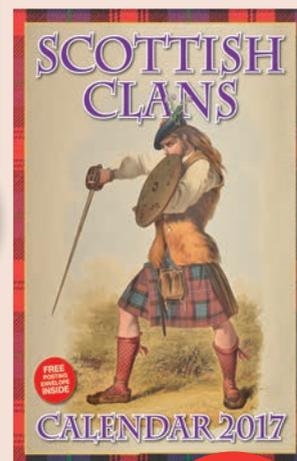


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Much to look forward to after turbulent times from 2016

LOOKING forward to 2017, Scotland leaves behind one of the most turbulent years in recent memory.

In these tempestuous times, the challenge is to search for the positivity and resilience that is all around, even if it does not seem to be in national news.

Last week, the *Courier* met ex-grenadier Philip Heard, who dedicates his life to giving war veterans free family holidays.

No matter how much attitudes or military technology changes, Mr Heard told us that the experience of war remains the same.

As Mr Heard said: 'Today people look at war differently. They ask why is it worthwhile? Why do we do this?'

The questions also asked include: 'How could Brexit have happened?' 'How did Trump win?' 'How could so many icons leave us in one year?'

Perhaps it is right to ask these questions, but in these testing times Mr Heard says look at the resilience of past generations who, as Mr Heard said, 'knew [they] were fighting for Queen and country and that was it.'

Thankfully, we don't have to look too far to find charity in Kintyre.

From Mr Heard's selfless work in Glenbarr to Campbeltown rallying round to raise money for brave Dalintober pupil Kurt Smiley, resilience and courage is all around.

2017 will be an exciting year. Campbeltown's own purpose-built cinema will re-open and it will be state-of-the-art, perhaps even the best in Scotland.

Perhaps the next building project will take off if targets can be met for the Seaports' plan.

who's who at your
courier

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opinion

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Charity starts at home is the message for CrossReach

Sir,
I am writing to you to ask for your help and support concerning the possible closure of Auchinlee Care Home in Campbeltown.

My 96-year-old mum has been living there for the past three years and now regards it as home and her fellow residents and caring staff members as her extended family. Surely there is some way that something can be done to avoid having to move frail and elderly members of our community out of their home when coping with the cruelties of dementia?

It's a well-known fact that people suffering from this disease need continuity of care and no disruption to their surroundings.

If the closure does eventually go ahead and the residents are scattered across Argyll or even further afield, how are families supposed to maintain regular contact with their loved ones?

It would appear that the nearest they might be moved to would involve at least an 80-mile journey each way. Not the kind of journey anyone would be wanting to undertake daily or even two to three times a week.

Auchinlee has been a big part of the community in Campbeltown for more than 50 years. I think that the majority of people living here

think that's the way things should remain.

Recently when people have been asking after my mum they really don't seem to understand the threat that's literally hanging over the heads of all the residents there.

I really feel disheartened and let down by local councillors, the authority and CrossReach for letting things come to this stage without having alerted relatives much earlier as to what was going on.

While it is great and good to be able to offer support and funding to people worldwide facing wars and terrible natural disasters, surely we should also remember that there are times when we have to say 'charity begins at home' and make sure we properly fund care for our own elderly population who gave so much for us throughout war-torn years themselves?

Name and address supplied.

Campbeltonians must dig deep to save Auchinlee

Sir,
The closing of Auchinlee is a disgrace to the people of Campbeltown as it is a great help to the ill. What are those poor souls going to do? Most of their families are working.

The only thing I can suggest is that the people of Campbeltown put in a pound a week into a collection can in every shop.

This money would keep

it open. As there are about 5,000 people in Campbeltown, that would do.

Sammy McGeachy,
Campbeltown.

Evicting the elderly constitutes a health risk

Sir,
I wish to express my concerns and fears for the future of Auchinlee Care Home as closure of this essential provision of care remains pending.

Should my mother be relocated, I would have to travel 80 or even 150 miles plus to visit her. This eviction would cause her great distress and threaten her health. Research proves that the lives of elderly frail people are shortened by such disruption.

I urge the local community to help save Auchinlee.

Hilary Rankin,
Calton Avenue,
Campbeltown.

Black Friday for Scottish education

Sir,
Friday December 9 was something of a Black Friday for the Scottish Government considering two particular headlines that concerned education in Scotland. First was the PISA report showing how standards in our schools had diminished even further in comparison to the majority of the other 70 countries assessed.

Since 2006, a year before the SNP came to power, standards on three core

subjects have dropped from 11th to 23rd for reading, 11th to 24th in maths and 10th to 19th in science.

Opposition parties at Holyrood are now withdrawing support for the Curriculum for Excellence, an initiative brought in by Labour and continued by the SNP, that attaches more importance to the learning of life skills than academic subjects.

I doubt that even Ron Wilson or Willie Crossan will attempt to find excuses for this failure, considering that the first minister said she was taking full responsibility for the performance and was not about to give any excuses. The question that must be asked is what steps will the government take to redress this disaster and reverse the decline?

Brian Gee,
Lefkara,
Carradale East.

Let there be light

Sir,
The Scottish Government intends to spend nearly £2 million on light fittings to replace those scarcely 12 years old.

Surely in these days of economic austerity it would be prudent to source more affordable illuminations from IKEA?

Or does SNP support for other nationalist movements mean we must eschew durable Swedish design in favour of dearer inferior illumination from Catalonia?

Can your readers shed any light on the matter?

John Eoin Douglas,
Edinburgh.

Letters to the Editor,

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More cash for care services in Argyll

by **CLAIRE THOMSON**
 editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

HEALTH and social care services in Argyll and Bute received £1.84 million of funding this year.

The cash came from the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), a source of three-year funding from 201-2017 provided by the Scottish Government to help health and social care partnerships (HSCP) to support investment.

The NHS said: 'The key purpose of the ICF is to act as a catalyst

for transforming health and social care services through focusing on anticipation, prevention and early intervention.'

The Argyll and Bute HSCP received £1.84 million of the ICF in its first year.

Region

Of this, £1.04 million was directed towards developing health and social care services across the region.

The remaining £800,000 was devolved directly to lo-

cal communities across Argyll and Bute and divided up taking into account demographics and rurality. Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay received £200,754.

Only one district of Argyll and Bute was allocated more funding – Bute and Cowal was awarded £220,832.

Oban, Lorne and the Isles received the least at £182,348.

In Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay, continuing from year one of the programme, two Telecare first responders were funded.

Telecare is a remote alarm system to protect the elderly or infirm.

This funding will continue for 2016/17 and, according to the NHS, will support work including managing and preventing falls and assisting patients to manage their own conditions and take care of themselves.

Allocations

Successful funding allocations for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay two have been the Islay and Jura Health and Care Hub and Kintyre Befriending.

A View from Westminster - *Brendan O'Hara*

AT THIS time of year we like to look forward to the prospect of a New Year and reflect on the year just past. Usually this is done with optimism for the future and nostalgia for the 365 days that have preceded it.

This year has, however, been seismic and I personally will be bidding it good riddance for many reasons. I will welcome 2017 with open arms and hope that whatever came from 2016, whether that was Brexit, Trump or Middle East carnage, a fresh year will bring with it the opportunity for calm, peace and tolerance.

From the bloody wars in Syria and Yemen and the accompanying images of children starving to death in besieged, bombed-out cities while the world's

great powers fight to create or maintain a sphere of influence in someone else's country, to the start of possible disintegration of the European project, which kept peace in this continent for the past seven decades, I wonder if 2016 will be marked in the tomes of history as the catalyst it seems to have become.

It is easy to get caught up in the doom and gloom of what's on 24-hour TV news. But a lot of good positive things do still happen.

Locally, the tide is turning and we are seeing an upturn of economic activity. I have met some amazing Kintyre people and businesses, and I feel a new sense of pride and enthusiasm – and rightly so.

Early in 2017, I am hosting an event at parliament to promote



Brendan O'Hara.

Machrihanish for the first UK Spaceport.

I am also working on bringing an international trade delegation to Argyll and Bute over the next 12 months.

Many of you will have big plans for the new year too. So despite the year that 2016 turned out to be, I want to wish each and every one of you a healthy, prosperous and happy 2017.

Let's all take stock and make it happen.

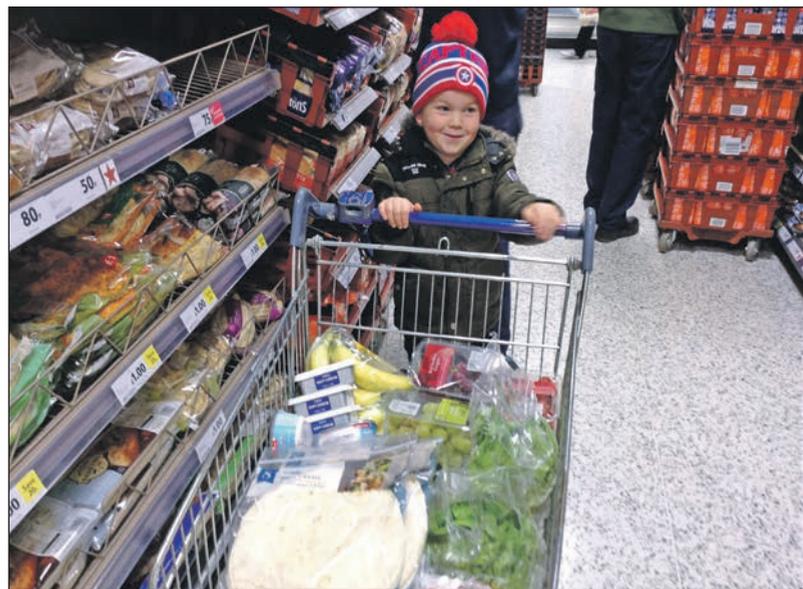
Nutritious nibbles for Kintyre kids

MEMBERS of Dalintober Primary's Pupil Council transformed into the 'Tasty Tuck Team' as they launched into healthy eating action.

The council began its annual initiative to encourage classmates to choose healthy snacks for playtimes this month.

True to their name, the team sold morsels including fruit, pitta bread and crackers, which head teacher Caroline Armour said 'went down a treat with their fellow pupils'.

Miss Armour added: 'Following the current project's run, the Tuck Team hopes that par-



P1 pupil Liam Brodie shops for tasty tuck in Tesco.

ents and pupils will continue to promote the healthy eating message.'

'The Tasty Tuck Team and Dalintober Primary School would like to thank Miss

Flaws, Miss McCallum, Mr Strang and the staff of Tesco Campbeltown for their help.'

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Campbeltown Brass Band belt out carols.

Patients' pleasure at Christmas Day tunes

CAMPBELTOWN Brass volunteers were full of Christmas spirit when they transformed

Campbeltown Hospital's corridors into a festive stage. On Christmas Day,

Campbeltown Brass Band played carols to entertain staff and patients spending Christmas at the hospital.

A band member said: 'It is always nice to remember there are those who have to spend their Christmas in hospital and there are lots of nurses, doctors, hospital staff and emergency service staff who will be spending the day looking after others.'



Hospital staff share a joke with Santa.

Picture House on tickets to the past

by **CLAIRE THOMSON**
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

CAMPBELTOWN Picture House will offer the opportunity to dive into history with its new cultural heritage project.

As work progresses on the restoration of the Wee Toon's iconic cinema, a new project has been launched to explore its unique



The old projector to be displayed in the re-opened cinema's lobby.



The opening times display clock.

Lizard lady reprises Edinburgh fringe comedy at Seafield Hotel

AN ACTOR who spends her day smoking fish, swapped shop scales for a lizard's skin in a magnificent monologue which entertained a full house at the Seafield Hotel.

Jane Dunbar, who first played fading artiste Morag Kerr, to rave reviews, nearly

20 years ago on an Edinburgh stage, reprised the hilarious role during a supper evening just before Christmas.

It was not the lizard lady's first Kintyre appearance as nearly six years ago Jane shared the highs and lows of Morag Kerr's life with a Carradale audience.

Jane has had plenty of practice at inhabiting the shoes of kooky old lady Morag Kerr, who sits sipping tea and slowly reveals the true nature of her conversion from naive Largs lass to Las Vegas show star.

The evening's funniest moments were in the second act when Jane plays Morag as a tipsy actor reliving her glory days and some of her fellow thespians and their antics.



In evening attire for the short second act. 25_c53lizard01



Jane Dunbar during the first act. 25_c53lizard02

Afterwards Jane said the second act seems to get easier to play...

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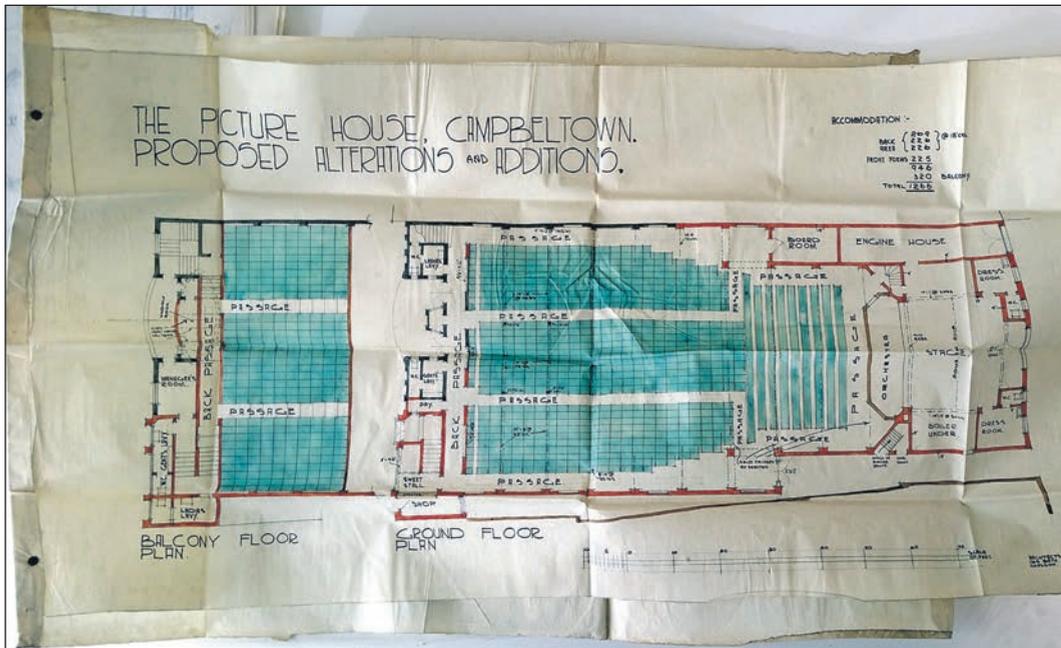
Offers st

history. It seeks to explore the secrets and stories of the Grade A listed building and those who visited and worked there.

Anyone, from former cinema staff to holidaymakers, who have or had a connection to Campbeltown, is invited to share their stories and get involved.

Those who take up the invitation will enjoy a number of activities planned to delve into the cinema's archive which dates back to its opening on May 26 1913.

Participants can get involved with the pro-



Architect Albert V Gardener's 1922 proposed alterations to the cinema.

duction of a book, get hands-on experience of film and documentary making and assist with recording and digitising items in the archive.

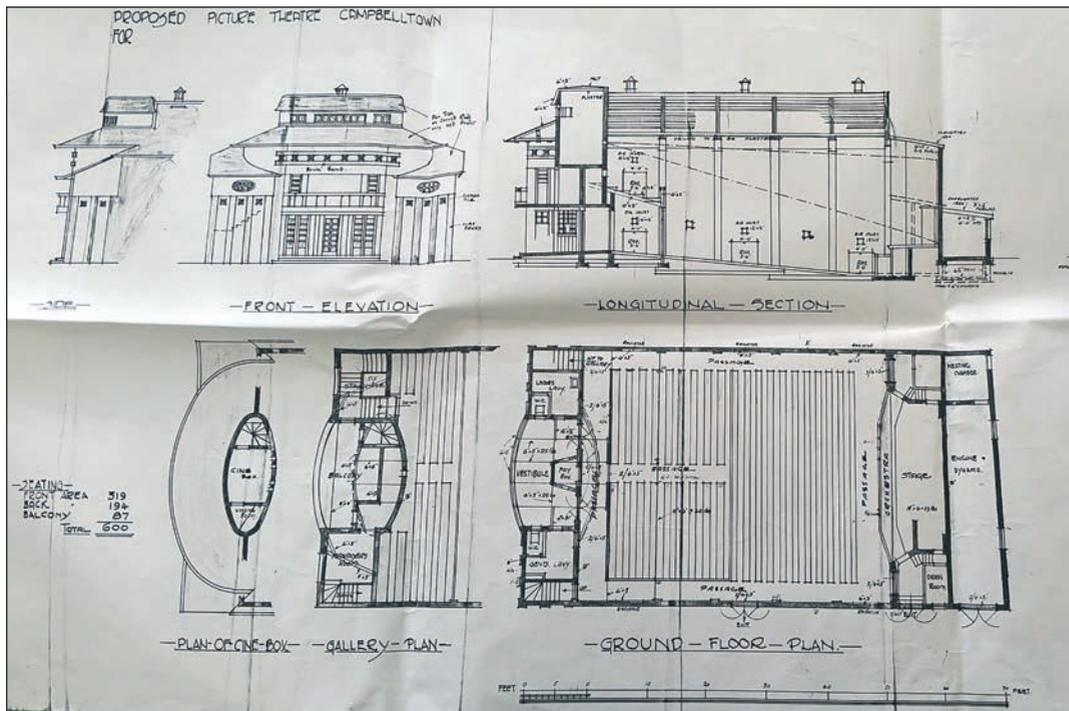
All activities will contribute to a new permanent exhibition in the Picture House

which is due to re-open in 2017.

A taster session of activities on offer will be held on Saturday January 14 from 10am to 12:30pm at the Aqualibrium. Everyone is welcome.

The Picture House team is also inviting

Campbeltontians to bring along any items cinema memorabilia to the session. Those who cannot attend on January 14 but wish to get involved or share any memories are invited to email collections@campbeltownpicture-house.co.uk.



Cinema architect Albert V Gardener's 1912 plan.

MOKRUN 2017 & Junior Races

Online entries open Sunday 8th January at 7.30am

See www.mokrun.com for links
Pasta party and ceilidh tickets also available at time of entry.

Councillor John Armour
would like to wish everyone in South Kintyre a very happy Festive season and a prosperous 2017.
I can be contacted on 07766 970672 or email john.armour@argyll-bute.gov.uk

THE ARGYLL INN

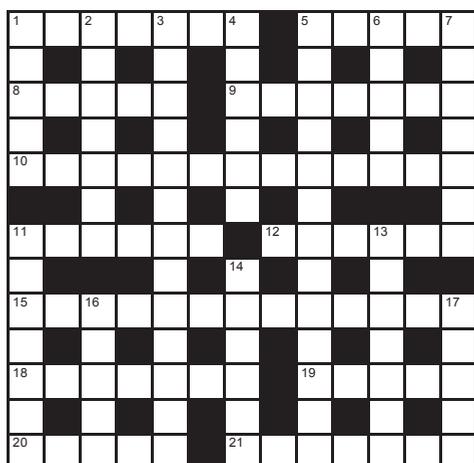


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Across

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

Down

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION





Glenalmond College

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

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

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

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

The opening of these new houses is matched

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

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

Glenalmond College's warden (head teach-

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



Opening September 2017

New junior house
for boys aged 12-14



Cairnies



Goodacre's

New girls' house
for girls aged 12-18



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

www.glenalmondcollege.co.uk



Glenalmond College | inspiring learning

Scottish Charity SC006123

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

To register or for further information contact Mrs Amanda Johnstone:

admissions@kilgraston.com | 01738 815523



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Scholarship & Whole School Open Day
Saturday 4th February 2017

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

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

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admissions@lomondschool.com



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

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

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

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

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



Dollar Academy

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

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

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

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



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

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



Assessment and Examination Dates for Entry 2017

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

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

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

01259 742 511
registrar@dollaracademy.org.uk
www.dollaracademy.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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



STRATHALLAN

Opportunities for *all* to excel

for ages 9 to 18



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

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

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

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

Open Morning

(Entry for ages 9+)

Saturday 4th March 2017, 10am - 1pm

Scholarships and Bursaries Available

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

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

The Role:

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

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

- 2 years' experience working in a Freshwater Hatchery environment
- Ability to participate in an 'Alarm Duty' rota system
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- Candidate must be flexible with regard to hours worked, weekend working will be required
- Be a good team player but have the ability to work alone when required
- Inter-personal and excellent communication skills
- Clean UK driving licence

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

If you feel you have the necessary attributes to successfully fulfil this position and contribute to a progressive, results orientated company, then please send your covering letter and CV to Krystal Flett, krystal.flett@cookeaqua.com by 11 January 2017.

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Set a safer driving New Year resolution

BEWARE the 28 general manager per cent of motorists for *Exchange and Mart* explains: 'Many not the road, warns drivers clearly still *Exchange and Mart*. seem to think that

New year is the perfect time for drivers to commit to keeping their eyes firmly focused on the road, not their mobiles. This is the warning

from *Exchange and Mart*, after 28 per cent of motorists it surveyed admitted to using their phone while driving. With nearly one in three motorists knowingly flouting the law when it comes to 'device driving', the UK's roads are a hazard for all road users.

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

Jim Murray Jones,

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

www.exchangeandmart.co.uk/distracted-driving

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

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

Jim Murray Jones continues: 'Of those we

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

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

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Mac.

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK

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

DEATHS

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

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

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

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

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

IN MEMORIAM

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

Loved and remembered always.

- Netta and family at home and abroad.

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

Your life touched this world in a way no other can

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

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

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

- Aileen, Gemma, Jamie, Craig and Conor.

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

Always in our thoughts.

- All the family.

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

Remember you always.

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

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

- Miss you, Robert.

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

- Forever in my thoughts, Robert.

CHURCH NOTICES

Highland Parish Church



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

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

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



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

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Sunday 1 January 2017
Start the year worshipping God
We are holding a short service with communion on New Year's Day at 11.00am.
Visitors welcome
What is missing from CH CH? UR
For details, contact the church office on 01586 551200 or the Church Secretary on 01586 551237.
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SCO14646



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

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

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

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday 1st January 2017
New Year Communion Service
'Be Still & Look Up'
Youth Fellowship
6.30 pm - 8.00 pm
Every Sunday (term time only)
mainly music
10.00 - 11.30 am
every Thursday (term time only)
Registration required
Pastor Chris Holden
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SCO43322

ST. KIERAN R.C. CHURCH ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN

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



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



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

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

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

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

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

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILHEAD

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

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

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

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

lochgilhead baptist church

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Sunday 1st January 2017
Cumlodden Lochfyneside and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Minister: Rev. Dr. Roderick D. M. Campbell
Morning Service
in Cumlodden Church at 10 am
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Morning Service at 11.30 am
Cumlodden and Lochfyneside Guild
Wednesday 4th January
in Cumlodden Church Hall at 2.30 pm
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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We have witnessed rejection of those who are different.

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

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

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

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

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

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

From our files:

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO FRIDAY JANUARY 3 1992

Island rabies alert

A RABIES alert led to the destruction of two cats removed from the grounded Russian factory ship *Kartli*, off Gigha, on Boxing Day.

SSPCA inspectors and two officers from Campbeltown police were ferried out to the stricken vessel last Thursday.

The body of a dead cat was discovered and another two cats, found alive but in poor condition, had to be humanely destroyed. This was due to fears that they may be carrying rabies.

The ship was, on Monday, still lying on rocks, only 50 to 100 yards off Port Bhan, Gigha.

Chief Inspector Jimmy Doward, of Campbeltown police, said: 'There is always a rabies risk with any animal which comes from outwith Britain. It is not coming from a rabies-free area and it is coming into an area where we try to prevent any animals being landed.'

FIFTY YEARS AGO THURSDAY JANUARY 5 1967

Port Ellen lit up and happy

'WE'RE GOING to get lit up when the lights go on in London,' ran a popular wartime song.

Though the people of Port Ellen did not celebrate in a like manner, there can be no doubt that they are deriving a great deal of pleasure from their new street lighting system.

The lighting contract, which is nearing completion, was the brain-child of Mr Harold Hastie, one-time chairman of the Port Ellen Residents' Association.

The first girl police cadet

ARGYLL POLICE history was made yesterday when 17-year-old Elizabeth McAllister became a police cadet.

Elizabeth, who lives at 80 Crosshill Avenue, Campbeltown, is the first girl cadet in Argyll and one of the first in Scotland. When Elizabeth reaches the age of 20, she will become a fully-fledged policewoman.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO FRIDAY JANUARY 6 1917

In aid of YMCA huts

THE PUBLIC of Campbeltown are under a debt of gratitude to the Educational Committee of the local Co-operative Society for organising such a splendid concert as that held in the Victoria Hall on Tuesday evening in aid of the YMCA huts.

Professional talent was engaged for the occasion, and that the venture was appreciated was evidenced by the large audience which filled the hall in every part. And the gathering was in no way disappointed. The concert was a splendid success throughout. The platform decorations in a scheme of red, white and blue, with national flags at either side, were very effective and pleasing to the eye.

Sheriff Macmaster presided, and after the singing of the trio, *A Guid New Year* by Miss Bessie Veitch, Miss Kate Pryce and Mr J Perston, addressed the audience.

Bags bring boost for Campbeltown causes

THREE of the Wee Toon's community projects have clinched cash from carrier bag charges.

Campbeltown shoppers cast their votes for the winning charities with tokens after checking out.

Campbeltown Community Council (CCC)

was awarded £12,000. Dunaverty Hall was awarded £10,000 and RSPB Scotland was awarded £8,000.

At the CCC December meeting members congratulated Catherine Dobbie for her determination to improve the Esplanade which is how the £12,000 will

be spent. It is intended to install low maintenance recycled plastic picnic benches, information boards and to refurbish existing street furniture.

Thanks

A CCC spokesman said that the award was also thanks to all the members of the com-

munity who voted for the project.

A Tesco spokesperson said: 'Bags of Help has been a fantastic success.'

'We have been overwhelmed by the response of our customers and it's been great to give people a say on how the money will be

spent in their community.'

Campbeltown customers can vote for three different groups to receive funding each month. The campaign to refurbish Carradale play park is leading the latest voting in the scheme and looks set to gain £12,000.

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

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

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

Slogging through sea, sand, sweat and surf

SEA, sun and sandy beaches are usually enough for most on the beach but Campbeltown Running Club has devised a cruel



First junior girl home, Violet Campbell.
25_c53slog10



Juniors start their run. 25_c53slog08

way to spend one of December's closing days.

While many walked down the beach, children played on the rocks and some even paddled in bracing chill winds, a bunch of runners, including BBC Scotland's education correspondent Jamie McIvor, spent the warmest hours of the day thrashing along the beach.

Numbers taking part in the run's seventh outing seemed slightly

down on last year but that may have reflected the change of date from Boxing Day to a day later.

Some runners seemed to be setting off again shortly after finishing but were just cooling off before tucking into hot soup, savouries, shortbread and, rather appropriately, melt-in-the-mouth rocky road.

Jamie McIvor saw most of the field race past. 25_c53slog02



MOK runners race to enter

EVERY year there is a scramble to enter Kintyre's premier athletic event, the MOKRUN.

Online entries for the 2017 event, which takes place on Sunday May 28, open a week later than previously on Sunday January 8 at 7.20am with stuweb.co.uk.

Pasta party and ceilidh tickets are available for purchase at the same time. There is a change of venue this year for the pasta party which will be organised South Kintyre Development Trust at Campbeltown town hall and will include entertainment.

The ceilidh arranged by South Kintyre Sports Council will be held in the Vic as usual.

To enter the half marathon and 10K, go to: www.stuweb.co.uk.

find us on facebook

www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £3650

All you have to do

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

To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. **Entry will be void if crosses overlap.** Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.

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

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 10am on Tuesday 3rd January. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition Rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



Name

Address

Tel No

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

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

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

Sparkling sand but headwind hampers sloggers



Men's winner Gary Muir. 25_c53slog11



Cara Gorman powers to the finish. 25_c53slog04



Crossing the line together. 25_c53slog03

sloggers

KINTYRE runners faced a stiff 20mph wind as they battled along Wesport's shore.

The return leg tailwind, the aftermath of Storm Conor, was little consolation and times were not close to last year's adult winner's 36.56.

Gigha girl Cara Gorman, 16, who won the ladies' race, competing in only her second 10k, was very pleased with her 47.20, 11 seconds ahead of the second woman Jennifer Reid, who ran 47:31. She was two minutes, 53 seconds ahead of third-placed Emma Morran's 50.24.

Gorman, who is studying for her Highers at Tarbert Academy, reckoned the pebbly stretch was the hardest but as she raced up the beach looked ready for another 10k.

'There are not many runners on Gigha,' said Gorman. 'It was great to come and beat all the Campbeltown Running Club members.'

Gary Muir won the men's race in 40.02, a great effort in the conditions. He was followed home by Stuart McGeachy in 41.59 and in third Craig Metcalf in 42.51.

Posting on social media, Elaine McGeachy said: 'Well done to everyone at the Slog in the Sand 10k.'

'Thanks to the Coastguard for safety and

support en route, all the timers and helpers who made the race go smoothly and successfully and of course the delicious home baking.'

Numbers in the shorter junior race were well down, at fewer than half compared to last year.

Winner Gregor Campbell was three minutes and 27 seconds faster

than his 2015 mark and two minutes, 10 seconds quicker than last year's winner.

Full junior results were: 1 Gregor Campbell 10:35, 2 Ruairidh Campbell 12:31, 3 William McLean 12:34, 4 Violet Campbell 12:41, 5 Ryan Shields 13:30, 6 Caryn Kerr 13:31, 7 Emma Millar 15:22, 8 Rona McLean 17:54.



First junior Gregor Campbell. 25_c53slog05

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