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**Tarbert conservation
moves ahead**

See page 4

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Goodbye to Dickie's Boatyard

I'm delighted to see progress being made to rejuvenate the harbour and town centre'

A NEGLECTED Tarbert landmark has been pulled down to make way for a £1million revamp of the village centre.

Once a vibrant centre of boatbuilding, Dickies Boatyard made traditional Loch Fyne skiffs, exclusive yachts and torpedo boats during World War Two, but the sheds have lain empty for 25 years.

Now they have been torn down and will be replaced by landscaped paths linking the harbour to the village's main shopping streets, Tarbert Castle and the start of the Kintyre Way.

In August, Tarbert was one of 60 towns chosen to receive a cash injection from the Town Centre Regeneration Initiative grant.

Alan Macdonald, Chair of the Trustees of Tarbert Harbour, said: 'This is a momentous day and demonstrates both the Board's and village's determination to improve the harbour and village surroundings.'

'The works could not have been carried out this early without grant monies received.'

Development

He said the work would also allow the harbour board to continue its development in the near future.

Archibald Dickie founded the boatyard in around 1880 and soon established his reputation for craft in Scotland and beyond.

In its heyday, the yard employed 60, but closed its doors in the

**By Christine
McCartney**

1980s. Despite efforts to re-open the yard or use the site for harbour-front housing, it has lain unused since.

The demolition was carried out by Mid Argyll contractors George McNaughton and Sons, who will now safely remove asbestos and other materials to clear the site.

Scotland's housing and communities minister, Alex Neil MSP, also welcomed the progress made in Tarbert.

He said: 'Tarbert received almost £1 million and I'm delighted to see the excellent progress being made to rejuvenate the harbour and town centre.'



Little Jamie Angus is certainly looking forward to Christmas, especially Santa's visit. The two-year-old was helping his grandmother, Phyllis, decorate the Flower Club's tree at Lochgilphead Parish Church's first Christmas Tree Festival. The beautifully-decorated trees, each by a different charity or organisation in the town, are on show until tomorrow, Saturday. There will also be a constant stream of refreshments through the day and festive musical entertainment. The festival will be open today, Friday, from 11am to 5pm and 6pm to 8pm. Tomorrow, the doors are open between 10am and 4pm. 06_a51tre04

Speeding fines

A TOTAL of 12 drivers were reported for various speeding offences in Mid Argyll during the past week. Another 14 were stopped by police for vehicle defects, such as broken lights and bald tyres.

Roads inspector David Ferguson said officers would be carrying out checks throughout the festive period and beyond and urged drivers to carry out regular checks to make sure their vehicles were road-worthy.

Car on roof

A MAN received medical attention following a one-vehicle crash which left the car he was driving on its roof on Monday.

Police, fire crews and an ambulance attended the incident, which took place on the A83 near Lochgair.

Extra patrols

POLICE officers are giving extra attention to the Kilduskland Road area of Ardrishaig, following complaints being made about the activity of young people in the area.

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Glass book signing

AN Ardrishaig man has co-written a book marking the 400th anniversary of glass making in Scotland. Brian Blench, who will be signing copies at a book launch in the Argyll Book Centre tomorrow, Saturday, worked for Glasgow museums for a number of years, specialising in glass collections.

Car vandalised

A CAR was vandalised near to the Bank of Scotland, Lochgilphead last week.

The damage was discovered and reported to the police around 5.30pm on Thursday December 10.

Music too loud

A WOMAN was warned about making too much noise at 6am on Sunday, December 13, after police received reports of music coming from a Union Terrace property. The music was subsequently turned down.



From pipes to jazz, traditional to pop, there was a mix of musical styles on show at the Lochgilphead High School Christmas Concert. 06_a51hs01

High School Christmas Concert

MORE than 100 pupils took part in Lochgilphead High School's Christmas Concert.

Between the school's wind band, the staff and pupil choir, pipe band, folk group, saxophone quartet and soloists, the sell-out audience were treated to a lively mix

of musical styles. Street dancers and a rock band also performed.

Festive Mood

But no Christmas concert would be complete without the chance to join in and rousing versions of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing and Rockin' Around the

Christmas Tree certainly got everyone in a festive mood.

Publicity for the show was organized by the S3 Skills for Work class, while refreshments were provided by the school's eco-group with fair trade tea and coffee kindly donated by the Co-op.

Sea rescue as cargo ship runs aground

A LARGE scale sea rescue was launched after a cargo ship ran aground late Tuesday evening in the Gulf of Corryvreckan.

Clyde Coastguard received a call from the skipper of the *Fingal* and its owner at approximately 9.30pm on Tuesday, stating the vessel had gone aground with six people aboard and was taking in water.

Escorted

Coastguard rescue teams from Jura and Crinan were sent to the area, as were RNLI lifeboats from Oban and

Islay and a Royal Navy Rescue helicopter from *HMS Gannet*. The *Fingal* was stabilised and escorted into Oban.

The *Fingal* was also involved in another incident when she ran aground on rocks off Kintyre in September 2007, when it was feared that 1,400 tonnes of timber, fuel and oil would end up in the sea.

A Marine Coastguard Agency spokesman said there has been no threat of pollution to the area and all six crew aboard are safe and well, following Tuesday's incident.

MS Centre - a showcase Scottish charity

Presentation given to Parliament

GLAXOSMITHKLINE IMPACT Award 2009 winners, MS Centre Mid Argyll, were last month invited to attend the Scottish Parliament, as a showcase Scottish charity.

Centre staff and volunteers were asked to give a presentation on their work to MSPs, representatives from GSK and The Kings Fund.

Also in attendance were the four Scottish charities short listed for the 2010 IMPACT Awards who were given the opportunity to listen to the MS Centre's presentation followed by a question and answer session.

The organisation's chairperson, Isobel Callen and three members of staff, Karen McCurry, Dianne Frame and Maggie Dodd all enjoyed a visit around the Parliament building before the event, sponsored by Andrew Welsh MSP, began.

The MS Centre representatives were delighted to be given the opportunity to share the importance of their much-needed Centre.

National Average

One in 300 in people in Mid Argyll have MS compared to the national average of one in 700, with Scotland having the highest incidence in the world, yet statutory services are limited.

MS is a condition of the central nervous system (the brain and spinal cord), which controls the body's actions and activities, such as movement and balance.

It is possible for MS to occur at any age, but people are most commonly diagnosed between the ages of 20 and

40. Women are two to three times more likely to develop MS than men.

The symptoms of MS range from poor mobility and balance, pain, and incontinence to eyesight and cognitive problems.

MS can lead to financial, emotional and relationship problems and without the correct support can lead to relationship and family breakdowns.

Terrifying Reality

Karen McCurry, centre manager said: 'Our members have told us that without the Centre they would be frightened, lonely and struggling to cope. These are awful words that represent a terrifying reality for some.'

'We are about bringing optimism back, boosting self esteem, forming friendships, finding happiness and comfort in what our members and their families experience. There is life after diagnosis!'

Apart from services to their members, MS Centre, Mid Argyll spend a disproportionate amount of time fundraising and applying for grants. Recently running costs have increased and they are now looking at other sources of income, marketing their services to groups other than those with MS such as sports clubs receiving treatments for sports injuries. They are also considering offering services to the NHS.

At present the Centre is totally self-supporting without any funding from the statutory services, however, thanks to the GSK Award they have a small amount of reserves which are much needed in this recession.



Pictured from left to right are Maggie Dodd, Isobel Callen, Dianne Frame and Karen McCurry from the MS Centre Mid Argyll in the Scottish Parliament Debating Chamber.

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Kerrie Ross, from Ardrishaig, is delighted her first novel, *Nefertiti's Prodigy*, is out in print. 06_a50kerr01

Ardrishaig author unveils her new book

AN ARDRISHAIG author has released her first novel *Nefertiti's Prodigy*.

Kerrie Ross, who writes under her maiden name, McLeod, is delighted to see her novel in print after years of hard work and dedication.

Nefertiti's Prodigy is now available to buy from Lochgilphead's Argyll Book Centre, as well as online.

The book tells the

story of a woman who discovers belly dancing and how that impacts on her life.

Kerrie, who moved to Scotland in 1981 from Australia, explained: 'It's really a comedy but I've based it in Lochgilphead and Oban.'

'When I first came here I found the place very fascinating and I've always found the local people very interesting.'

Kerrie added: 'It's a funny book with an al-

ternative slant on why a woman would want to belly dance in front of wrestlers. I've always been interested in the concept of wrestling; I find it quite amusing.'

The 49-year-old began writing in her early 30s and is currently working on two other novels.

To find out more on Kerrie's novels log onto her website - www.kerrieross.com

4,000 sign up to keep Mid Argyll pool open

'Delighted' at the public response

MORE than half the population of Lochgilphead has voted in support of keeping the Mid Argyll Swimming Pool open.

Over 4,000 people signed the petition in support of the pool, and the MACEL board say they are 'delighted' at the public response.

'We are receiving even more support than we might have dreamed of', said MACEL chairman Stephen Whiston.

Support

'Now we are asking all of those who signed the petition to turn out in support of the march and public demonstration this Saturday,' he added.

Schools all over the area have been putting together banners and local businesses have been displaying flyers for the march and demonstration, which will end up on the front green. Argyll MSP Jim Mather will speak in support of the pool after the demonstration reaches the front green.

Delighted

The pool board is also delighted at the level of support from businesses and local people in terms of raising donations, and the pool is now financially viable until February after Argyll and Bute Council brought forward the pool's service level agreement.

However the pool still needs an increase in council funding of £30,000 for next year to place itself on a sound financial footing.

Anyone wishing to take part in the public demonstration and march should meet at the swimming pool from 10.30am with the procession leaving at 11am.

Message hits home for young drivers

A HARD-hitting campaign aimed at tackling the number of deaths and serious injuries among young drivers in the West of Scotland has been hailed a success by the organisation which led it.

The West of Scotland Road Safety Forum (WoSRSF) launched its 'Don't Let This Happen To You' campaign in the summer, to follow its 'Hero to Zero' campaign in 2007.

Further information is on the campaign website at www.dontletthishappentoyou.co.uk

Domestic incident

POLICE were called to a domestic incident in Union Street, Lochgilphead, on December 9. A man later appeared from custody at Du-noon Sheriff Court in connection with the incident.

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Competition winners

LAST week The Original Factory Shop gave readers the chance to win vouchers for its new store in Campbeltown. The winner of £50 worth of vouchers is J McKay of Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown. Runners up who each receive a £20 voucher are: Mrs I Small, Fernoch Drive, Lochgilphead; Mrs Z Macdougall, Glenbarr; Mrs N McLean, Tarbert; Ms A Gillies, Nursery Cottages, Ford; Mrs C Duncan, East Skeroblin, Campbeltown.

Conservation moves ahead, no thanks to the council

'We are simply getting on with it. The council is an irrelevance'

AFTER two years in the pipeline, the village of Tarbert finally has its conservation area appraisal. The document

lists the village's heritage assets and prepares the way for a plan to look after them.

It could unlock valuable funding for restoration and improvements, believes Robert McPhail, who co-ordinated the team of volunteers who put together the report.

'We have already used the document in draft form to get funds for Tarbert's regeneration,' he said. Next week, Tarbert and Skipness Community Council will be asked to form three groups to press forward with the appraisal's recommendations.

But Mr McPhail said the hard work and dedication of the village's volunteers has been frustrated time and again by Argyll and Bute Council's inaction.

A draft was submitted to the council for their comment and approval in June 2008, but staff changes and other delays meant that the trust had to wait until this autumn to receive a response.

The appraisal is yet to be formally adopted by the council; it is expected to come before a future meeting of Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee.

Now those who have put in the work in the village feel they can no longer let the council's timetable hold back improvements in Tarbert's conservation. 'We are simply getting on with it. The council is an irrelevance,' said Mr McPhail, who spent an afternoon desk top publishing the final report himself after officials had taken months to produce it. 'It's now two years since we started this and the whole thing could have been done and wrapped up in six months, but it is typical of what happens with the local authority.'

A council spokeswoman said: 'We have progressed this matter as quickly as we could have, given the department's other commitments and the staff resources available.'



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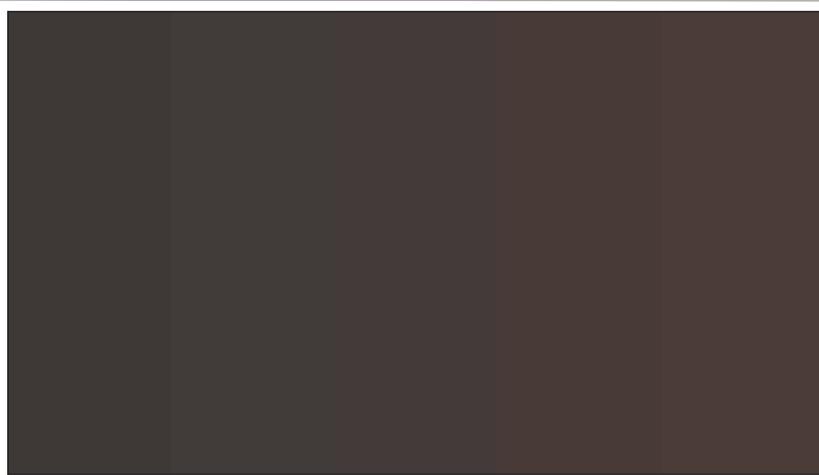
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Left to right: runner up Fraser MacNicol (Lochgilphead), winner Natasha Lee (Campbeltown), Claire MacPhee (Rothesay), Eleanor Donovan (Dunoon), Kieran Parkins (Rothesay). 04_c50m01

Natasha goes into regional final

A TEENAGER has impressed judges for the second year in a row and will now go forward to regional final of the Future Chef competition.

Natasha Lee, aged 15, took up the challenge along with other 12 to 16 year olds from Argyll and Bute to come out on top with her marsala spiced locally landed monkfish, followed by cinnamon crème brulee.

She beat off competition from Loch-

gilphead, Dunoon and Rothesay and will go forward to the regional final in January.

Impressed

The Campbeltown Grammar School pupil impressed judges with her balanced and beautifully prepared menu, judged by Flora Grant from the Ardschiel Hotel, Katherine Mcpherson from Springboard and Michael Casey of Campbeltown Grammar.

Argyll pilots new stroke technology

A NEW hand-held device is helping stroke patients in Argyll and Bute feel more involved in managing their condition.

Developed by local health professionals, the hand held record pulls together information about treatment, diagnosis and test results and stays with the patient when they are dis-

charged from hospital.

Hazel Hamilton, Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership's stroke co-ordinator, said the new system encouraged those who had suffered a stroke to take control.

'Some patients feel that they are not involved in the planning of their discharge. The hand held record has been a

perfect opportunity to encourage patients to feel involved and to take control of their condition.

'The views and experiences of the individuals involved in the development of the hand held record should underpin service development to bring about improvements to stroke practice.'



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FOR THE ISSUE OF FRIDAY DECEMBER 25th

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FOR THE ISSUE OF FRIDAY JANUARY 1st

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on Thursday 24th & Friday 25th December
and Thursday 31st December & Friday 1st January

Police to step up Christmas patrols

High-visibility foot patrols on party nights

STRATHCLYDE police officers will target drink driving, shop-lifting, domestic violence and Christmas party nights during December.

Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie said police in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay had been allocated a £4,000 share in Scottish government community safety money.

'I would intend to spend that throughout the whole of the area and equally distribute it,' she said.

There will be additional high-visibility foot patrols on Christmas party nights, to reassure the public and reduce anti-social behaviour.

On domestic violence, Chief Inspector Baillie said: 'We think it is a very important priority that we do everything we can to tackle it.' She hopes

that police action can cut down the number of incidents over the Christmas period.

'Small businesses in our area can ill afford to lose money to shop-lifting, so we will have additional patrols on afternoons,' she added. Finally police officers will be working to cut drink driving.

Chief Inspector Baillie said 'These plans have been formulated to tackle crimes that normally show a significant rise over the festive period. Undoubtedly, the increased consumption of alcohol is a contributory factor, which can lead to criminal behaviour. Over the course of the festivities it is important that people enjoy themselves whilst feeling safe on the streets, in their own homes and on the roads.'



Pictured from left to right are - Margaret Armour, Gordon Stewart, Betty Rennie, Andrew Manson and Maggie McLaren. 06_a50care01

Carers Rights Day at the Dochas Centre

WHETHER it was a relaxing massage or learning new tasty meal time treats, carers found it all at the Dochas Centre in Lochgilphead recently.

To mark Carers Rights Day, Maggie McLaren held a special day for carers across Argyll and Bute.

In the morning, Maggie's son, Gordon Stewart, a professional chef from Glasgow,

gave a mouth-watering cookery demonstration before everyone tucked into delicious dishes at lunchtime.

In the afternoon there was relaxation and pampering with manicures, aromatherapy, Indian head massages and reflexology.

Each carer then left with a bag brimming with goodies.

Maggie said: 'The aim

of the day was to make a special day for carers and I think we've achieved that.

'It's also about highlighting what we do for carers in the area, particularly the hidden ones.'

Carers Rights Day is held on December 4 and aims to inform carers of the rights, benefits and services they are entitled to.

MP slams English beaver release

THE release of European beavers in Knapdale has been raised in a House of Commons debate on fisheries.

The Labour Party's Westminster spokesman on angling, Martin Salter MP, has criticised plans to release beavers in England, after the Scottish release provoked 'great controversy'.

Royal Mail special collection and delivery

LOCHGILPHEAD'S delivery office will be open from 6.30am to 1pm each day, excluding Sunday, from now until Christmas Eve. The Royal Mail will also be making special deliveries in the evenings and on Sunday to try to ensure customers get their Christmas post.

Tarbert and Skipness priorities discussed

TARBERT and Skipness Community Council discussed the community's priorities for the next five years, last night, Thursday, as part of a new community plan.

The document, which will help different groups in the village to work together, has been initiated by Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust. Workshops and questionnaires have already identified that housing is a key challenge for Tarbert, while attracting tourists, creating jobs and dealing with traffic are other big issues.



Pictured from left to right are - Jim McCurdie from Argyll and Bute Council with Rotarians, Ian McCartan, Tom Kilcolm and Sandy Cameron. 06_a50bulb01

Rotarians get planting

MEMBERS of the Rotary Club of Mid Argyll braved the chilly weather last Tuesday to bring some colour to the verges at Bishopton road.

Rotary club president, Tom Kilcolm, along with members, Sandy Cameron and Ian McCartan, joined Argyll and

Bute Council's nursery foreman, Jim McCurdie, to plant daffodils in the verges at the Bishopton road and Oban road junction.

Donation

Tom explained: 'We wanted to do something for the community so we made a donation of

the bulbs to the council. 'We felt this was a good idea and wanted to work in conjunction with the council to enhance the area.'

A plaque is to be erected amongst the daffodils in the near future, showing the contribution the rotary club made.



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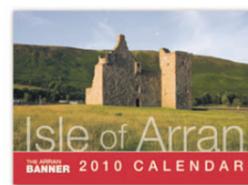


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The piping scene around

Sarah wins top competition

CONGRATULATIONS to Sarah Muir who was overall winner of the Scots Guards Junior Piping competition.

The competition is run annually and is sponsored by the Scots Guards As-

sociation Pipes and Drums and funded from the Pipe Major Angus MacDonald Memorial Fund, which is available through the Scots Guards specifically to encourage young pipers.

The competition is run annually and is and sponsored by the Scots Guards Association Pipes and Drums and funded from the Pipe Major Angus MacDonald Memorial Fund, which is available through the Scots Guards specifically to encourage young pipers.

This year it was held in the Army School of Piping at Inchde-war house Redford Road Edinburgh and 40 of the country's top young pipers competed.

Sarah was first in the march Strathspey and Reel and third in the pìoaireachd, giving her the overall win.



Sarah Muir receives her prize from Campbeltown's own Willie McCallum Jnr.



Liam and Cevan in Germany.

Kintyre's drum majors join in German tattoo

The Renton boys have been flying the flag for Scotland and Kintyre in Germany.

Last month Kintyre's drum majors Liam and Kevan Renton headed for Germany as part of an international drum major challenge and performed at the Fulda Military Tattoo to a crowd of more than 5000 people. The tattoo includes the largest display of Scottish pipe band drum majors from eight nations on stage in a single performance.

The colourful show featured World, Scottish, British, European and Champion of Champion drum majors of the world.

Joining the Drum Major Challenge coordinator Billy centre stage were Liam and Kevan, Paula Braiden, Brian Wilson, Andrew Symon and Iona Burns.

The routine which the group used was practised for weeks in advance and many of the flourishes used were new to four of the drum majors including Liam and Kevan.

They were joined by another 40 drum majors (creating a St Andrew's Cross) and the Lothian and Borders Police Pipe Band to bring together the most spectacular show of Scottish pipe band drum majors anywhere in the world.

Inveraray Pipe Band get in the Christmas spirit

IN the run up to Christmas, Inveraray Pipe Band has been busy practising, performing and raising funds for band coffers.

The Novice Juvenile Band played at the switching on of Lochawe's Christmas lights at the weekend. Villagers were warmly thanked for their generous donation of £200 to band funds.

On November 29, supporters turned out in droves for a curry and bingo night at the George Hotel, Inveraray. Band secretary Jim McMillan said: 'Many thanks to the George Hotel from providing the curry and accommodation and to all the folks who turned up to support the event.'

There were excellent prizes up for grabs in the band's annual Christmas Hamper Raffle, drawn on Sunday. Alasdair



Alasdair Chrystal collects his hamper at the pipe band's practice in Inveraray Church Hall. A51hamp01

Chrystal of Inveraray, a stalwart supporter of the band won the impressive first prize hamper. Second prize of dinner for four at The Furnace Inn went to Mary Mor-

ison of Oban. Geordie MacDonald, Ardrishaig won a basket hamper, Morgan of Crianlarich a cheese and port hamper and wine and a Christmas cake went to Ann

Wylie of Glendaruel.

Mr McMillan gave a special thank you to the Kintyre Tearoom for displaying the hamper and all those who bought and sold tickets.

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Kintyre and Mid Argyll

Coffee fundraiser for pipe band



The pipe band performed during the coffee morning. 04_c51pip02



Peter Ferguson was on the bass drum. 04_c51pip04



Neil McFadyen, Emma Barbour, Torran Currie, Struan Watson, Amy McIntyre and Bruce Cowie. 04_c51pip03

KINTYRE Juvenile Pipe Band Association held a fund raising coffee morning at the Victoria Hall on Saturday and packed the place out with supporters who came along to drink coffee buy raffle tickets and listen to the band perform.



Mark Leishman, Fraser MacBrayne and Kevin Renton helped to run a treasure map competition at the coffee morning 04_c51pip01



Behind every pipe band there's an army of folk helping raise funds: Vicky Rae, Lorna McKerral, Mhairi Renton, Mary Barbour and Rhona Kelly were busy making and serving coffee. 04_c51pip05

Mid Argyll Pipe Band prizewinners 2009

THE Maitland sponsored Mid Argyll Pipe Band held its annual AGM and prize-giving recently.

Receiving trophies were: Eoghan Anderson and David Provan who lifted The Dan MacNeill

Shield for piping, Brian Hastings received The Billy MacIver Shield for drumming and Jamie Baxter received The Royal Mail Shield for chanter/novice piping.

Band president Rod Buchanan said: 'As al-

ways it was very difficult to select individuals from all those who have worked so hard over the past 12 months honing their skills on chanter, pipes and drums.

'Congratulations to the prizewinners. Seeing

the practice hall filled with over 25 pipers and drummers, most of whom are young teenagers, I'm very confident about next season and the years ahead. It should be an exciting few years for the band.'



Pictured are the Mid Argyll Pipe Band 2009 prizewinners, Brian Hastings, David Provan, Eoghan Anderson and Jamie Baxter.

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Those Were The Days

The Argyllshire Advertiser
Friday 16 December, 1994

Classic weekend scuppered until 1996

A MAJOR new attraction which was set to give Mid Argyll's tourism industry a bumper season in 1995 has been postponed.

But Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce, the group behind the 'Argyll Classic Weekend', is hoping to create 'an even bigger and better' event in 1996.

The first classic weekend was planned for May 1995 and was set to be the largest local festival on the Mid Argyll entertainment calendar.

But, the event was postponed after ACT II, the Lochgilphead based company, which was co-ordinating the project ceased trading two months ago.

And Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce claims that the sudden collapse of ACT II in September left them with insufficient time to find another firm to organise the event by May 1995.

Christmas Challenge

TWO young women from Tarbert will be having a whale of a time at sea this Christmas.

The pair will jet off to Tenerife to join the Tall Ship 'Eye of the wind' for a four-week voyage of discovery.

The two lucky girls Kristy Henderson 17, and Nicola McLennan 17 from Tarbert Academy are joining the Kintyre Tall ships youth challenge.

From Tenerife the ship will sail across the Atlantic to arrive in St. Vincent in the Caribbean on January 10.

It will not be all plain sailing for the girls, however, as they will be expected to do their fair share of deck washing and brass polishing duties.

Financial whiz kids

SIXTH year pupils at Lochgilphead High are in the business of money making these days.

But it's not for themselves, it's to reach their target of £3,000 for three charities of their choice.

And, coming up to the halfway stage through the school year, the charities committee, with 15 members, is showing a healthy balance of around £1,700. Most of the money has been raised through a series of discos at the school and will be split between the Macmillian Nurses, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and Action and Research for Muscular Sclerosis (ARMS)

The Sixth year charities committee also have managed to raise around £400 for children in need from a class collection and donation from teachers.

press policy

WE AT *The Argyllshire Advertiser* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a weekly local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to the Senior Reporter, *The Argyllshire Advertiser*, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB, giving your daytime telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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The views expressed in *The Argyllshire Advertiser* are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

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The Editor reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses must be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, are also appreciated. Anonymous letters cannot be considered. Please write to: Letters, *The Argyllshire Advertiser*, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB, or fax us on 01546 602661.

E-mail: editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk. E-mailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and telephone number.



Down Memory Lane

THIS Week's Down Memory Lane was submitted by Mr Aitchison from Lochgilphead. The photograph shows both the hospital teams in 'The Boat Race', a charity event in September 1981. Teams had to race from Ardrishaig to Tarbert and back. Pictured are, from left to right, Ian Sinclair, Duncan Tyson, Iany McGregor, David Harkness, Ronny MacCallum, Catherine Campbell, Professor Angus MacKay, Tony Wells, Di West, Kenny Mitchell, Morris Muir, Duncan Livingston, Dr John Hodge and James Ferguson.

Swimming pool support

Sir,
Every day that passes brings more evidence of public support for the Mid Argyll Swimming Pool. Can anyone remember the last time a politician resigned on a point of principle, as Councillor Philand has done? Or a plumber, Mr Samborek, prepared to fix the swimming pool's leaky pipes without collecting the money due to him?

Maybe the council should ponder on these examples of grassroots community support when they are next tempted to respond to the community's concerns with their usual lame time wasting manoeuvres. Their offer to bring forward next year's payments for the schools' swimming lessons will not be of much use if there is no longer a pool for them to attend.

And this is a distinct possibility. Any major breakdown of the pool equipment at this time could spell the end of it. We cannot always expect tradesmen to work for nothing.

And telling us that 'the council is itself facing the prospect of an extremely challenging budget situation in 2010/2011', while no doubt factually correct, is not the whole truth. The financial problem

Letters to the Editor

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of the Mid Argyll pool begins and ends with the huge disparity in council funding. The Mid Argyll pool receives a council subsidy of £48,000 per year - the Campbeltown pool receives £583,000 per year! Both areas have a similar population. So there is no lack of money, just a grossly unfair distribution of it. Until this ridiculous disparity is sorted out properly, the Mid Argyll pool will always be just one short step away from shutdown.

A comparison between the Mid Argyll pool and others of a similar size in Scotland shows that an additional £100,000 a year is needed to keep it running properly, with sensible staffing levels, the staff paid reasonable rates, the equipment properly maintained. Any micky mouse deal hastily cobbled together will simply result in a return of the present emergency in a few months time.

The enormous difference in funding between the Mid Argyll pool vis a vis the Campbeltown pool is not unique, the other swimming pools in Argyll are also given many times as much subsidy. This would be

bad enough if it were due to a temporary fiscal blip, but this situation has been going on since the pool opened, more than 13 years ago. Can anyone in the council give an explanation of why they have persistently discriminated against the residents of Mid Argyll, who pay the same level of taxes as the people who live in other areas?

S. White,
Minard.

Pool staff speak out

Sir,
Arthritis, osteoporosis, asthma, autism, back pain and general fitness are not in the minority for reasons people use our pool. Others are just learning to swim; some have been swimming since they were 'knee high to a grasshopper'.

We all know the health benefits swimming can have. The council, for whom we hold responsible for a huge part of our daily lives: roads, taxes, houses, food, transport; should not forget that they indirectly assist by means of access to, or hinder by lack of access; our health.

The local community,

which loves to chatter like a women's bridge club, talk to us, the pool's staff, and talk to each other. We all want the pool, we all support the pool in our own ways, and we are all outraged at the prospect of losing it. Nobody wants to travel to Oban or Campbeltown when there was a lovely locally run pool two minutes away, and nor they should.

We would like to thank everyone for their support, and hope that the council will not just pull out their thumb, but pull out a plum.

Patrick, Alasdair and Cameron, Mid Argyll Community Pool staff.

Still appalling library service

Sir,
In reply to our arts, culture and leisure spokesperson for Argyll and

Bute Council, Mr Philand's letter of December 4, it seems to me though long enough, is short on any meaningful response to the suggestion that the library service in Mid Argyll continues to be appalling.

No specific date is given for the restoration of the inadequate, one day 'mobile' van and he is at pains to point out one day is all one will get.

The refurbishing arrangements for the Lochgilphead Library which he details - new shelving and new windows - are certainly no advance on service provision. The other 'improvements' he refers to seem little more than compliance with basic health and safety requirements.

No mention is made of the sort of improvements all library users would expect to see: increased and improved library stock, better reference access and increased opening hours. When they are not referred to by our arts and culture spokesperson, the public can be assured they will not be provided. It seems therefore that Mid Argyll residents must resign themselves to a continuing 'refurbished' appalling library service.

RE Millar,
Manse Brae,
Lochgilphead.

A post from Squeak Speaks

Play area needed

MrsV posted: 'From speaking to local Mums we all want a good soft play area in Mid Argyll which can cater up to 11-year-olds but have sections for babies, five and under etc.'

Add a cafe and it becomes a big social place perfect for all those wet days.

Yes there are little soft play areas in both Oban and Campbeltown's leisure centres but why should residents of Lochgilphead/Mid-Argyll have to travel all that way?



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YEL! do a roaring trade

YEL! the young enterprise group from Lochgilphead High School certainly had something to shout about after doing a roaring trade at their product launch.

The group of senior pupils held a ceilidh in Ardrishaig Public Hall on Friday December 4, to officially launch their merchandise, hoodies and tee-shirts.

Aileen McGarry, link teacher with the group, said the night was a great success with more than 140 people dancing the night away. The group also made a profit of £823.97, giving their company a huge financial boost. Miss McGarry added: 'The sales of tee-shirts and hoodies went very well and the group are now hoping to promote the product further over the next few months.' YEL!'s merchandise can be bought by contacting the group at the High School. The company are hoping to source a local shop to sell the items in the near future.



Coffee morning for cats

A coffee morning raised more than £1,000 for Campbeltown Cat Rescue. The organisation would like to thank everyone who donated to the appeal through Co-op and Tesco. They would also like to thank everyone who contributed in any way to helping to raise £1,044.64 at the coffee morning. Nancie Stewart and Elaine Keyte helped out along with other volunteers. 04_c50cat01

Ready Steady Cook Night

MACMILLAN Cancer Support held a Ready Steady Cook evening, hosted by Tesco, last month.

Despite the terrible night around 80 people attended a very interesting cookery demonstration, which was based on a Christmas theme.

Following cheese and wine, Karen Robertson and Lynn Shaw went head to head in the Ready Steady Cook event.

The Lochgilphead sisters made a great effort and cooked with lots of different ingredients. At the end of the night the audience decided a draw was the best result.

The girls were given a bottle of wine for their efforts. The committee would like to thank Tesco for hosting the evening and thank the public for their attendance on the night.

A total of £628 was raised.



Left to right: David Renwick, business advisor, Hollie Meikle, YEL!'s managing director, Brid Turner, Joanne Clark, Alistair Dixon, deputy managing director and Aileen McGarry, link teacher. 06_a50yel01



The audience hold up their cards during the recent Macmillan Cancer Support Ready Steady Cook evening.

Community Noticeboard

Your Swimming Pool Needs You!

SOS!

Sink or Swim!

Saturday 19th December 2009

Come and march to show your support for the Mid Argyll Swimming Pool which is under threat of closure
10.30am - Meet Mid Argyll Pool
11.00am - March to Front Green

Wear goggles, swimming hats, armbands!

Tarbert Academy

End of Term

performance of

"One Bright Star"

Tarbert Parish Church
22nd December 2009
2.00p.m.

All parents and friends welcome!

IF YOUR CLUB OR CHARITY WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE A COMMUNITY FOCUSED, INDIVIDUAL LEISURE EVENT ON THIS NOTICEBOARD PLEASE CONTACT

Rebecca on (01586) 554646 or Sarah on (01546) 602345

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST BE PREPAID

FAMILY DANCE

Skipness Village Hall

Wednesday 30th
December, 8.30pm

The Gunna Sound Ceilidh Band

Adults £6
Under 18 £3
Under 12 FREE
Teas and raffle.



Ho, ho, ho at the White Hart

Father Christmas visited the White Hart Hotel on Saturday afternoon to find out who's been naughty or nice in Campbeltown this year. Santa's grotto was helping to raise money for the Campbeltown Playscheme. This year his helpers were, from the left: Kylie Wareham, Kelly Brown and Krystal, Holli and Jaime-Leigh Allen. 04_c51san01

Red Cross coffee morning success



Jenny Campbell, pictured far right, and Linda Tighe, pictured second to the right, with some of last weekend's volunteers. 06_a50coff01

A SUCCESSFUL coffee morning, held last weekend, has raised £531 for the Red Cross. This was a very special day for Mid Argyll-branch organiser, Jenny Campbell, as it was her last coffee morning as organiser.

Jenny has been running various events for 20 years and has now handed the reins over to Linda Tighe. Happily Linda will still have Jenny in the kitchen making her famous 'milky coffee'.

Linda said: 'It is quite a daunt-

ing task to follow in Jenny's footsteps but it is great to know she will still be part of the coffee team and of course she intends to continue to volunteer in the shop'. To mark the day, Dorothy McGruer chairwoman of the Red Cross Forum and Morag Smith, Marketing Manager of Red Cross popped in and presented Jenny with a beautiful box of flowers. As always a big thank you to all who supported the event either by coming along, donating baking or prizes for the raffle.



Staff and customers at the Loch Fyne Gallery in Tarbert enjoyed an evening of festive cheer. 06_a51gal01

Christmas cheer at Loch Fyne Gallery

TARBERT'S Loch Fyne Gallery held a special open evening last week. Rae, Steve and staff had wine and nibbles on hand, as well as festive discounts to help customers pick out the perfect presents.

This is the second time the gallery has held a Christmas open night, and it proved just as popular as last year.



Santa and his helpers, from left to right: Louise MacIntyre, Caitlin McPherson, Emily Ronald and Holly Wilson. 04_c50dun01

Hall fund's £1000 boost

A LARGE turnout of people helped to raise more than £1,000 for Dunaverly Village Hall.

Santa paid a visit to the Christmas fayre last Sunday at St Blaas's Hall, when there was also baking and crafts and tea and biscuits on offer.

The guess the weight of the cake was won by Jane McCorkindale who was accurate by half-an-ounce and the sweets in the jar went to Sally McKerral who was only one off the actual amount.

The beautiful set of three pictures of Southend donated to the raffle by Morag Docherty was won by Mike Reid of Peninver.

The committee would like to thank all who donated their time goods and efforts to raise the £1,080.93 money.



Connie McTaggart with niece Keira McSporrans, aged three months, and Donna MacPhee with her one-year-old son Kyle. 04_c50dun02

Footnotes prize-giving party

FOOTNOTES Dance Company held its annual prize-giving and party in the Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown recently.

The 42 dancers present enjoyed a meal and cheered on the prizewinners.

Senior winner this year went to Ruth Semple and joint runners-up were Kathryn McCorkindale and Claire Greenlees.

Junior winner was Hannah Young and runner-up was Chloe Gillies.

Perfect Attendance award was achieved by Kathryn McCorkindale and finally the Dancer's Dancer for the Judy Angus Memorial Quaich went to Ruth Semple.

The dancers had a special treat as they were joined by new arrival Halley Emma McSporrans who was born on Saturday November 28.

Dance teachers Catrona, Kerry, Martine and Rhona would like to wish all the dancers a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The company will resume again on Tuesday January 13 2010, ready to work towards their concert later on in the year.

THE PICTURE HOUSE

Saturday 19 December for 5 days at 8.00pm
Disney's A Christmas Carol (2D) (PG)
 Jim Carrey, Cary Elwes, Bob Hoskins, Colin Firth, Gary Oldman.
 SEASON'S GREETINGS
 Please note children under the age of 9 must be accompanied by an adult of 18 years or over.
 Cinema Closed 24, 25, 26 December

Sunday 27 December for 4 days at 8.00pm
Disney's A Christmas Carol (2D) (PG)
 Cinema Closed 31 December 1 and 2 January 2010

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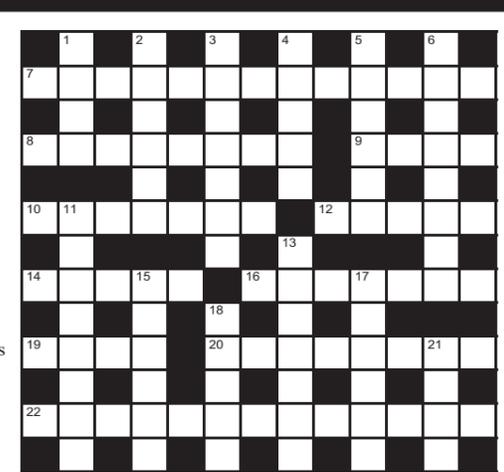
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Ebenezer Scrooge (Jim Carrey) begins the Christmas holiday with his usual miserly contempt, barking at his faithful clerk (Gary Oldman) and his cheery nephew (Colin Firth). But when the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come take him on an eye-opening journey revealing truths Old Scrooge is reluctant to face, he must open his heart to undo years of ill will before it's too late.

Visit the wee pictures website for more what's on and coming soon.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

- Across**
- 7 The ones to ask, not the monkeys! (5-8)
 - 8 Lens (8)
 - 9 Farm call (4)
 - 10 Moving (7)
 - 12 Corpulent (5)
 - 14 Religious belief through reason (5)
 - 16 Flag (7)
 - 19 Way off (4)
 - 20 Didn't look for it! (8)
 - 22 Where we went, when passing the 11 plus (7,6)
- Down**
- 1 Rowdy party (4)
 - 2 Wrist bone (6)
 - 3 Fiery (7)
 - 4 Era (5)
 - 5 Gather on the surface, chemically (6)
 - 6 Third male in line (8)
 - 11 Shoot! (4,4)
 - 13 Endure (7)
 - 15 Small crustacean (6)
 - 17 Before one (6)
 - 18 Not divine (5)
 - 21 Scoring basket (4)



Last Week's Solution

1	S	P	A	T	3	B	A	C	K	S	P	I	Y	N
2	T	B	F	N	U	R	O							
3	I	N	A	N	E	L	Y	15	D	R	O	I	D	
4	M	S	R	H	O	V	E							
5	U	S	H	E	R	12	O	U	S	T	E	R		
6	L	I	W											
7	U	N	L	A	C	E	16	O	J	I	B	W	A	
8	S	E												
9	S	A	L	M	O	N	21	H	A	T	L	A	L	
10	A	D	A	C	A	U	Y							
11	L	Y	I	N	G	25	I	N	D	E	P	T	H	
12	U	N	I	A	S	I	O							
13	M	U	S	I	C	A	L	E	27	I	N	F	O	

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Christmas? Twinkling lights, dancing Santas, presents galore, stomachs full. Sniper's bullets, unexpected bombs, failed harvests, empty bellies. **Who can make sense of it all?** This Christmas, from **Oregon** to **Oban**, from **Afghanistan** to **Ardrishaig**, from **Cape Town** to **Campbeltown** – people will worship the one person who can: **Christ the King** come and join in! He's waiting to make sense of your world!

Mid Argyll

Ardrishaig Parish Church

"Come and join the Celebration"

Sunday 20th

"He came in Disguise"
The Mystery of Christmas
Family Service- 11:00am

Carols Round the Tree -6:30pm
in aid of Cancer Research
(in North Hall if wet)

Christmas Eve

Watchnight Service
Carol Singing from 11:15pm

Sunday 27th

Carols and Readings - 11:00am

Sunday 3rd Jan 2010

Beginning... Again?

South Knapdale Parish Church

"... the wondrous gift is given"

Sunday 20th

"He will be their peace!"
12:30pm

Monday 21st

"It's a Baby!"
(a Musical Nativity)
Achahoish Primary School
6:30pm
(Refreshments afterwards)

Christmas Eve

Carol Service
7:00pm

Sunday 27th

"Since long ago ..."
12:30pm

Sunday 3rd Jan 2010

Beginning... Again?

Lochgilphead Baptist Church

Pastor Rev Derek Gibson

Sunday 20th

Family Service 11:00am
Carol's by Candlelight 6.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
10.45am

27th DECEMBER

Morning Worship - 11am

Christ Church Lochgilphead

Sunday 20th December

9am Eucharist
11am Preparing the Church

Thursday 24th December
11am Eucharist with Carols

Friday 25th December
11am Eucharist with Carols

St Columba's Poltalloch

Sunday 20th December

3.30pm Service of Lessons and Carols

Friday 25th December

9am Eucharist

Glassary Kilmartin and Ford Parish Church

Sunday 20th December 2009

Glassary Church 11.30am
Family Service

Monday 21st December 2009

Ford Church 7.00pm

Village Christingle Service followed
by Carols and mince pies in the Village Hall.

Thursday 24th December 2009

Kilmartin Church 11.30pm
Christmas Eve Service

Sunday 27th December 2009

Kilmartin Church 11.30am Service
All services conducted by Rev. Alistair Dunlop

A very Happy Christmas to you all.
Everyone most welcome.

Glenaray and Inveraray Parish Church

Sunday 20th December at 11.15am

Service with Favourite Carols.

Thursday 24th December at 11pm

Watchnight Service with the Pipe Band

Friday 25th December at 10am

Christmas Day Service

Sunday 27th December at 11:15am

End of Year Service

Sunday 3rd January at 11.15am

New Year Service

Lochgilphead Parish Church

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER

11.00 am Family Service
Rev. Hilda Smith

THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER

11.15 pm Watchnight Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
Festive music, food and refreshment
from 10.30 pm

SUNDAY 27th DECEMBER

11.00 am Worship Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome

Further information (01546) 606218
www.lpchurch.co.uk

St Margaret's RC Church

(and All Saints, Inveraray)

Sunday 20th

Lochgilphead Mass at 10am
Inverary Mass 12.30pm

Monday-Thursday

Lochgilphead Mass 10.30am

Thursday 24th

Carol Singing at 11.30pm
Followed by Midnight Mass

Friday 25th (Christmas Day)

Lochgilphead Mass at 10am
Inverary Mass 12.30pm

Saturday 26th

Lochgilphead Mass 10.30am

Sunday 27th

Lochgilphead Mass at 10am
Inverary Mass 12.30pm

Sunday 3rd Jan 2010

Lochgilphead Mass at 10am
Inverary Mass 12.30pm

Living Stones Christian Centre Kilmartin

Sunday 20 December 2009

11.00am

Worship Service for all ages
followed by light lunch

Speaker: George Stewart

Friday 25 December 2009

Christmas Day

11.00am - 12.00noon
Family Carol Service

Sunday 27 December 2009

11.00am

Worship Service for all ages
followed by light lunch
Speaker: Graham McLean

All Welcome

Kintyre

Killean & Kilchenzie Parish Church

A'Chleit, Rev. Martin Grashoff

Sunday 20 December 2009

11.30am - Nativity Play & Sunday Service,
with the Sunday School

Thursday 24 December 2009

11.15pm - Carol Singing for All
11.30pm - Watchnight Service

Kilcalmonell Parish Church

Clachan

Sunday 20th December - 10.00am

Morning Worship

Christmas Eve - 7.30pm

Carols and Lessons

Minister - Rev Martin Grashoff

Lorne And Lowland Parish Church

Scottish Charity Number SCO11686

Sunday 20 December

Family Service 11:15am

Thursday 24 December

Christmas Eve

"Silent night, Holy night"

United Watchnight service 11:30pm

(In Highland Parish Church)

Friday 25 December

Christmas Day

"O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord"
Short family service for Christmas Morning-
10:30am

Sunday 27 December

Morning worship- 11:15am

Saddell and Carradale Church

December 20th

12 noon Nativity; 7 pm 9 Lessons and Carols
(followed by tea and mince pies in Village Hall)

December 24th

11:30 pm Watch night Service
Skipness, St Brendan's

7pm Christmas Eve Service

December 25th

11 am Christmas Day Service

Highland Parish Church

(SC 002493)

Sunday 20th December

11.15am - All-Age Carol Service
with Sacrament of Baptism.
Retiring Offering for Fabric Fund.

Thursday 24th December

11.30pm - United Watchnight Service
(in Highland)

with Carol singing from 11.15pm.

Offering for The Vine Trust
(MV 'Amazon Hope')

Sunday 27th December

11.15am - Seasonal Worship

Sunday 3rd January 2010

11.15am - Morning Worship

Ceud mile failte

Springbank Evangelical Church

Sunday 20th

Communion 10.00 a.m.

Children's Christmas Celebration 11.15 a.m.
(including nativity from Sunday School)

Thursday 24th Christmas Eve

Carols by Candlelight 7.00 p.m.

Sunday 27th

Communion 10.00 a.m.

All Age Service 11.15 a.m.

Southend Parish Church

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 20th December

11.30am Christmas Family Service

Preacher Agnes Stewart

Thursday 24th December

11.30pm Christmas Watchnight Service

Preacher Agnes Stewart

St Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

Argyll Street, Campbeltown

Christmas Day

10.45 am Family Communion
and Christmas Hymns

Sunday 27th December

10.45 am Family Communion with Carols
for Christian Aid

The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

Tarbert, Loch Fyne linked with Kilberry Church of Scotland

Christmas services

Friday 18th December

2.30pm. End of term school service in Tarbert
Church of Scotland

Sunday 20th December

11.30am - Tarbert Church service. Featuring the
Sunday school nativity play. Everyone welcome
– teas and coffees afterwards

3pm -Templar's Hall – Informal afternoon service,
featuring the Sunday school nativity play.

Everyone welcome – teas and coffees afterwards

Thursday 24th December

Christmas Eve services

8.30pm – Kilberry Christmas Eve service

11.30pm – Tarbert Christmas Eve watch night service

Sunday 27th December

Music for Christmas 11.30am – Tarbert Church service

Sunday 27th December

2pm – Kilberry Church service

Sunday 3rd January

11.30am – Tarbert Church service
Margaret Sinclair – Interim Moderator
01499 500633 - all welcome

Tayinloan Bible Fellowship

Friday 18th December

Christmas Carol Service at 8pm

in Tayinloan Village Hall

Speaker: Mr Kelvin Moller

Christmas Supper

Come along and join in

the true spirit of Christmas.

Everyone most welcome.

Record numbers forward for Holstein Breeders' Club competition

109 heifers were on view for the judge

AT THE Kintyre Holstein Breeders Club's annual heifer competition last Wednesday, a record number of 109 Holstein heifers were on view for the judge John Jamieson, Woodhead, Annan.

The results were announced after a splendid dinner in the Argyll

Hotel, Campbeltown, at night but prior to this the near 30-strong following going round the farms during the day witnessed Kenny Robison from Ardlamy in Gigha being presented with a trophy for winning on inspection the small herds section in the Holstein Scotland

South Herds Competition and also coming third place overall in the best bred cow class.

Chairman James Wallace, on behalf of the Kintyre Holstein Breeders Club, congratulated Kenny and his wife Betty and made reference to their tremendous Hebrides Herd sale at Carlisle

in September and he wished both all the best in the future.

Congratulations were also extended to club members William and Margaret Ralston, West Darlochan, on being selected as one of the top 20 herds in the Scottish Dairy Herds of the Year competition that features some 650 herds. So all in all, a successful day!

Results

Team: 1 John Ralston, Kilkivan; 2 John Smith Drumalea; 3 David Young, Glencraigs.

Individual: 1 Sandy Pirie, Machrihanish; 2 David Young, Glencraigs; 3 William Armour, West Trodial.

Dam and daughter: 1 Peter Littleton, Killegruer; 2 Dugald Graham, West Backs; 3 Sandy Pirie, Machrihanish.

Most points overall and Genus Prize: John Ralston, Kilkivan.



At the prize-giving dinner, left to right: Sandy Pirie, John Ralston; Alison Jamieson; Peter Littleton; John Jamieson, judge. c51ho103



Tommy Ralston of the Dhurrie Farm and judge John Jamieson from Annan. 04_c51ho102



The herd from the Dhurrie Farm, which was the last to be visited on the day. 04_c51ho101

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Humphreys to go at First Milk

PETER Humphreys, First Milk's chief executive, has taken the decision to leave the business at the end of March 2010.

As a result of this decision, First Milk's chairman, Bill Mustoe, will immediately take over direct responsibility for leading the executive team in addition to his chairman responsibilities, allowing him to gain a more detailed understanding of the business.

Peter Humphreys said: 'Given the new phase that the business is moving into, I believe that it is appropriate that I step aside from the chief executive role. I will be on hand to support Bill and the business over the next few months in whatever way I can.'

MEPs meet Ciolos in Brussels

DACIAN CIOLOS, who has the nomination to replace Mariann Fischer-Boel as EU Agriculture Commissioner has met with Scottish MEPs in Brussels and agreed to visit Scotland within the next six months.

MEPs Alyn Smith and George Lyon said that they had enjoyed a cordial meeting with Romanian Mr Ciolos, and discussed his proposals for a European Farm Prices and Margins Observatory.

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Quality heifers on view at Ayrshire breeders' competition

KINTYRE and District Ayrshire Breeders Club members held their annual heifer competition on Tuesday December 8 when the judge was Colin Mair from Townhead, Mouswold, Dumfries.

He inspected six teams of heifers during an increasingly wet and windy day.

Interested spectators

Despite the weather the event was closely followed throughout by a large turnout of interested spectators.

After dinner at The Old Clubhouse, Machrihanish, Mr Mair complimented all the exhibitors on the quality of the heifers on view and then presented the prizes.

Parker's Cup, heifer team: 1 W Ralston, East Drumlemble; 2 J and M

Barr, Clochkeil; 3 J Barbour and Co Machribeg.

Kintyre Farmers' Cup, individual heifer: J and M Barr, Clochkeil; 2 C Millar, Ballygreggan; 3 W Ralston, East Drumlemble.

James and Sons Quaich, progeny cup: 1 J and M Barr Clochkeil, Calderglen Lancelot; 2 W Ralston, East Drumlemble, East Drumlemble Jupiter; 3 J Barbour and Co, Machribeg, Carnell Dunn Deal.

Mother and daughter quaich: 1 J M Cameron, Gartvaigh; 2 MM Ronald, Ormsary; 3 J and M Barr, Clochkeil.

John Barr Memorial Trady, butterfat and protein won by East Drumlemble Japonical 15th by Kildare Jerry - 568 points (432kg butterfat and 308kg protein in 368 days calving index).



J and M Barr's Calderglen Raffia took the honours at this summer's Kintyre Show and also won at Kintyre Farmers' Cup for best individual at the annual breeders club competition last week. 12_c33show25



Willie Armour Snr and Jnr and judge Colin Mair at the competition.

04_c51ayr03



Heifers at Clochkeil farm. 04_c51ayr01

Record number of calves forward from Kintyre and Knapdale

OBAN - Caledonian Marts (Stirling) Ltd sold 1207 Suckled calves, Store, Breeding and OTM cattle at their Christmas Show and Sale on Tuesday December 8.

The judging was in the hands of Graeme Stirling, Burnbank, Throsk and the following were his awards and prices realised:

Champion and winner of Caledonian Marts Perpetual Challenge trophy was exhibited by E McGillvary, Barcaldine Home Farm, Barcaldine with a 300kg Limousin Bullock which realised £1200 to the judge.

Reserve Champion a 365kg Limousin Heifer from D W Semple, Dippen, Carradale which made £1020 to R Wotherspoon, Holybush, Slamannan.

Champion Pen of cattle in the yard and winner of the Millhall Per-

petual Challenge trophy went to D W Semple for a pen of four Charolais Bullocks scaling 350kgs realised £840 to J A M Leggat, Little Innernorth, Fraserburgh.

Bullock Calf Mainland Bred:

1: Champion E MacGillvary

2: DW Semple, 360kgs, £980 to J McKay, Wester Auchendennan, Arden.

3: B Campbell, Achnacreebeag, North Connel, 215kg, £550 to Ross Farms, Wester Middleton, Gorebridge.

Heifer Calf Mainland Bred:

1 Reserve Champion, D W Semple.

2: D McDonald, Tyree, Benderloch, 345kgs, £730 to Ross Farms.

3: D McDonald, 305kgs, £900 to C Malone, Corbieewood, Bannockburn.

Bullock Calf Island Bred:

1 & 2 J MacCormick, Balnagowan, Lismore,

250kgs, £650 and 270kgs, £620 to R S Kinloch, Wester Coldrain, Kinross.

3 D McCormick, Baligarve, Lismore, 300kgs, £660 to D A Cuthbertson, Jedderfield, Peebles.

Heifer Calf Island Bred:

1 A MacGillvary, Achuran, Lismore, 315kgs, £710 to A Dunn, Redhall, Gargunnoch.

2 D MacCormick, Baligarve, 300kgs, £1100 to J McDougall, High Milndovan, Cardross.

3 A McGillvary, Achuran, 315kgs, £760 to Ross Farms.

Native Bred Bullock: 1 J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown, 370kgs, £750 to J A M Leggat.

2 J & M Turner, Kildalloig, Campbeltown, 375kgs, £670 to A Dunlop, South Bar, Inchinnan.

3 B Walker, Carloanan,

Inverary, 340kgs, £635 to A Reid, Lagg, Ayr.

Native Bred Heifer:

1 D MacCormick, Baligarve, 290kgs, £600 to W Colquhoun, Bankhead, Kinross.

2 and 3: J & M Turner, Kildalloig, 250kgs, £470 and 235kgs, £450 to J Watson, Mains of Druidland, Banff.

Bullocks (630) averaged 191p (n/c) to 400p per kg for 300kg Limousin from Barcaldine Home Farm and £1200 gross for 300kg Limousin from Barcaldine Home Farm.

Heifers (501) averaged 188p (n/c) to 367p per kg for a 300kg Limousin from Baligarve and £1100 gross for a 300kg Limousin from D MacCormick, Baligarve.

Leading prices per head and per kilo

Bullocks: 0-250kgs - £740, 296p Barcaldine Home Farm;

251-300kgs - £1200,

400p Barcaldine Home Farm; 301-350kgs - £840, 242p Dippen;

351-400kgs - £980, 242p Dippen; 401-450kgs - £880 Killocraw, 202p Achuran;

451-500kgs - £930, 188p Barbreck Estates; 501-550kgs - £1000, 185p Mill Farm; 551-600kgs - £1040 Barbreck Estates, 184p Ballimore.

Heifers: 0-250kgs - £660 Achnacreebeag, 320p Ardfenaig; 251-300kgs - £1100, 367p Baligarve; 301-350kgs - £900, 295p Tyree;

351-400kgs - £1020, 279p Dippen; 401-450kgs - £870, 205p Achnaba; 451-500kgs - £900, 191p Achuran;

501-550kgs - £700, 123p Achnacreebeag.

Breeding Cattle (46) sold to £960 for a Shorthorn Cow & Calf at foot from High Ballintyre, Inverary.

In-Calf heifers: £900 Kintail.

In-Calf cows: £780 Dalranoch, £640 Ballygrundle.

Bulling heifers: £880, Fuinery, Oban, £800 Ballindore.

A record number of calves forward from the Kintyre and Knapdale area.

Leading prices per head outwith prize list:

Bullocks: £930 & £900 No 5 Tomaig; £880 Killocraw; £850 No 8 Killeonan; £845 Kildalloig; £800 Rhoin.

Heifers: £890 No 8 Killeonan; £740 Rhoin; £720 Killoccraw; £700 Dippen; £600 Kildalloig.

Prices per kg

Bullocks: 237p, 232p High Tirfergus; 222p Ellary Estates; 216p Ardncross.

Heifers: 228p Ardncross; 217p Dippen; 215p Low Tirfergus; 190p Ellary Estates.

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- 54 Renault Clio exp. 1.4 5dr, green, 32,000 miles..... £4,850
- 54 Renault Clio Rush 1.5Dci, 3dr, red, 36,500 miles £4,650
- 04 Renault Clio Dyn DCi 65, 3dr, blue, 46,000 miles..... £4,350
- 04 Renault Espace Auth, 2ltr, beige, 33,500 miles £5,750
- 03 Rover 25 Imp, 5dr, green, 28,000 miles £2,650
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Argyll & Bute COUNCIL

WASTE COLLECTION DETAILS FOR THE FESTIVE PERIOD

REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE FOR CAMPBELTOWN AND KINTYRE

There will be no refuse collection on Friday 25th December and Friday 1st. January 2010.

All areas normally collected on Fridays will be uplifted on Monday 28th. December and Monday 4th January 2010 respectively.

All areas normally collected on a Monday will be uplifted on Monday 28th. December and Monday 4th January 2010.

The Civic Amenity Site at the Roading Campbeltown will be open as normal on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th December, plus Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd January 2010.

The Civic Site will be closed on Friday 25th and Monday 28th December plus Friday 1st and Monday 4th January 2010.

REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE FOR MID ARGYLL AREA

There will be no refuse collection on Friday 25th December and Friday 1st. January 2010.

All areas normally collected on Fridays will be uplifted on Sunday 27th, December and Sunday 3rd January 2010 respectively.

All areas normally collected on a Monday will be uplifted as normal, boxing day Monday 28th. December, and Monday 4th January 2010.

The above will include Paper and card collection.

The Civic Site will be closed on Friday 25th and Monday 28th December plus Friday 1st and Monday 4th January 2010.

The Civic Amenity Site at Lingerton will be open as normal on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th December, plus Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd January 2010.

Forestry Commission Scotland

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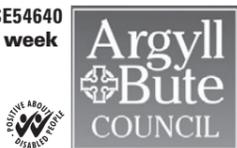
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Christmas Greetings

CISSIE & IAIN MCMURCHY

55 Dalaruan Street, wish all relatives and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



NANCY MACPHERSON

Wishes all family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
30 L.C.C.



DON THOMSON

Wishes family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

RAE MACGREGOR 18 CHALMERS COURT

Is unable to send cards this year, however, wishes all friends and relatives Seasons Greetings.



NANCY BLACK

Wishes family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
20B Calton Avenue.



Merry Christmas

Helen Watson, 13 Meadow Park, wishes all relatives and friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

SEASONS GREETINGS

To all friends and relations from Madge Baker (née Campbell).

MAY MACGUGAN

Would like to wish all relatives and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

MARY CAMPBELL

Would like to wish her family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
86 Millknowe.



DANNY KENNEDY INVERARAY

Would like to wish his family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Good New Year.



CATHIE MACKINVEN LIMECRAIGS

Would like to wish family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



GILLIES ANG & ROBIN

Wish all family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
Tayinloan.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Seasons Greetings from Margaret & Boyd.

ALEX & JOHN JOHNSTON

Stanley Place, would like to wish all our friends and relatives a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To family and friends from Margaret and George, The Old Rectory.

MRS M MCKINVEN 13 WITCHBURN RD

Wishes family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



JEAN STALKER

Wishes all her family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



SEASONS GREETINGS

Wishing my family and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Gus McEachran
14 Castlepark.



Merry Christmas

Duncan MacKinnon would like to wish family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SEASONS GREETINGS

Christine & Dave Wike, Tomaig Road, wish all their family and friends "Compliments of the Season".

MRS ANNIE MCGEACHY

Would like to wish all her friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Merry Christmas

To all my family, friends and good neighbours from John Clark, Muasdale.



Merry Christmas

Cathie Martin & John wishes all family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
86 Crosshill Avenue.

MARGARET GRAHAM 10 RALSTON ROAD

Wishes all friends and family a Happy Christmas and a Healthy 2010.



JOHN & AMY 2 MILL RD

Wish all friends and relatives a Merry Christmas and Health and Happiness in 2010. Owing to illness, not sending cards. Donation to Erskine Hospital.

FIONA RITCHIE

Would like to wish her family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Merry Christmas

To all my relatives and friends from Margaret McSporryn, 5 Kirk Street.

Merry Christmas
Neil G Ronald, 24 Wallace Cottages, Southend, wishes all his relatives and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JOHN & FIONA SOUTHEND
Would like to wish family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

REGGIE MCMANUS
Would like to wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and a Good New Year.

Merry Christmas
Jemima Bell, Carradale, would like to wish all friends and relatives a Peaceful Christmas and a Good New Year.

Merry Christmas
I wish all family, friends and neighbours a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.
Mary Galbraith, 38 Smith Drive.

Merry Christmas
Iain & Hilda McSporran wish all friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BILLY, LUCY, CATRIONA, DAVID & FAMILY
54 Kirk Street, wish all relations, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

TOBY & BETTY 197 RALSTON RD
Would like to wish everyone a Peaceful Christmas and a Good New Year.

SEASONS GREETINGS
Jean McGilp wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

JEAN PILGRIM
Would like to wish family and friends a Merry Christmas and a Good New Year.

PERSONALS

Sandy McDonald wishes to thank relatives and friends for cards and gifts, meal in the Kilmartin and trip to the theatre in Glasgow for my 60th Birthday.

Alex and Morag would like to say thank you very much to Eamon for his prompt action. The ambulance crew, the staff at the Mid Argyll Hospital and the crew of the helicopter for their excellent care when Alex took ill suddenly. Thanks also to all work-mates and well wishers.

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY JOHN WAREHAM
Lots of love Dad, Mum, Eddy, Mary, Jonathan and Craig
xxx

MRS ANNA MCALLISTER would like to thank her family and friends for their gifts on her 90th birthday.

CHRISTINE CRAWFORD would like to thank all friends and colleagues for the beautiful gifts received on her retirement. Thanks also to all who attended the party and to John, Julie-Ann and staff of the Furnace Inn for making it such a great night. 1 Goatfield View, Furnace.

HAPPY 50TH DAD All the best Love Shelley & Sean XX

MORAG PATTON sincerely thanks family and friends for the many kindnesses shown to her since returning from hospital.

NAN SMART would like to thank doctors and staff on Glenarary and Glassary Wards for excellent care and attention during her recent time in Lochgilphead Hospital. Also sincere thanks for cards and flowers received.

Happy 18th Birthday Kenneth

Love Mum, Dad, Keith, Kirsti & Martin

Could Martha Maguire, or anyone who knew her in 1958 (September - December, Fire at mine) please get in touch with Box No. 4349, Campbeltown Courier, Longrow South, Campbeltown, PA28 6AE. Alastair Macpherson.

Happy 21st Birthday Graham

Love from Mum, Dad & Ryan.

Happy 18th Uncle Kenneth!

Love Abbie, Rianne & Louisa
xxx

Jean McGilp, Dunhallin, Lochgilphead sends heartfelt thanks to family, friends and neighbours for beautiful flowers, letters, cards, calls and gifts celebrating her new hip! Forever grateful to Mr Kumar and all his team at RAH Paisley and all NHS staff, Lochgilphead

Donnie MacArthur wishes to thank family and friends for his lovely surprise 80th birthday party. The sum of **£330.00** was raised for The West Kintyre Ladies branch of the RNLI.

WAREHAM

Half a hunner What a scunner!
Lots of love Hilda & Julie
xx

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, presents and donations, at my 50th birthday party. I had a great birthday. A total of **£1,535.00** was collected for Air Ambulance. Thanks also to Jamie G Disco, McGeachy's Catering, The Argyll Hotel, and all the taxi's.
Willie.

Congratulations this month to **John and Helema McIntosh** who are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 11th Dec. They were married in 1959 by Rev John Cormack

HAPPY 50TH HESTER

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Week 1 of 2



WIN £650 JACKPOT

Spot the BALL Competition

To allow for the Christmas Holidays, Spot the Ball will run for 2 weeks - entries must be in by 12noon on Monday 28th December

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 12noon on Monday 28th December

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.



I enclose £1 (note) 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

Name _____
Address _____
Tel No. _____

Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners who each receive £25 are:
D McLellan, Bayview, Machrihanish and B Pedersen, Bayview, Machrihanish

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ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

AFRICAN FIGURE HEADS smooth finish, excellent condition, £35 Telephone 07766 966220 Ardrishaig.

SOUND OF MUSIC LP 1968, collectors, original, Julie Andrews, £20 Telephone 07766 966220 Ardrishaig.

BABY EQUIPMENT

CAR SEAT Britax renaissance, 9 months to 4 years, excellent condition, £25 Telephone 01586 550034.

HIGHCHAIR robust plastic brightly coloured high chair, 3 stage adjustment allows continued use as your child grows, used only once, £15 Telephone 01546 600269.

LINDAM DOOR BOUNCER similar to one on page 1511 of Argos catalogue, £10 Telephone 01631 567487.

TOMY BABY CARRIER suitable from birth to 9kg, little used, very good condition, £10 Telephone 01631 567487.

BICYCLES

APOLLO BIKE FS 20 bike, suit 5-7 years old, recent service, £30 ono, Telephone 01631 564981.

BOYS BICYCLE Falcon Damage 20, 6 Gears, Full Susp, 20" wheels, Red/Blue, suit 5-9yrs, good condition, very little use, £25 Telephone 01631 730679.

BOYS/GIRLS BICYCLE Falcon Warrior, 6 Gears, front susp, 20" wheels, silver/blue, suit 5-9yrs, very little use so in good condition, £25 Telephone 01631 730679.

GIRLS BIKE suit 5-9 years, excellent condition, £40 Telephone 01546 602253.

GIRLS BIKE groovy chick, suit age 4-7 years, £20 Telephone 07979 425745.

BOOKS

DR. WHO BOXED SET OF 10 4 of David Tennant and 6 of Christopher Eccleston and all with Billie Piper, brand new, £5 Telephone 01546 602952.

BUILDING / DIY

25KG BAGS OF CEMENT 25kg bags of cement, kept in dry environment, Oban area, £2 Telephone 01631 710846.

RADIO Dewalt DC00 radio, brand new in box, £84 from Screwfix, can be viewed on screw fix web site, £49 Telephone 01631 567043.

RE-INFORCING MESH 4.8 x 2.4m reinforcing mesh, 2 available, Oban area, £10 each, Telephone 01631 710846.

CAR ACCESSORIES

LEXUS LIGHTS for MGZR or Rover, boxed, excellent condition, £40 Telephone 01499 302640.

SPARE WHEEL COVER semi-rigid spare wheel cover for 4x4, 60in, ideal for transfer logo, brand new, still in plastic, cost £60, sell for £20 Telephone 01546 606992.

THULE HR-V ROOF BARS nearly new, is stylish, secure and stable with rapid fitting kit, good condition, black, £45 Telephone 01546 606475.

CHRISTMAS

HOLLY WREATHS fresh holly wreath, could possibly be delivered Oban or Lochgilphead, £15 Telephone 01631 710521.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

GENTS LEATHER COAT gents ¾ genuine black leather coat, never worn, size 44", £49.99 Telephone 07766 966220 Ardrishaig.

LADIES SHEEPSKIN JACKET Size 10/12, superb quality, cost £379 new, worn once, modern styling with shawl collar, tan colour and wonderfully cosy, £90 Telephone 01546 602029.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

CREDA GLASS TOP HOB 4-ring hob in good condition, white surround with black glass heating surface, £30 Telephone 07788 400260.

DYSON DC07 bagless Hoover in grey and turquoise, £30 Telephone 01631 567487.

HOTPOINT DOUBLE OVEN white double oven with variable grill, perfect working order, £40 Telephone 07788 400260.

DOMESTIC PETS

COLLIE PUPS for sale, both parents good hill dogs with lovely temperament, £120 Telephone 01688 500139.

CROSS PATTERDALE TERRIER PUPS for sale, of good working strain, ideal pets, ready now, Telephone 01687 462056.

EQUESTRIAN

BRUSHING BOOTS Legacy reflective brushing boots, yellow, size cob, vgc, can post, £10 Telephone 01546 606992.

FETLOCK BOOTS Rhinegold leather fetlock boots with removable real sheepskin liner, cob, good condition, £15 Telephone 01546 606992.

HEAD COLLAR black/white check, brand new, cob size, £5 Telephone 01546 606992.

JODHPURS 1 pair ladies "Latina Jeans" breeches/jodhpurs, size 32, brand new still tagged, ideal xmas present, can post, cost £40, will sell for £20 Telephone 01546 606992.

NUMNAHS 2 numnahs, 1 black padded, 1 brown quilted, cob size, vgc, £15 for the two Telephone 01546 606992.

FURNITURE

DAY BED FRAME Ikea Meldal, 95x208, black powder coated steel with decorative scrollwork, as new, £40 Telephone 01586 820466.

IKEA HENRIKSDAL CHAIRS solid wood frames with dark blue dry cleanable covers, set of 6, £100 Telephone 01546 600269.

IKEA SULTAN MATTRESS for Meldal day bed, 90x200, as new, £40 Telephone 01586 820466.

KITCHEN STOOL solid pine kitchen step stool, 3 high, as new, £15 Telephone 01397 703928.

M A H O G A N Y SIDEBOARD good condition, £70, also Bosch dishwasher, good condition £80 and LEC fridge freezer £50 Telephone 01631 565741.

STAND ALONE MIRROR suspended in a decorative pine frame with a drawer at the base of the unit, in good condition, £20 Telephone 07748 786269.

TV/VIDEO CABINET light oak, £15 Telephone 07798 751983.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

TRAMPOLINE FOR SALE 10ft diameter kids trampoline in good condition, safety net frame slightly damaged, hence low price, buyer collects in Furnace, £49 Telephone 07769 745214.

HIGHLAND DANCING

HIGHLAND DANCE OUTFIT full outfit including kilt, waistcoat, blouse and socks, age 10 years - 12 years, £49.99 Telephone 01838 200478.

HIGHLAND DANCING full Flora outfit in blue and white, age 10 years - 12 years, £25 Telephone 01838 200478.

HIGHLAND DRESS

KILT BELT no buckle, maximum fit 36" waist, Fort William, £8 Telephone 01397 703928.

KILT BELT No Buckle, maximum fit 36" waist, £8 Telephone 0397 703928.

KILT JACKET charcoal grey, Argyll style, size 40/42, suitable for outdoor and dinner functions, excellent condition, £49.99 Telephone 01546 602601 07990 516306.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

GENERATIONS FAMILY TREE CD-ROM bring your family history to life, includes built-in-family calendar, produce family trees, charts, very good condition, £7.50 Telephone 01546 606475.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

BUSH PORTABLE RADIO still boxed, £10 Telephone 01397 705667.

BUSH TV 14" colour tv with remote control, excellent condition, £40 ono Telephone 01631 710388.

COLOUR TV One 21" and one 14", both with remote controls, silver colour, excellent condition, £20 and £15 respectively Telephone 01631 720233.

GOODMANS CD/RADIO portable player with remote, excellent condition, £20 Telephone 07766 966220 Ardrishaig.

HOME FURNISHINGS

SINGLE SHEETS two single duvets, sheets and valances for same, all as new, 2 unopened sheets, £20 Telephone 01631 565206.

HOME OFFICE

DELL MONITOR 17in monitor, midnight grey (E771A), as new, screen perfect and functions in good order, no missing pixels, little use, £36.50 Telephone 01631 710649.

LEXMARK ALL-IN-ONE PRINTER X83 Scans, print, copy, also use your printer to copy without computer as well, create projects, with instruction book, discs, cable, £20 Telephone 01546 606475.

JEWELLERY AND WATCHES

BROOCH 9ct gold, pearl and garnet star-shaped brooch, would make lovely Christmas present, valued over £300, £250 ono Telephone 01631 710492.

LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE

BOWLS set of Henselite size 3 bowls, excellent condition and complete with case, £35 Telephone 01546 603126.

POKER TABLE 10 person Poker Table Top, complete with carry case, ideal Christmas gift, protect your dining table, £40 Telephone 01546 603126.

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MISCELLANEOUS

BIRDS SONGS OF BRITAIN Four cassettes, of the highest technical quality, complements the Collins Birds of Britain and Europe book, £7.50 Telephone 01546 606475.

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

PIANO ACCORDION Hohner, 72 base, 34 keys, colour red, cost £600 new, 1 year old, in perfect condition with carry case, offers or trials welcome by arrangement, Telephone 01586 553755.

OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT

RIVER KAYAKS 2nd hand, between £75 and £150 Telephone 07774 644660.

PET ACCESSORIES

HAMSTER CAGE Rotastak hamster cage with lots of extras including coloured tunnels, £25 Telephone 01866 822760.

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TROPICAL FISH TANK 24", all accessories, £49 Telephone 01583 431372.

PHOTOGRAPHY

NIKON F55D SLR F55D and 28-100 lens. Features p,s,a,m, 5 auto modes, pop up flash, takes two CR2 Batteries, supplied, manual and five rolls of film, £120 Telephone 01880 740204.

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TOYS AND GAMES

BRATZ assortment of dolls, big bratz ponyz, big bratz pad, bratz pool house plus lots of accessories, great condition, no offers, £30 Telephone 01499 500276.

DANCEMAT advanced, 2 players, used once, in excellent condition, £10 Telephone 01546 602253.

DOLLS HOUSE FURNITURE set of three, living room, bedroom, bathroom all new in boxes, ideal for first dolls house, cost new £55, no offers, £20 Telephone 01499 500276.

PS2 EYETOY 1 with camera, from age 3 years - as old as you wish, comes with an Eyetoy USB Camera for Playstation 2, £6 Telephone 01546 602952.

PS2 EYETOY 2 with camera, Playstation Eyetoy game 2, for 3 years and upwards, comes with Playstation USB Camera, £6 Telephone 01546 602952.

TABLE TENNIS TABLE complete with checker bats, net, ball and heavy duty storage bag, used once, £30 Telephone 01631 567487.

THE DA VINCI JIGSAW 1000 piece, ages 12 and over, perfect condition, £3 Telephone 01546 602952.

TRAIN SET festive express train set, one circuit, 2 carriages, 2 trailers, very good condition with box, £10 Telephone 01631 567487.

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

'... a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord' (Luke 2:11).

BIRTHS

McSPORRAN - Neil and Rhona are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Hayley Emma on November 28, 2009. A beautiful wee sister for Hannah, Rhian and Sophie. With thanks to Southern General Hospital and Campbeltown Maternity Unit, especially Joyce, Anna and Isabel.

OWENS - John and Gayle (née McPhee) are delighted to announce the birth of Sam, on November 29, 2009.

ENGAGEMENTS



MORRAN - CONLEY

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Tommy, son of Tommy and Janette, to Emma Jane, eldest daughter of George and Catriona.

RUBY WEDDING

GRAHAM - TEASDALE - On December 20, 1969 at the Baptist Church, Lochgilphead by Rev Greg, Duncan to Isabel, Eilean Mor, Ardrishaig.

DEATHS

BROWN - Suddenly at home, 17 Glenside, Campbeltown, on December 13, 2009, James Robert Brown, in his 61st year, beloved partner of Agnes Collett, dear father of Fiona, James and Jennifer and a loving grandfather, dearly loved son of Stella and the late Thomas Brown and a much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle.

LOUGHRAN - P. J. Peacefully at home with his family on December 16, 2009. Requiem Mass at St Margaret's, Lochgilphead, Saturday, December 19, 2009 at 12.00 noon. Thereafter, Achhabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, can be made to Cancer Research.

MACARTHUR - Peacefully at the Kintyre Care Home, Campbeltown, on December 9, 2009, Robert MacFarlane MacArthur (Robbie), in his 92nd year, 31 Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown and formerly of Peninver, dearly beloved husband of Seonaid, much loved father of Mhairi and the late Campbell, loving papa of Catriona and David and beloved grandpa of Robert and Laurie.

IN MEMORIAM

ADCOCK - Keira Marie, August 12, 2000 - December 19, 2003. Loving you is easy

We do it everyday Missing you is a heartache That never goes away It broke our hearts to lose you But you didn't go alone For part of us went with you The day God called you home Our hearts still ache in sadness Our silent tears still flow For what it meant to lose you Keira No one will every know Love always and forever - Mummy and Daddy xx Jah Bless.

ADCOCK - To our beautiful daughter Keira. As time and life go by and tears are shed from our eyes, the part of you that is held within stays there with your shining grin. A helping hand within dark days is what you give to us everyday.

All our love - From family home and away.

ADCOCK - In loving memory of our granddaughter and niece, Keira, who died December 19, 2003 aged 3. As you were, you will always be Treasured in our memory - Love from Nana and Papa xx. Forever in our thoughts. - Uncle Colin and Uncle Stewart xx.

CAMERON - In loving memory of Richard who died on December 15, 2006. Forever in our thoughts. - His loving wife May, Mary, Walter and family. - Ian, Tania and family.

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of Robert, a dearly loved son, brother and uncle, who died December 21, 2002. We hold you close within our hearts And there you will remain To walk with us throughout our lives Until we meet again. Loved and remembered always. - Mum and family, at home and away.

DUFFY - We thought of you today Craig But that is nothing new We thought of you yesterday And will tomorrow too We think of you in silence And make no outward show For what it meant to lose you Only those who love you know Remembering you is easy We do it everyday It's the heartache of losing you That will never go away. December 19, 2004. - With love Mum, Colin, Shane, Eilidh.

DUFFY - Precious memories of our beloved grandson Craig, who died December 19, 2004. In our hearts you will always stay, loved and remembered every day. - Gran and Papa, Tarbert.

DUFFY - In loving memory of my beloved partner Craig, who died so tragically Dec 19, 2004. It's sad to walk the road alone, Instead of side by side,

But to all there comes a moment, When the ways of life divide, You gave me years of happiness, Then came sorrow and tears, But you left me beautiful memories Craig, I will treasure through the years.

Remembered every day with all my love as always, - Jane xx.

DUFFY - Craig. December 19, 2004. Always in our thoughts Forever in our hearts Never forgotten. - Love Uncle Colin, Aunt Margaret, Jacquelyn and Emma xx.

DUFFY - Craig. December 19, 2004. In memory of Craig, a dear friend and fellow fisherman. Always remembered. - TT Boys.

FITZPATRICK - Terry. In loving memory of my precious husband who died December 26, 2007. Miss you more than words can say Love always, in our hearts forever. - Vivien and family. xxxx.

GATNER - In loving memory of Andy, who died December 22, 2005. Lovingly remembered, dearly missed each day. - Sarah and family

MACGREGOR - In loving memory of a dear dad and pappy (Charlie), who died on December 18, 1999, also a dear mum and nanny (Mary Orr), who died April 8, 1982. Forever in our hearts and thoughts. - From all the family.

McALPINE - Treasured memories of Irene who died December 18, 2006. Loved and remembered always. - John, Karen and Sam.

SCOTT - In loving memory of Euphemia Scott (née Johnson) who died on December 21, 1963, also Alexis Wotherspoon granddaughter of the above Euphemia who died at St Christopher's Hospice, London on November 15, 2009 after a long illness. - Catherine, Janette, Walter and families

ECCLESIAICAL NOTICES



GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 20th December 2009
Glassary 11.30am Family Service

Monday 21st December
Ford Church 7pm Village Christing Service followed by carols and mince pies in village hall.

Thursday 24th December
Kilmartin 11.30pm Christmas Eve Service

Sunday 27th December
Kilmartin 11.30am
All services conducted by Rev Alistair Dunlop
All most welcome

PLEASE NOTE ALL SERVICES IN 2010 WILL COMMENCE AT 10AM



LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2009
11.00 am Family Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 18-19TH DECEMBER
Christmas Tree Festival
18th 11.00 am - 8.00 pm
19th 11.00 am - 4.00 pm
Festive music programme
Refreshments during the day (soup available over lunchtime)

THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER
11.15 pm Watchnight Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
Festive music, food and refreshment from 10.30 pm
All Welcome

SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER 2009
11.00 am Worship Service
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome

Further information 01546 602238
www.lpchurch.co.uk

Church of Scotland NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Advent 4 Morning Worship
Sunday 20th December 2009
Christmas Communion
Inverlussa Church 10am
Worship led by Rev Douglas Bell

Christmas Carol Concert
Tuesday 22nd December 2009
Achnamara Village Hall 7pm
Ashfield School and North Knapdale Parish Church

Christmas Services Christmas Eve
Tayvallich Church 11.30am
Carol Singing from 11.15pm
Led by Rev Douglas Bell

Christmas Day Family Service
Inverlussa Church 11am
Worship led by Rev Douglas Bell

Retiring Offering after Christmas Services in Aid of The Glasgow City Mission
All welcome
Interim Moderator: Rev. Hilda Smith 01546 602238
www.argyllcommunities.org/NKNAPDALECOFS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND KILBERRY LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 20th December 2009
Tarbert Church 11.30am
Featuring Sunday School Nativity
Afternoon Service 3pm
Tarbert Arts and Leisure Centre
also featuring Sunday School Nativity
Everyone very welcome
Margaret Sinclair
Interim Moderator

For all church inquiries and pastoral care
Telephone 01499 500633

Highland Parish Church



SC002493

Saturday 19th December 2009
2.30pm - 4.30pm
Funday Club Party - Kirk St Hall

Sunday 20th December
11.15am
Christmas Family Service with Sacrament of Baptism
Creche (0-3yrs) - Church (Children in Church)
Retiring Offering for Fabric Fund

Thursday 24th December
Christmas Eve
11.15pm
Carol Singing in Church 11.30pm
Joint Watchnight Service
Offering for The Vine Trust (MV - Amazon Hope)
Rev Michael J Lind
Everyone very welcome

THE SALVATION ARMY Burnside Street, Campbeltown

Sunday 20th December
6.30pm Corps Carol Service
Come and worship Christ the Newborn King!

Friday Christmas Day Worship 10.30am
Christmas Dinner following at 12.00 noon
Anyone on their own or in need this Christmas is most welcome to come!
(Please reserve a place by 20th December)
Merry Christmas to all!
Major Dolores Thomson

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown

Sunday Services
10.a.m. ... Carols & Communion
10.45 a.m. ... Coffee & Mince Pies
11.15.a.m. ... All Age Christmas Celebration with Sunday School Nativity

Thursday Christmas Eve
7.00 p.m. Carols by Candlelight

For details & other enquiries contact The Church Office
01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
Pastor: **Chris Holden**
For Furniture Recycling Project call **01586 551547**
SC014646



Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church:
Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277

Sunday 20th December 2009
Fourth Sunday of Advent
10.45am Family Communion

Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: **01586 551141**
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

Sunday 20 December 2009
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: George Stewart
"The lion hath roared!"

Christmas Day
Friday 25 December 2009
11.00am - 11.45am
Family Carol Service
All Welcome
"Come and see"

CUMLODDEN LOCHFYNESIDE AND LOCHGAIR (Church of Scotland)

Scottish Charity Number SC016097

Sunday 20th December 2009
Advent
CUMLODDEN CHURCH (Furnace) 10.30 am (with Sunday School)
LOCHFYNESIDE CHURCH (Minard) 12 noon
ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE
LOCHGAIR CHURCH 6.30 pm
with Church Choir (Tea to follow)
CHRISTMAS EVE WATCHNIGHT SERVICE
Thursday 24th December
CUMLODDEN CHURCH (Furnace) 11.30 pm
Rev. Roddy Macleod
Ceud mile fàilte
ALL WELCOME

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!"

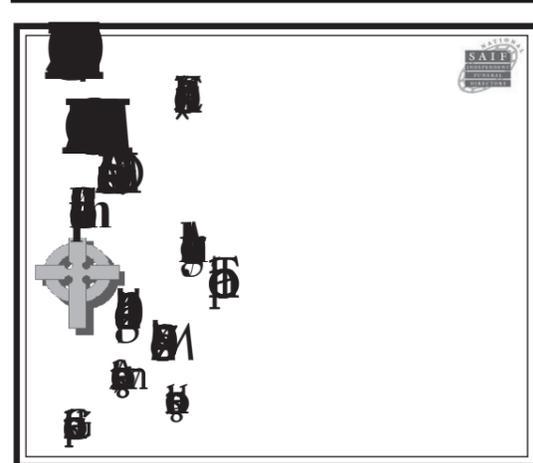
Sunday Services in
Ardrishaig at 11:00am and
Achahoish at 12:30pm
Registered Scottish Charities
SC010713 and SC010782

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Cowan is very nearly awesome in pantomime

Let main sponsor win now and again - not a bit of it!

By David Sinclair
YOU would think that with Keith Cowan being one of our main sponsors that we would let him win now and again - not a bit of it.

Keith had to play some of his very best golf to win this week and even then it was by virtue of a count back beating Alec MacAulay and Ross Sinclair in a sudden death finish.

Keith has won the main part of Oliver, the boy who wanted more, in our Christmas pantomime, ably supported by Ross as Bill Sykes, the grumpiest villain in history and Alec MacAulay as Fagin pocketing a point or two.

Tom Campbell could not play the part of a

Bow Street Runner for contractual reasons but came in forth with 33 points.

Donald Carmichael reprised Sir John Mills Oscar winning role of the Village Idiot in Ryan's Daughter and also performed a magical vanishing trick after 18 holes.

Tommy Angus was back on the ice but skated like Bambi and the judges could only award him five points.

David Sinclair who was playing with Bill Sykes could not hit the Bulls-eye and was dog tired at the finish.

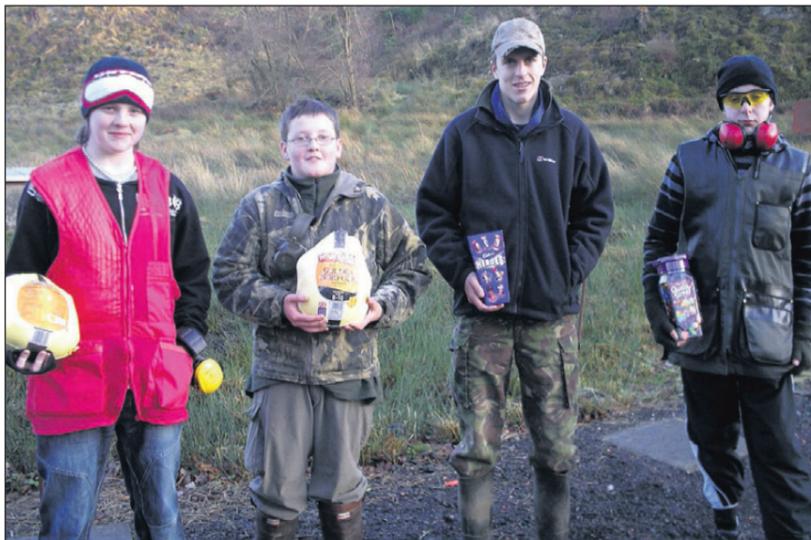
Bill Dick had two magical fresh air shots on the first and second holes, the consolation being that you can't get

into trouble if your ball doesn't go anywhere.

Like the wicked witch of the west, Jim Hunter has magical footwear and all he has to do is tap his heels together and he can play like a total nummy.

Campbell Patterson had to leave at half time after receiving a mobile call and as a result won the mat of shame. An investigation is under way however as Jim Hunter is good at impersonations and will do anything to avoid that mat.

Results: 10 K Cowan, 9 A MacAulay, 8 R Sinclair, 7 T Campbell, 6 D Carmichael, 5 T Angus, 4 D Sinclair, 3 B Dick, 2 J Hunter, 1 C Patterson. Nearest the Pin: K Cowan.



Young shots Iain Winnard, Naill Wilson, Shaun Nicolson and Euan MacDonald won prizes in Tarbert Gun Club's Christmas Shoot.

Christmas shoot for Tarbert Gun Club

LAST Sunday saw Tarbert Gun Club hold their Annual Christmas Shoot and like other years, the competitors would shoot in pairs with names into a hat for teams.

Conditions were a little foggy to start with - well, that was the early teams' excuse - and a fine winter's day prevailed.

As luck would have it, all the top shots were kept apart. Favourite to win was the pairing of Ally McDonnell and the in-form Malcolm Holder, but they had to settle for second place to Ivor

Ferguson and Bob McColl, Ally and Bob tying for high gun overall.

Archie MacGilp Jnr has got the new gun working well, winning the pool-trap. The junior section was won by Achnamara's Naill Wilson and Ormsary's Iain Winnard, each taking home a turkey.

Results: Pairs 1 Ivor Ferguson, Bob McColl, 2 Ally McDonnell, Malcolm Holder, 3 equal Norman MacDonald, Nicol Ferguson and John Weir Billy Bergant. Pool Trap 1 Archie MacGilp, 2 Brian Baird.

Oban Saints win Local Club of the Year 2009 award

THE PASSION for football in the Oban area has been rewarded with a prestigious national sporting award.

Oban Saints Football Club won the coveted Local Club of the Year award, sponsored by the Sunday Mail and SportsScotland, at the Scottish Sports Awards in Glasgow recently.

Representatives of Oban Saints - David Buchanan, Iain Jackson, Iain Alexander and Thomas Sharp attended the black tie awards ceremony in the Hilton Hotel, hosted by STV presenters Stephen Jardine and Ali Douglas and attended by 500 people.

And a roar of laughter came from the audience when club secretary David Buchanan was asked, while on stage, if they had a long journey to get to the awards.

'Yes. We've been travelling since Monday,' he replied.

Delighted

On a more serious note, David said that the club were delighted just to have been nominated for such a prestigious award by the Scottish Football Association.

He added: 'To win it was very special. It was a reward for everybody at the club for all the hard work they've put in over the years.'

An edited programme of the awards ceremony was screened by Scottish Television.

As part of the awards procedure the club were filmed by a television crew at a training session recently.

David said: 'We only had a couple of hours to get things organised as all our teams train on different nights of the week, but in the end we managed to get a good turnout from our senior, youths and ladies teams to turn up and put on a training session for the cameras.'

'I think that shows how dedicated all of our players and coaches are and typifies their love of the game.'

'The STV crew were there for over an hour filming the training session in the howling wind and almost horizontal rain.'

'They were impressed with the turnout in such abysmal conditions. We also did a couple of interviews, which obviously did enough to bring the award back to not only the club, but Oban and Argyll.'



From left: Iain Jackson, Iain Alexander (standing), David Buchanan, and Thomas Sharp represented Oban Saints at the awards ceremony and were featured on television collecting the prize.

Soccer centre win first away match

Lochgilhead SC 9 AKFC 1

ON Sunday December 13 in their first away match of the season in the Greenock and District Youth Football League, Lochgilhead SC Under 15's travelled to Inverclyde Academy to play AKFC. Many thanks to John and Dugald for helping with transport arrangements.

After a two hour journey the team could have been forgiven if they had started sluggishly, however Alistair MacVicar scored after only three minutes with a low shot after cutting inside the full back. Lakeland Marine sponsored Lochgilhead were enjoying the majority of possession, however AKFC were well organised and it wasn't until ten minutes from half time that midfielder Kyle Doull crashed an earlier rebounded shot high into the net.

AKFC battled back and Christopher Selfridge did brilliantly to push a well struck free kick

over the bar. Five minutes later Ian McGuinness, who gave the home team defence a torrid time all day, made half time score 3 - 0 with a wicked shot past the goalkeeper.

The second half kicked off with AKFC getting a goal back almost immediately, however any thoughts off a fight back were quickly dispelled when MacVicar curled the ball home high into the net from twenty yards. Not to be outdone, McGuinness added a further three goals, the pick being when he calmly rounded the goalkeeper then side-footed the ball home with his weaker left foot.

MacVicar completed his hat trick with another excellent strike, then Connor Boyd finished the scoring after some great endeavour to shoot past the keeper from a tight angle leaving the final score 9 - 0 in favour of the visitors.

Lochgilhead Team: Selfridge, Kennedy, Coates, Meechan, MacLennan, MacNaughton, Bruce, Doull, McGuinness, MacVicar (Capt), McCallum. Subs: Boyd, Ferguson, Watt (all used).

SAFL results and fixtures

LAST Saturday's results: Scottish Cup 4th round - Dunoon 0, Gartcosh United 3; 4th round replay - Broomhill v Oban Saints, postponed. West of Scotland Cup 3rd round - Lochgilhead Red Star 0, Glasgow Harp 10; 4th round - Castlemilk 7, Campbeltown Pupils 4. Premier Division 2 - Tarbert 1, Campbeltown Boys 5.

Saturday's fixtures: Scottish Cup 4th round replay - Broomhill v Oban Saints.

All the other Argyll teams have no fixtures due to the Christmas and New Year holiday break.

Lottery numbers

TARBERT Football Club lottery numbers for this week are 1, 2 and 20. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £800 next week.

INVERARAY Shinty Club lottery numbers for this week are 9, 11 and 13. There were no winners and the jackpot will be £1400 next week.

KILMORY Camanachd Shinty Club were unable to draw their lottery numbers this week due to unforeseen circumstances.

The jackpot for next week will be £500 and all tickets will be carried forward. Anyone who would like a refund should contact Sarah on 01546 606831.

Festive deadlines

SPORTS reports and photographs for the festive editions of the paper should be submitted no later than 12noon on Monday December 21 and Monday December 28.

Anything submitted after this time may not be included in the paper.

All reports and photographs should be emailed to - editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk or handed into the office at 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilhead.

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Ho-Ho-Hot footing it!



JOGSCOTLAND Mid Argyll held their annual Santa Sprint at Barnluasgan on Sunday. In lovely crisp, wintery conditions, a total of 46 Santas donned their running shoes to take part. The youngest competitor was one week-old baby Ross MacKenzie. Also pictured are Hazel Manson and Rona Young leading the way.

Second half collapse stuns Red Star

West of Scotland Cup
- 3rd round

**Glasgow Harp 10
Red Star 0**

PREMIER Cleaning Sponsored Lochgilphead Red Star travelled to Glasgow Green last Saturday with a depleted squad to take on Glasgow Harp in the West of Scotland Cup 3rd Round.

The game started off

reasonably well for the visitors and they could have gone ahead on 12 minutes when Russell tested the goalkeeper from the edge of the box however the Harp keeper did well to push the ball over the bar.

No Mistake

Harp took the lead on the 20-minute mark when Star failed to clear their lines and

the Harp number nine made no mistake in putting his side in front.

The rest of the half remained fairly even with few chances created and it remained 1-0.

The second half was nothing short of ridiculous from Star's point of view.

They could have

equalised when Naisby's shot was blocked in the box, however it was Harp who came away on the break to make it 2-0 and effectively seal the tie.

Dominant

From here on in it was one way traffic with the Caledonian Premier Side totally dominant scoring a further eight goals be-

fore declaring at full time with a final score of 10-0.

Push On

This result now ends Red Star's cup interests for the season however the TTB sponsored side will look to push on after Christmas and gain some much needed points to push themselves up the Division I table.

Conquering Mount Kilimanjaro

INTREPID volunteers from Argyll and Bute are being sought to take up the challenge of trekking infamous Mount Kilimanjaro.

The eight-day challenge will raise money for children's charity Children Today.

Volunteers need to be aged 18 years and over. The trip takes place from September 17 - 24.

For a free information pack contact Ceri Ward on 01244 335622 or ceri@childrentoday.org.uk

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