



Merry Christmas to all our readers and advertisers

MSP hits out over addiction changes

Russell wants audit of 'dysfunctional' alcohol and drugs service

A MSP has called for a thorough examination of the 'dysfunctional' Argyll and Bute Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP).

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, wants Audit Scotland to investigate the partnership's tendering and contract process after it was announced its adult support services were to be handed over to Addiction Scotland on January 1, despite widespread discontent at ADP's service.

Mr Russell said: 'I feel I have been given unsatisfactory assurances about ADP contracting its adult support services to a new provider.'

'I have been working with drugs and alcohol agencies in my constituency for many months

and most of them are completely disillusioned by the treatment they have received from the local ADP.

'Despite meeting with a number of them earlier this month to review progress with their complaints and following up those talks with further emails to the chairwoman of the ADP, neither they nor I have had adequate assurances regarding the proposed new service.'

'The letters sent to these agencies, demanding that they hand over sensitive information to a body in which they have no confidence was the final straw, and I call for the whole matter to be investigated by Audit Scotland.'

'I have been working



Snow White Christmas at Glenbarr

GLENBARR primary pupils turned their hand to three different plays when the school held its Christmas show before the end of term. As well as a series of musical items across the evening, the youngsters performed the nativity, Prickly Hay and the pantomime Snow White. A bring and buy sale was held after the show and £427 was raised for school funds.

Continued on page 2

Five held by immigration authorities

FIVE men detained at a flat in Burnbank Street, Campbeltown, last Friday evening were held over the weekend on behalf of UK Visas and Immigration.

Four of the men were released from Campbeltown police station on Monday, with the other being transferred to a detention centre.

Dialysis fund hits £90,000

A LANDMARK moment was reached last week in the bid to see a kidney dialysis unit set up at Campbeltown Hospital.

Kintyre Kidney Dialysis Campaign - which has seen its fundraising hit £90,000 in a matter of months - handed over £50,000 to the Campbeltown hospital endowment fund to allow work to start on a unit. Full story page 4.

No crossing

HOPES of a pedestrian crossing on Kinloch Road, Campbeltown have been dashed.

Argyll and Bute council has refused to support a crossing, stating it would affect the transportation of wind turbine parts to the New Quay. Full story page 5.

Miller Stewart

ESTATE AGENTS & PROPERTY MANAGERS SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

01499 325005 • 07771 541578
oban@millerstewart.com
www.millerstewart.com

Are you struggling to **SELL YOUR PROPERTY?**

Switch estate agents to Miller Stewart and

SAVE 15 % * on your current deal

YOU WILL ALSO GET THE BEST ADVERTISING PACKAGE IN ARGYLL

No Sale No Fee No charge for viewings Available 7 days a week
Fixed price conveyancing only £695 + vat & outlays and so much more.

NATIONAL COMPANY WITH LOCAL ARGYLL BASED ESTATE AGENTS

*new customers only

MP hits out over addiction changes

‘Services will not improve if existing bodies are simply bulldozed aside’

Continued from page 1 on the issue for some time and I wrote to the ADP chairwoman, asking her to ensure services are provided by the existing agencies during January.

‘Her assurances that an advertising and awareness campaign is ‘about to start’ for the transfer are ridiculous, given that it is almost Christmas and the penetration of such information will be virtually non-existent until after New Year.

Dysfunctional
‘Argyll and Bute’s ADP appears seriously dysfunctional, with no

staff on the ground and requiring external intervention to make it work in the interests of some of society’s most vulnerable.

‘Services will not improve if existing bodies are simply bulldozed aside. I urge the ADP, even at this late stage, to listen to those who know what is needed, and act accordingly.’

A spokesman for the ADP said: ‘Our priority is to our addiction service users and we take seriously any suggestion of a lack of clarity during the transition period to Addaction as

the service’s new provider.

‘We will write to the incumbent service providers on Friday to offer them a one-month extension to their existing contract, taking their contract up until January 31, and are awaiting their response.’

Support
‘Addaction will still commence service on January 1, providing additional support.

‘ADP is more than happy to meet with interested parties, including local politicians, to discuss the service in more detail.’



Dalintober’s primary six class performing in one of the school’s three sell-out shows.

Wonderful show at Dalintober Primary

DALINTOBER primary’s Winter Wonderland school shows raised more than £2,000 when it drew three sell-out crowds to enjoy dance, instrumental pieces and

class performances of some well-known winter classics.

Head teacher Caroline Armour said: ‘Between the show, entry fees and a raffle held by the

school’s very supportive PTA, a brilliant £2,152 was raised for school funds. Dalintober would like to thank all who attended and wish you all a Merry Christmas.’

Support will be given on welfare changes

PEOPLE in Argyll and Bute affected by welfare reform will be able to get more help in dealing with the changes to their benefits through a new support service.

Argyll and Bute Council, working with other organisations, is running one of two Scottish trial schemes to help people prepare for the introduction of the Universal Credit benefit.

Universal Credit sees changes in the way claims and payments are handled - it has to be claimed and man-

aged online. Instead of receiving a number of different benefits - for example Job Seekers Allowance and Housing Benefit - people will receive one payment, made monthly in arrears. Those who make claims will need some computer skills, internet access and a bank account in order to receive their money.

To cope with these changes, some people may also need IT support, budget and money management advice - and the Universal Sup-

port Delivered Locally scheme will help to provide this across Argyll and Bute.

A council spokeswoman said: ‘We will liaise with registered social landlords, the Department for Work and Pensions, NHS Highland and organisations like Citizens Advice to reach a wide range of people who may need support ahead of the introduction of Universal Credit. ‘People will be able to access computers and IT training courses to help them manage their benefits and other tasks like creating a CV or applying for jobs online.’

‘They can get help to open a bank account if they don’t have one, or work with a support worker on saving, budgeting and dealing with debt. The aim is to ensure that within a few weeks, people have the

skills needed to manage Universal Credit. Money management and computer skills are also useful for helping people back to work.

‘To meet the needs of the rural and remote communities across the area, Argyll and Bute Council has employed innovative solutions for Universal Support Delivered Locally.

‘Where broadband coverage is challenging, or where people cannot travel easily to a main town to use computers in libraries or job centres, the council has changed its IT infrastructure in other premises like school buildings so that they can be used for training courses.

‘More community learning tutors have been recruited and laptops made available for people to use.’

Solway PRECAST PRODUCTS LTD

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR A FULL RANGE OF PRODUCTS
WWW.SOLWAY-PRECAST.CO.UK

UK'S LEADING AGRICULTURAL PRECAST MANUFACTURER - DIRECT FROM FACTORY TO FARM

OUR OWN DESIGN SECTIONAL SHEEPDIP

Cattle Slats - Maxi & Big T
Slurry Channel - 1.2m, 2.4m & 3m
Stock Wall Panels - 100mm Silage/Grain Wall Panels - 135 mm
Free Standing L Walls - Any size
Feed Troughs - Various types

Water Troughs - 450 gals
Effluent Tanks - Sectional with covers
Beams & Columns - Any size
Modular Slurry Store - Any size
Cubicle Beds - Single or doubles
Hatch Panel - Galvanised steel cover

Braehead, Barrhill, Ayrshire, KA26 0QR T 01465 821 348 F 01465 821 383
E sales@solway-precast.co.uk solwayprecast.co.uk

UIST ASCO

Seaweed - gently dried and milled
100% Organic. 100% Pure.
Nature's produce.
Preserved by nature.

Sustainably produced seaweed meal for animal and plant nutrition

Blending the old traditional skill of hand harvesting seaweed and the use of a new and unique, state of the art drying system. Locally gathered Ascophylum Nodosum (Knotted wrack) gently dried and preserved using locally produced and FSC certified biomass. Can be supplied in any quantity throughout Scotland

High in Omega 3 fatty acids, seaweed is an exceptional animal feed supplement. Concentrations of trace elements benefit cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, poultry and pets. Island sheep and cattle regularly forage in the seashore for seaweed, naturally supplementing their diet.

Sollas, North Uist, Western Isles, Scotland
Phone (+44)1876 500267 www.uistasco.com
Fax (+44)1876 500467 info@uistasco.com

The co-operative food

CAMPBELTOWN

Seasonal Hours

Tuesday 23rd	6am - 10pm
Wednesday 24th	6am - 8pm
Thursday 25th	Closed
Friday 26th	8am - 6pm
Saturday 27th	7am - 10pm
Sunday 28th	7am - 10pm
Monday 29th	6am - 8pm
Tuesday 30th	6am - 8pm
Wednesday 31st	6am - 8pm
Thursday 1st	10am - 6pm

We would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2015.

The co-operative **LOVED** by us

LDW SERVICES
Plumbing and Heating

All domestic plumbing, heating and gas works undertaken

Tel 07780210396
mcmillan.john87@gmail.com

Would like to wish all of my customers past and present a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Singer Thomas gets surprise TV break



Thomas Jordan from Campbeltown sang three of his own songs on STV Glasgow's The Riverside Show.

A PROMISING young musician from Campbeltown rubbed shoulders with the stars when he performed a brilliant set on STV Glasgow's the Riverside Show.

Thomas Jordan, a second-year law student at Strathclyde University, made his television debut on the show alongside guests such as the actor David Hayman.

Playing the guitar, he sang three of his own songs as well as chatting to presenters Jennifer Reoch and David Farrell.

The 19-year-old told the Courier: 'It was a wonderful opportunity

it all came about after someone on my course had listened to my songs on SoundCloud and she passed my name on to a friend working with STV.

'A few weeks ago STV got in touch and I was invited to appear on the show - I could not believe it.

'I have performed at a couple of events in the past, at the Mull of Kintyre Music Festival and at a charity event in Glasgow, and I have done a fair bit of busking in the city centre too, but I was really nervous about appearing on STV.

'Once I got to the studios and we went through the sound check I felt a lot calmer.

'David Hayman, who was promoting a new film he directed, spoke to me before the show. It was brilliant to be in that sort of company.'

Thomas' songs were Wasting Time, Still Thinking of You and Wings of an Angel.

Thomas, a former piper with Kintyre Schools Pipe Band, said: 'It was such a great experience, even if nothing comes from it. I will try to write more songs, keep updating my SoundCloud page and hope-

fully make an EP next year.

'My studies are obviously important to me but music is my real

passion and I hope having a bit of exposure and making new contacts will bring more opportunities like this.'

Listen to Thomas's music by going to soundcloud.com and searching for Thomas Jordan 9.

Reminder on free TV licence

PEOPLE aged 75 and over in Campbeltown are being reminded they can apply for a free TV licence. More than four million people across the UK are already enjoying the benefits of the concession, including almost 700 in Campbeltown.

It applies to anyone 75 or over regardless of income, or anyone living with someone aged 75 or over.

Although the concession is free, it must be applied for in order for the address to be correctly licensed.

For more age-related information and expert advice people can get in touch with Age UK Advice by calling 0800 1696565. Lines are open from 8am to 7pm, seven days a week.

Holiday lettings plan

A PLANNING application to alter and extend a derelict building into holiday lettings at the former Masonic Hall, Main Street, Bowmore, Islay has been made to Argyll and Bute Council.

Double house plan

A PLANNING application to build two houses on land at Upper Killelan, The Oa, Islay, has been made to Argyll and Bute Council.



Carradale Drama Club had great fun putting on three shows of the panto Dick Whittington in the village hall. Produced by Mary MacAlister Hall, the show involved more than a dozen adults and six children. Picture courtesy of RS Grant.

Care home's gardeners are top of the tree

RESIDENTS at Kintyre Care Home showed off their green fingers and won a gardening prize.

The HC-One run care home in Campbeltown received a commendation and picked up the award in the category of best container/hanging basket in HC-One's 'Blooming Summer' gardening competition. The commendation's £250 prize will go towards organising more activities at the home.

The competition encouraged residents in care homes across Britain to show off their gardening skills, with Kintyre Care Home residents entering a scrapbook showcasing their beautiful baskets.

VETERINARY SURGEON
J. H. Hooper B.Sc, B.V.M & S, M.R.C.V.S
We wish all our clients a Merry Christmas and send our best wishes for 2015.
Provides veterinary care for your pets
Ugadale Cottage, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6QR
Tel: 01586 552427

Glen Bar & Restaurant
CARRADALE
MAY AND BILL WISH ALL THEIR CUSTOMERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE GLEN IN 2015
CARRADALE, ARGYLL, PA28 6QG
TEL: 01583 431 105 / 431 581

Find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

AFFORDABLE
Country Kilm
Starting from £299
Woodburning & Multifuel stoves
Nationwide Delivery • Local Installers
01560 483966
www.WoodburningStovesLimited.com

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

campbeltown courier **argyllshire advertiser**
Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser
Incorporating Campbeltown Courier
Our offices will be closed on
Thursday 25th and Friday 26th December
and Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd January
NEW YEAR ADVERTISING DEADLINES
The issue dated Friday 2nd January will be available to buy from the 31st December
all advertising must be booked in by
Monday 29th December
Campbeltown Courier Tel: 01586 554646
Argyllshire Advertiser Tel: 01546 602345

Campbeltown Sheriff Court

Islay assault pair must pay compensation

TWO ISLAY men who attacked another man in a hotel have each been ordered to pay him £250 compensation.

John Evans, 27, of 2 Main Street, Port Charlotte, and Neil McEachern, 21, of 13 Burnside, Bruichladdich, were also fined £250 each at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week.

The pair admitted committing the assault in the Lochindaal Hotel, Port Charlotte, on April 21 this year.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said it was 12.30am when McEachern approached the 50-year-old victim and began punching him on the top of the head with both hands.

Evans then joined in and the man's glasses were knocked to the floor.

Mr McGinty added that the man, who had a heart attack the previous year, suffered cuts and bruising to his head and face and tenderness on his right arm and shoulder.

After his attackers were pulled off by others in the hotel, the victim's daughter was

called to assist him. Police were informed of the assault the following day.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC expressed her surprise that someone in the hotel thought to call the daughter but not the police.

An agent for distillery worker Evans said his client had only thrown two punches and regretted becoming involved in the incident.

Christian Kane, agent for McEachern, said his client had no previous convictions, adding 'drink was involved'.

Teenager ordered to pay for car damage

A YOUNG man who damaged an ex-girlfriend's parents' car by kicking it has been ordered to pay the £367 repair cost.

Martin McLean, 18, of 23 Burnside Cottage, Stewarton, pleaded guilty at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week to committing the offence in Ralston Road, Campbeltown, on April 12 of this year.

He also admitted behaving in a threatening and abusive manner towards his ex-girlfriend and putting her in a state of fear and alarm when

he shouted and swore and punched and kicked the car.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said the couple had just broken up after an 18-month relationship.

The ex-girlfriend had gone to confront McLean after a friend had texted her to say he was in a town centre pub late at night with another woman.

She spoke to McLean before storming off. Mr McGinty said McLean ran after his ex. 'He became very angry and shouted at her.'

McLean got in the car with her and demanded she drive him home. He refused her requests to get out of the vehicle and at one point pulled the handbrake on to stop her driving.

When he did get out of the car he began kicking it.

The matter was reported to the police who arrested McLean later in another town centre pub.

Defence agent David Watt said his client was no longer working but was 'anxious' to pay for the damage to the car.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC deferred sentence on McLean until April 9 for him to pay for the repair bill and to be of good behaviour.

Abbeyfield's early Christmas gifts



Evie Strath, Abbeyfield's oldest resident, opened the house's new showers and baths, with Tony Leighton, Abbeyfield chairman, left, and Joy Bidmead, house manager.

RESIDENTS at Abbeyfield House had their Christmas wish granted early with sparkling new showers and baths.

Provided by funding from the Scottish Government, the bathrooms come complete with hoists, making them fully accessible to all the residents.

Evie Strath, who at 101 is the oldest resident at Abbeyfield and Carradale, officially opened the new facilities and was first to try them out.

Evie said: 'The bath hoist is wonderful and makes it so easy for me to get in and out of the bath. I couldn't ask for a better Christmas present.'

Tony Leighton, chairman of Abbeyfield Carradale, added: 'We are really grateful to the Scottish Government for making the funding available and to local contractors McKiven and Colville for carrying out the work within a tight deadline.'

Key moment in dialysis campaign

A LANDMARK moment was reached last week in the bid to see a kidney dialysis unit set up at Campbeltown Hospital.

The Kintyre Kidney Dialysis Campaign - which has seen its fundraising hit £90,000 in a matter of months - hand-

ed over £50,000 to the Campbeltown hospital endowment fund to allow work start on a unit.

Campaign chairman Councillor Donald Kelly said: 'This is what the fundraising has been all about.'

'This money is our year-one contribution

to the project. The project is still on schedule and NHS Highland has agreed to provide regular updates to the committee on progress made and the associated costs.'

Kristin Gillies, Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership (CHP) service planning manager, said: 'I was delighted to receive the £50,000 donation from the campaign group.'

'It will help us significantly in moving forward with the project.'

'The amount of support generally from the community for this new unit has been incredible and the NHS is working hard to deliver a great facility for dialysis patients.'

'I recently met with the campaign group and outlined the progress with the project and the plans for the room conversion at the hospital.'

'I also confirmed that we were on track with the timescale.'

'There is still a lot of work to do but this donation is a tremendous boost.'

'The first team of nurses will be going to Stobhill Hospital next month to begin a training programme in haemodialysis and this shows that the project is gathering pace.'

'I plan to meet with the campaign group soon to update them on how the project is developing and how the initial donation has been used.'

subscribe to

**campbeltown
courier**

Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

DIGITAL OR PRINT
And receive a

**FREE
GIFT**

WORTH
£22.00

tel: 01371 851868

or visit: www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk/subscribe

QUOTE CC1214

ARRAN
AROMATICS

SCOTLAND

celebrating 25 years of gifting
www.arranaromatics.com

Terms and conditions apply. Minimum one year subscription costing £57. New subscribers only. Cancellation charges apply and no refunds can be given. UK subscribers only. While stocks last. Fragrances in this free gift may vary.



Alan Baker, acting chairman of Campbeltown Community Council, has urged BEAR Scotland to take action to address potentially unsafe crossing points in Kinloch Road. 20_c51crossing01

Council rejects plan for safe crossing on Kinloch Road

PLANS to make a Campbeltown road safe for pedestrians have come to nought after Argyll and Bute Council refused to support a crossing.

Campbeltown Community Council members are still waiting to be told the bad news six months after asking for it to be considered.

Trunk road

Kinloch Road in Campbeltown became part of the trunk road network in August and is now managed by BEAR Scotland on behalf of Transport Scotland.

Safety concerns about

the A83 in the town have been consistently raised with councillors, council officials and Transport Scotland.

Alan Baker, acting chairman of the community council, said: 'A woman was nearly run down as she tried to cross Kinloch Road recently.'

'This issue was highlighted in the summer but nothing has been done.'

'BEAR is responsible for the road as it is trunked all the way to the ferry terminal - it should be installing the likes of pelican crossings to make getting

across the road safer, or removing the confusing anti-skid strips at various parts of the road, otherwise there could be a serious accident.'

Concerns

A BEAR spokesman said: 'We are aware of the concerns about the A83 Kinloch Road near the Royal Hotel and forwarded enquiries to Transport Scotland, however the issue of a potential crossing point was ruled out by Argyll and Bute Council over concerns with parked cars.'

The council confirmed it had ruled out a crossing. A spokesman said:

'Ultimately this would be a matter for the trunk roads authority.'

'When the council realigned Kinloch Road as part of the Kintyre Renewables Hub project, we looked into the prospect of installing a crossing point at the Royal Hotel corner, with a mid-carriageway area.'

'However, given the project's aim to make the road suitable for abnormal loads transporting wind turbine parts, this was not possible - any raised street furniture would impede the movement of these vehicles.'

New secretary for Clyde fishermen

CLYDE Fishermen's Association has appointed a new secretary.

Elaine Whyte, 35, has been executive director of Cumbernauld Theatre for the past six months.

Previously she worked more than five years as partnerships manager of Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

A spokesman for the fishermen's association said: 'Elaine has a strong background in membership organisations and their management. She has worked closely with various organisations including the Scottish Government, the European Commission and Scottish Enterprise in a number of important initiatives.'

Ms Whyte graduated from Glasgow University with a BA (Honours) in sociology and politics and an MPhil in urban policy and governance.

Ms Whyte said: 'I'm delighted and honoured at my selection for the role of executive secretary for Clyde Fishermen's Association.'

'I will endeavour to represent their best interests in all areas to the very best of my abilities. I hope to continue the tradition of strong and professional representation, working to the standard established by my predecessor, Archie McFarlane.'

Kenneth MacNab, chairman of the association, said: 'The selection committee was very impressed with Elaine at interview. It was even more impressed by her determination to master the complicated work involved and to fight hard for the interests of the members of the association.'

in an increasingly difficult environment.'

Elaine will take up the reins from the interim secretary, Patrick Stewart, of Campbeltown, on January 17 when he will have completed more than 44 years to add to the 38 years of his father and grandfather's service to the association.

The highly regarded Archie McFarlane, a former Islay fisherman, died in a motorcycle accident in August, aged just 55.



Elaine Whyte, the new executive secretary of Clyde Fishermen's Association.

A NEW BEGINNING 2015 Calendars



Scottish Field
Large
£11.75 (inc. UK P&P)

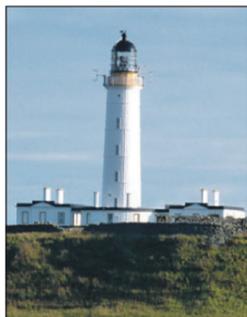


Scottish Field
Mini
£7.75 (inc. UK P&P)



to order visit www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
or call **01371 851 868**

Power restored at 'vital' lighthouse



The Rhinns of Islay lighthouse opposite Portnahaven, which was running at quarter-capacity for almost five days.

A LIGHTHOUSE on Islay damaged by a lightning strike was restored to full power last week.

The Rhinns of Islay Lighthouse opposite Portnahaven village had to run on a generator at only a quarter of its capacity for almost five days.

Full power was restored last Friday afternoon by Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) engineers.

A spokeswoman for the authority, which

maintains Scotland and the Isle of Man's lighthouses, said: 'Our engineers successfully repaired the Rhinns of Islay lighthouse on Friday after it sustained damage from a lightning strike.'

'During the reduced power, our monitoring system allowed us to issue a casualty report to maritime traffic in the area so that vessels were aware of the lighthouse's reduced capacity.'

Alastair Redman, Conservative general election candidate for Argyll and Bute, said: 'This lighthouse has a range of 24 miles and is therefore a vital tool for navigating at night, even with the numerous technological advancements in navigation systems.'

'The Northern Lighthouse Board has done an excellent job restoring it to full capacity but it has still been an inconvenience to Islay sailors and fishing crews.'

Campbeltown
www.explorecampbeltown.com

campbeltown
courier
Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

Unanswered questions

MSP Michael Russell must have some pretty serious concerns about the Argyll and Bute Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) to have spoken out about it the way he has in recent days.

He calls it dysfunctional and is alarmed enough to seek Audit Scotland to carry out a thorough investigation of the ADP's tendering and contract process over the transfer of its adult support services to Addaction Scotland.

The MSP says his stance follows months of feedback from disillusioned drug and alcohol agencies in his constituency. On that basis alone, there would appear to be solid ground for matters to be put on hold until Audit Scotland can hold an investigation and confidence can possibly be restored. However, this is not the first time alarm bells have been raised over the manner in which the ADP has gone about its business.

Mr Russell and many people in Campbeltown were deeply unhappy earlier this year when the alcohol and drugs partnership took the controversial decision to begin a methadone service in the town. There had been a lot of concerns and unanswered questions about such a service being established, and there were assurances all the way up to the Scottish Government's cabinet that there would be a full consultation with the community before anything would happen. Despite all that, the ADP suddenly had a methadone service up and running without telling any of its opponents.

Are we again seeing the ADP making sudden sweeping changes without the full agreement and support of all the parties involved? A full investigation of its procedures is probably the only way of clearing the air.

who's who at your
courier

Campbeltown Courier
Main and Longrow South
Campbeltown
PA28 6AE

Tel: 01586 554646

Senior Reporter:

Graham Crawford

editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Reporter:

John McCallum

editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Advertising Sales:

Rebecca Harvey

adverts@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

opinion

e EMAIL

t TWITTER

f FACEBOOK

l LETTER

No excuse for poor broadband service

Sir,
During the recent council by-election in South Kintyre, there were comments made about broadband provision in Argyll.

The points made are well rehearsed and most will be familiar with them, but a proactive response from elected representatives attacking the deficiencies in both government and BT policy is still seen as absent.

Many rural locations cannot get broadband via any kind of landline. Satellite provision is both expensive and has high latency, making it unsuitable for many purposes. New fibre optic cables run right past properties affected, yet BT will not install a communications cabinet to allow connection to these businesses and homes.

Government policy is clearly lacking, despite statements in the past about diversification for rural economies. A way has to be found to make broadband provision at least as much of an obligation as telephony provision. This is seen as critical by residents in Argyll.

As a country, we must renew efforts to bring wired broadband to all with a landline, not just those who live within a certain distance of an existing exchange.

There are technical solutions available, but is there the political will?

Trevor Oxborrow
A'Chruach
Campbeltown.

Stamp duty confusion

Sir,
The first minister must act now to create a fairer stamp duty replacement for homebuyers across Scotland.

The Scottish Unionist and Conservatives recently published comprehensive, fully-costed plans which would provide a tax cut for every single person purchasing a home.

It would see the land and buildings transaction tax (LBTT) threshold raised to £140,000, and the punishing 10 per cent tax on homes between £250,000 and £500,000 halved.

The uncertainty has left the housing market in a state of flux, with both buyers and sellers reluctant to take action until an improved proposal is adopted.

We in the Scottish Unionist and Conservatives showed how the tax cut could be funded.

Up to £76 million is still available from Barnett Consequentials resulting from the autumn statement, and thanks to the chancellor's stamp duty cuts there will be an additional £80 million through block grant adjustments.

Finance secretary John Swinney said when announcing the new LBTT plans that it would 'raise no more or less than the taxes it replaces'.

Our plans cut tax across the board, from first-time buyers to those seeking to move to a larger family home in their area.

It's high time the first minister acted to end this confusion; the SNP's stamp duty replacement plans are

in tatters, and people in Argyll and Bute wanting to get on the ladder and move up it are mired in confusion. Regressive tax policies of the SNP are bad news for our growing Argyll and Bute economy.

Alastair Redman
Unionist and
Conservative
candidate
Argyll and Bute.

New Year resolutions

Sir,
After a fully satisfying 6,000 calorie Christmas lunch with an extra portion of brandy sauce and a pleasant nap in front of 'It's a Wonderful Life', it is amazing how quickly one's thoughts turn to Hogmanay and the New Year resolutions. The main resolution being not to eat so much. Just in case our political leaders have not the time to consider New Year resolutions I thought it would be helpful if I make some suggestions.

I trust First Minister Nicola Sturgeon will wish to develop her pledge to govern in the best interests of all the people of Scotland. No doubt this will be a challenging resolution for her to achieve given the demands of the 45ers.

Throughout most of 2014, at least up to September 19, Alec Salmond resolved to respect and advance the, 'Sovereign will of the Scottish people'. Let's hope he adopts the same resolution for 2015.

Alistair Carmichael, the secretary of state for Scotland, can have but one resolution, that of advancing home rule for Scotland by ensuring the

smooth transition of the Smith Commission's recommendations into law.

I should imagine our local Liberal Democrat MP, Alan Reid, will have one overriding resolution, that of continuing to represent the good people of Argyll and Bute after the general election on May 7.

Might I suggest to local government councillors in Argyll and Bute to adopt the resolution to work in a collegiate manner to please Audit Scotland and the Accounts Commission.

My New Year resolution? Easy, to enjoy living in and contributing to Scotland's politically dynamic democracy.

Finlay Craig
Cove.

Reindeer are wild animals not props

Sir,
It is worrying to see the increased use of real reindeer in Christmas parades, Santa's grottos and other festive activities, if undoubtedly fun for young ones to see animals from films and storybooks in the flesh.

However, uprooting reindeer from their natural habitat, bringing them to a life of captivity in the UK, transporting them up and down the country and subjecting them to the stress of being on public display causes reindeer significant health and welfare problems. These magical and majestic creatures should not be used as props in garden and shopping centre displays, or forced to traipse along high streets pulling a sleigh behind them.

Claudia Tarry
The Old Chapel
Tonbridge.

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

emails to: editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
facebook.com/campbeltowncourier
twitter.com/campbeltowncour

PRESS POLICY

WE AT The Campbeltown Courier 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 Campbeltown Courier, Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AE, giving your daytime telephone number where possible. This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

The Campbeltown Courier adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct.

The views expressed in The Campbeltown Courier are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of no more than 200 words for publication on this page.

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

email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

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

Holyrood will hear case for Rest and Be Thankful improvements

'It is patently clear to all that the measures put in place by the Scottish Government at the Rest are wholly inadequate and have not provided the permanent solution as previously promised'

THE CASE for a permanent solution to the problems on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful is to be made to the Scottish parliament.

Argyll First councillors have learned that their petition calling for action on the route will be heard by Holyrood's petitions committee on February 17.

The Scottish Government has spent millions of pounds on work to reduce the impact of recurring landslips on the road.

It has also upgraded the Old Military Road to allow traffic to be taken through Glen Crow in a convoy system in event of a landslip affecting the main route at the Rest.

It has been used on a number of occasions in recent months at a cost of £8,500 a day, but there is a growing feeling it is an inadequate

solution for such an important route and impacts on trade and travellers in Argyll.

This is the second time the Argyll First group has petitioned the committee, the first being the successful 'Sign for the A83' campaign.

South Kintyre councillor Donald Kelly told the Courier: 'We are delighted our original campaign has achieved plans to remove the pinch points on the A83 at Inveraray and between the villages of Ardrishaig and Tarbert as well the installation of a safe pedestrian crossing point at Tarbert and the trunking of the road between Kennacraig and Campbeltown.'

'The fourth and most important element of our petition was to achieve a permanent solution to the problems at the Rest and Be Thankful, however this has not been

achieved thus far. That is why we have re-petitioned the committee.

'The original campaign was supported by more than 10,000 members of the public, more than 400 businesses, countless MSPs and Argyll and Bute council.'

'It is patently clear to all that the measures put in place by the Scottish Government at the Rest are wholly inadequate and have not provided the permanent solution as previously promised.'

'On February 17 Argyll First will, yet again, on behalf of the constituents and businesses of Argyll and Bute, make the case for a permanent solution to be found and fully funded.'

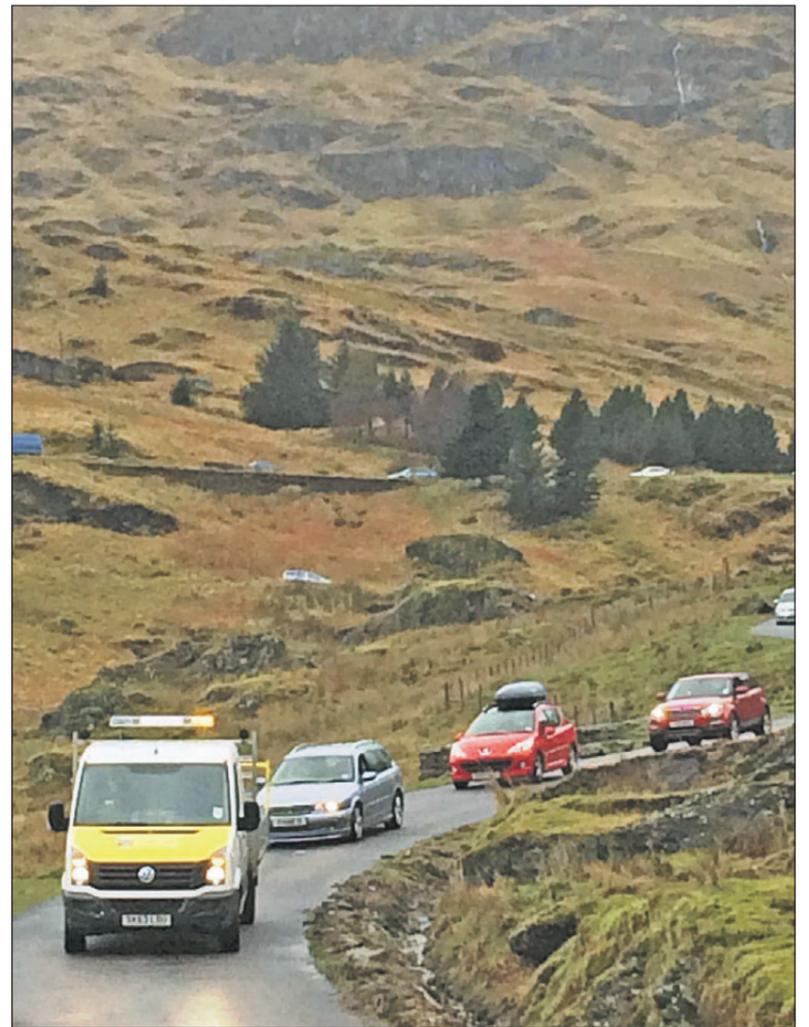
Argyll and Bute MP Alan Reid feels more needs to be done at the Rest, and Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell has said that 'the long-term problem must

be resolved'. Highland and Islands MSP Jamie McGrigor, who has pressed successive Scottish transport ministers on the A83, said: 'Lodging a petition is a good way to keep up the profile of this very important subject.'

'As I have argued many times before, the A83 trunk road is a life-line link for all of Argyll and Bute and businesses and residents simply cannot afford to face repeated and lengthy closures of this route such as we saw most recently in late October.'

Among the more permanent solutions suggested for the A83 at the Rest is the creation of a 1km avalanche shelter, at an estimated cost of £120 million.

Councillor Kelly and others are advocating the building of a new road on the opposite side of the glen.



Vehicles have been taken by convoy through Glen Crow on the Old Military Road following landslips on the A83 in recent months, however, many do not see this as a permanent solution.



Youngsters at Kintyre toy library's Christmas party had a lovely time meeting Santa and opening the presents he gave them.

Mother of injured child criticised by sheriff

A YOUNG woman found guilty of exposing her child to unnecessary suffering was criticised by a sheriff last week.

The mother, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had only attended five out of 25 possible supervised visits since the youngster had been taken into care, Campbeltown Sheriff Court heard.

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC said she was not impressed by the mother's failure to explain how the child came

to be injured earlier this year and rejected the accused's attempts during her trial to point the finger at others.

Most important

Defence agent David Watt said his client's children were the most important thing to her.

'That is clearly not the case when she only visits this child on just five out of 25 possible occasions,' said the sheriff.

Sentence was deferred on the accused for three months.

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Campbeltown call Chris Haran on 01586 552 428 for your insurance needs.

Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.



D R ALEXANDER & SON

Main Distributors for Ifor Williams Trailers in Caithness & Inverness

Keoltag, REAY, Caithness KW14 7RE

Tel: 01847 811365

19 Seafield Road, Longman Industrial Estate INVERNESS IV1 1SG

Tel: 01463 248268 MOB: 07710637078

FULL RANGE OF NEW IFOR WILLIAMS TRAILERS & HORSEBOXES
COMMERCIAL, PLANT, STOCK, TIPPER, UNBRAKED, CAR TRANSPORTERS

Selection of Used Trailers All Fully Serviced

For Details Please View Our Website www.dralexanderson.co.uk

Full Servicing Facilities Available/Large Stock of Genuine Ifor Williams Spare Parts

W M Burns

Blaircochrane Farm, West Linton, Peeblesshire

Visit our new website

www.burnstractors.com

All used tractors and plant wanted from 1960 to 2014

Call Nigel Burns on 07766522751 for immediate inspection and payment

COVENTRY for FENCING

Scotland's No. 1
WIRE, STOCK FENCING,
BARBED, HIGH TENSILE,
MILD STEEL BEST PRICES

TIMBER DIRECT FROM OUR SAWMILL
Depots throughout Scotland • Delivery available
For a competitive quote please call 01631 566866

Walter G Grant

Agricultural Machinery Sales & Repairs

Tel: 01343 842114

or 07702 985180



Agents for Landini Tractors & Fleming Equipment

New Fleming Equipment –

Water Filled Rollers 7 & 10ft Chain Harrows

M/F 550 2WD

755 John Deere Compact Tractor c/w

Power Loader

Ferguson TEF 20 Diesel

Claas 46 Round Baler

Tanco Bale Wrapper (Manual)

Water Filled Rollers

12ft Ifor Williams Livestock Trailer c/w

SheepDecks

10ft Discs

Fraser Rotospreader

3mtr Power Harrow

(as new)

Drill Plough

Plus much more

Whatever you require, give us a call



These mums, and a dad too, took their babies to Campbeltown Hospital's maternity ward for a Christmas party organised by the midwives. 20_c51mothers01

Babies' first Christmas party is a delight

NEW parents this year, along with their babies, had a great time getting together for a Christmas party at Campbeltown Hospital's maternity ward.

The mother and baby group meets every Wednesday and their midwives put together a cracking Christmas party for them. Midwife Elspeth Colville said: 'It is love-

ly to see so many happy parents and babies. We like to put on an end-of-year party for them and as always it is a chance to relax and share experiences with other parents, many

of whom are having their first child. We have seen 73 new babies this year from the Campbeltown area and a good number of them were actually born here.'



Dalintober's morning pre-fives performed the Nativity to a full house.



The afternoon unit followed with another great show.

Pre-five units' nativity play time

DALINTOBER Primary's pre-five units held their morning and afternoon Nativity plays before the end

of term. Two wonderful shows were held before packed audiences, with staff helping to raise

£308.98 by raffling a Christmas hamper. Thanks went to everyone who supported their efforts.

Gigha pupils star in Christmas panto

GIGHA Primary School and nursery held their festive pantomime The Stars Come Out For Christmas.

Spectacular
Parents and guests dressed up for this year's spectacular awards cer-

emony, which raised £550 through entries and a raffle donated to the Kintyre Kidney Dialysis Campaign.

Wish
A school spokeswoman said: 'We are delighted we are able to support this campaign and

the school would like to thank everyone who came along to give support.'

'Finally we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas from Gigha Primary School.'



Pupils from Gigha Primary took part in The Stars Come Out For Christmas.



Carradale P4-7 performed Icicle Jack in front of a large support of friends and family.



Pre-fives up to primary two performing It's A Cracker.

School show is a cracker

CARRADALE primary raised a fantastic £367.77 at its annual Christmas concert in front of a packed audience.

P4-7 pupils performed Icicle Jack as well as singing in the choir, playing bells, re-

orders, chanters, fiddle and horn.

They also helped the pre-fives up to P2 perform the Nativity, It's a Cracker and The Reindeer Pokey. Two talented P1s then entertained the crowds with a version

of Jingle Bells on the ocarinas.

A school spokeswoman said: 'We would like to give a huge 'thank you' to all families, friends and community members who came along.'

Castlehill well-versed for festive play

PUPILS from primary one and two at Castlehill Primary got into the Christmas spirit when they held a nativity play last Friday.

The youngsters entertained a big crowd of families with some modern nativity songs and traditional carols such as Away In A Manger, with David McEwan accompanying them on the keyboard.

Head teacher Richard Long said: 'Everyone did very well and their teachers deserve a lot of credit for having them so well prepared. We hope all the families enjoyed their afternoon.'

20_c51castlehill01



Primary two pupil Ben Cunningham was all smiles seeing Santa at Castlehill Primary last week. 20_c52santa01

Santa goes back to school

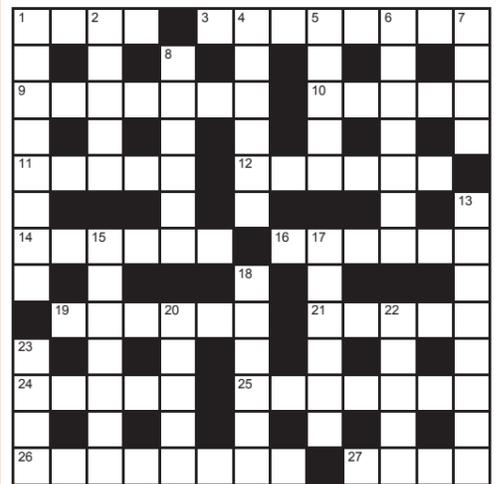
CASTLEHILL Primary welcomed a very special guest last Thursday - when Santa visited the school's primary one and two pupils.

They then sang Santa some Christmas songs such as Jingle Bells, and

he was so delighted with them he gave them all a present.

Santa told the youngsters he would still be visiting them on December 25 - there is a Claus in his contract that he will return then.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Greet in Scotland (4)
- 3 The horizontal bearings from North, clockwise (8)
- 9 Smoothed (7)
- 10 Care for (5)
- 11 Sleep late (3-2)
- 12 Embodiment (6)
- 14 Baked ice cream (6)
- 16 A diamond shaped pattern (6)
- 19 Less than pH7 (6)
- 21 Unusual item (5)
- 24 Open with teeth (5)
- 25 One with fewer limbs (7)
- 26 Where animals roam (8)
- 27 Carried in a café (4)

Down

- 1 What has to be done (8)
- 2 Exercise for a soloist (5)
- 4 Showing signs (6)
- 5 Craze (5)
- 6 Gruff (7)
- 7 Erupt (4)
- 8 Polish port (6)
- 13 Improvement (8)
- 15 Spanish palace (7)
- 17 List of ingredients (6)
- 18 Cream filled bun (6)
- 20 Sleepy (5)
- 22 Chopper blade (5)
- 23 Neck lace (4)

Last week's solution



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Ormsary Hall Hogmanay Party 2014 with Ceilidh's Homet
 Wednesday 31st December at 8.30pm
 BYOB & food for Buffet
 Roll your £1 to win a bottle!
 Admission: Over 18's £7.50 / 12-18's £5 / Under 12's free
 Tickets on the door!

Like
 like us on facebook
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

15 PAIRS OF IRN-BRU CARNIVAL TICKETS UP FOR GRABS

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets just answer this question: **What date does the IRN-BRU Carnival finish?**

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets just answer this question: **What date does the IRN-BRU Carnival finish?**

ANSWER:.....
 NAME:.....
 TEL:.....
 ADDRESS:.....

PLEASE AFFIX TOKEN 1 HERE

TOKEN 2

Entries to: **IRN-BRU COMPETITION, Wyvex Media, Lochavullin Ind. Est., Oban PA34 4HB**
 Deadline for entries: **12noon Tuesday 30th December**
 The draw will take place on the same day.
 Winners will be notified by telephone. Tickets can be collected via The Oban Times office or alternatively can be sent out via post.

Terms & Conditions
 This competition is open to all adults over the age of 18. All entries must include the name and contact details of the entrant. Entries will not be considered if they do not have all information specified. Winners will be chosen at random, this decision is final. Prize is one pair of tickets to the IRN-BRU Carnival. Prize is only valid for one day. This prize has no cash alternative, is non-refundable and non-exchangeable. Travel is not included. The IRN-BRU Carnival reserves the right to refuse entry without explanation.

This is YOUR paper...

Send your photos and stories to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

The Silent Man

A DCI Daley short story
by Denzil Meyrick

*'Come with me,' the voice insists.
He rolls onto one side, trying to
shake the dream and go back to sleep.
'Come with me.'
He opens his eyes.
'Come with me.'*

It had been almost 12 hours since the silent man had gathered together his few belongings, made his bed, and prepared to leave the place he had called home for nearly five years. The security camera had followed him as he slipped out of the care home and into the cold dark of early morning, just as the first fat flakes began to fall.

It was the day before Christmas Eve.

Now, thick snow clothed Kinloch in its cold smothering blanket, tinged orange under the glow of the street lamps.

DCI Jim Daley stood at an arched window of the town hall, looking down at the scene from one floor up. The cold breath of last-minute shoppers billowed into the air and around the decorations and fairy lights that adorned the street and illuminated

a bright path from each shop doorway. Festive cheer, warm and welcoming, was palpable; an enticement to one and all, as the good people of Kinloch prepared for Christmas Day.

Daley turned his attention away from thoughts of Christmas and back to the hall. Stark white striplights picked out faces etched with worry and fatigue. This was the impromptu incident room from where the search for John Sweeney had been coordinated for most of the day.

Darkness had descended more than two hours ago and with it the realistic hope that the old man would be found alive; this, though, re-



Denzil Meyrick

mained unspoken.

Sweeney's family – daughter, husband and their little boy – sat at a table. The daughter wrung her hands, face red and blotchy from the tears that had spilled down it all day, while her husband fussed over the six-year-old who was working busily with thick crayons, stopping occasionally to glance up at his mother with big sad blue eyes.

'Don't worry, Mummy,' he said, reaching his hand out to pat hers. 'Grampa will be out looking for Santa. He said he would ask him to get me a bike. He told me he would.'

'Calum,' scolded his father, 'what have we told you about this? Grampa doesn't speak. You know he doesn't. I want you to be a big boy for Mummy and be good, OK?'

'He speaks to me,' replied the little boy, nodding furiously to underline what he'd just said. 'He does!'

'Stop it, Calum! Just stop it!' shouted his mother. 'I'm fed up listening to you tell me what Grampa said to you. He doesn't say anything! He hasn't done since you were a baby. You'll go to the bad place for telling tales. How many times have I got to tell you? Just . . . be quiet!'

Calum looked on as his mother buried her head

in her hands and his father put his arm around her shoulder. He sighed and quietly went back to his drawing.

Daley was surprised at the boy's self-possession. Most children of his age would have burst into tears had they been at the sharp end of a tongue lashing from a distraught mother threatening hell and damnation. Calum, however, seemed unperturbed, resigned almost, as though he was no stranger to such outbursts.

A murmur of voices heralded movement at the table at the head of the room, where the rotund Fire and Rescue officer was getting stiffly to his feet.

'Ladies and gentlemen, I'm afraid to say that the weather is closing in again, and now that darkness has fallen we have to suspend full operations until the morning. If the snow stops, the Royal Navy and Police helicopters will carry on their work with searchlights and heat-seeking devices overnight.' He paused and cleared his throat as the woman's sobs filled the hall. 'We'll gather here again tomorrow morning at five o'clock.'

'Myself and Sergeant Shaw will coordinate efforts until midnight, followed by DS Scott and my deputy thereafter. Where is DS Scott,

incidentally?' he asked, looking at Daley.

'Just taking a break,' replied Daley, knowing full well where DS Scott was.

As Daley walked into the vestibule of the County Hotel, he noticed that the tables and chairs where customers normally had coffee, cake and a gossip had been cleared, and the space was transformed into a gaudy Santa's Grotto; all tinsel, fairy lights and crushed baking foil.

A long line of children and bored-looking parents snaked towards a rather moth-eaten Santa, who leaned forward and spoke to a little boy in an accent definitely not from the North Pole.

'And whoot wid you like fir Christmas, young fella?' asked Santa in a very familiar voice. The child took a step backward, wary of the slanted eyes in the crinkled face, and the exceptionally unconvincing cotton-wool beard. Despite his disguise, Hamish wasn't hard to spot.

'Excuse me, Inspector Daley,' said a voice from behind. Andrew Duncan, John Sweeney's son-in-law, had Calum by the hand. 'Thank you so much for all your efforts today. I really appreciate it; we both do.' He tried to smile.

'I'm sorry we haven't turned anything up yet, Mr Duncan. But don't

worry,' said Daley, kneeling down stiffly on one knee to talk to the boy, who stared back at him, his face pale under a mop of red hair. 'We'll be out looking for your grampa first thing tomorrow.'

The little boy fished around in the pocket of his anorak. 'This is for you, Mr Policeman,' he said, handing Daley a piece of crumpled paper. 'Can you give it to Grampa when you find him? It's his special place. He told me.'

'Sorry, Inspector Daley, my son has a rather vivid imagination. As you know, my father-in-law hasn't spoken for a long time. Not since the death of my mother-in-law, before Calum was born, in fact. Partly because of his condition, they reckon.'

Daley nodded and turned his attention back to the boy. He smoothed out the crude drawing of what looked like a cliff above a little slash of yellow, presumably a beach, bordered by blue squiggles representing the sea. 'This is very good. What's that?' He pointed to a shape picked out in black crayon on the yellow beach.

'It's a cross. My grampa told me about it. There's a dead man buried there,' said Calum cheerfully. He grinned, showing a big gap in his front teeth.

'Noo, hold on, children,' shouted Santa, his voice muffled by cotton wool. 'We've got a special little boy wae us. Come on ower here, Calum, an' tell Santa whoot ye want for Christmas.' It was clear that Hamish, having spotted Calum and knowing the circumstances, was keen to make a fuss of him.

The red-haired boy made his way past the line of parents and children and stood in front of Father Christmas.

'Noo, whoot present wid ye most like, Calum?' said Hamish in a gentle voice, leaning down and taking the boy by the hand.

Calum looked back at his father. 'I wanted a bike . . . but I'd rather have Grampa back. Please, Santa?'

Don't miss part two of The Silent Man in next week's Courier.

Scottish Field
JANUARY
ISSUE
OUT NOW

Daniela Nardini
MY DAYS AS A WILD CHILD IN LARGS

Plus:
AN ANGUS NERE GARDEN
BALLET DANCING SHEPHERD
TIME TO CULL BUZZARDS?
THE MAVERICK DUCHESS

10 of the best
celebrity New Year resolutions

UP HELLY AA! We go behind the scenes at Shetland's raucous New Year Viking festival

WIN: LUXURY BORDERS BREAK

Bafta winning film director David Mackenzie

Perthshire's ballet dancing shepherd

Buzzards: Time to cull them?

The Maverick Duchess of Gordon

Shetland's Up Helly Aa in pictures

WIN A LUXURY BORDERS BREAK

Fears voiced over community policing

'Policing in Argyll and Bute has altered enough in recent years - and not always for the better'

A PLANNED merger between two police divisions, announced without consultation, will 'undermine' community policing in Argyll, says one MSP.

Police Scotland is proposing to merge L Division (Argyll and West Dunbartonshire) with K Division (Inverclyde and Renfrewshire), a move that has led to speculation that L Division headquarters at Dumbarton could be downgraded.

The plan comes just months after Police Scotland removed the

chief inspector's post from Oban, amalgamating the role with the chief inspector for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the islands.

Highlands and Islands MSP John Finnie, a former police constable and a member of the Scottish parliament's justice committee and policing sub-committee, criticised the proposal as 'centralisation' that would 'undermine' community policing.

He said: 'The national service suffers from an instinct to centralisation that frustrates the pub-

lic's wish for responsive, local policing.

'This is felt particularly keenly in rural police divisions, where there are greater distances and greater diversity between communities.

'Policing in Argyll and Bute has altered enough in recent years - and not always for the better. I'd like to see a moratorium on any further change which will inevitably see rural policing lose out.'

He added: 'In Oban, the sheriff court won't be holding jury trials - they are going to Dumbarton - and there was the removal of the chief inspector's post.

'We want more local decision-making, not less.'

Councillor Roddy McCuish, leader of Argyll and Bute Council's Oban, Lorn and the Isles area committee, is angry that elected members were not consulted on the matter before it was made public.

He said: 'We are being told, "This is what we are doing. What do you think?" That's not consultation. It seems like a fait accompli.'

Assistant Chief Constable Wayne Maw-

son, who is responsible for local policing in the West of Scotland, said: 'As a policing service we are continually evolving as we keep our structures under review.

'Local commanders have identified opportunities to further strengthen local policing, increase consistency in the provision of our service to communities and ensure we continue to look for financial savings where we can marry this with service improvements.

'The main drivers for us will always be the delivery of better targeted local policing; improved access to local policing; improvements to the quality of policing service; and a policing service which is more sustainable and cost-effective.'

Police Scotland needs to make £28.4m savings in this financial year, rising to £83.2 million in 2015-16 and £100m in 2016-17.

In response to claims Dumbarton police station would be downgraded, Police Scotland said no decisions had been made, as talks on the proposed merger were at an early stage.



Youngsters aged 18 months to three years at Meadow's Nursery received gifts from Santa when he visited last week. 08_c52nursery01

Town's generosity praised

ONCE again Campbeltown residents have shown their enormous generosity - this time helping the town's Meadows Nursery raise 'an amazing' £1,550 for Ronald MacDonald House in Glasgow.

The acclaimed house provides vital support to parents of youngsters in long-term care at the city's Yorkhill Children's Hospital.

Caroline Deans, a children's practitioner at the nursery, told the Courier: 'The children's hospital is moving to the Southern General

and Ronald MacDonald House has to move as well, so its funding needs are greater than ever.

Fundraising

'Our nursery is a registered charity and we normally have to do a lot of fundraising ourselves, but we are doing well at the moment and decided to help Ronald MacDonald House.'

The nursery held a Christmas Wishes evening and with strong support from its children's parents raised £800.

A 'Wear Something

Christmassy' week involving Meadows and Campbeltown and Southend nurseries raised £173, and Elaine Harvey and staff at Campbeltown Health Centre held a Christmas jumper day and baking stall to raise £270.

The NC children's class at Argyll College donated £265 and further donations brought the total up to £1,550.

Caroline added: 'On behalf of the staff at the Meadows, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this amazing total.'



John Finnie MSP thinks the division merger could damage community policing.

MOK run entries will go fast

IT IS the racing event everyone wants to be part of.

Entries for last year's MOK half marathon and 10k in Campbeltown were snapped up within 24 hours.

There are some extra places this year, but those wanting to take part in the Sunday, May 24 event are urged to be on the starting line when

entries open online on January 2.

Elaine McGeachy, one of the MOKRUN organisers, said: 'We expect entries to be snapped up just as fast as last year.'

'There will also be no reserve list, so there will be one chance only to secure a place.'

Entries open online at www.entrycentral.com at noon on January 2.



krisp print

For a hassle free service throughout Mid Argyll and Kintyre call Krisp Print

Main Street/Longrow South, Campbeltown PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975
email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

- Design
- Copy
- Print




www.scottishruralawards.org

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FOR THE AWARDS GALA DINNER

Thursday 26th March 2015
held at Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW



FREE LUXURY GOODIE BAG FOR EVERY GUEST

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE AT:
www.scottishruralawards.org

or Tel: 0131 551 7933 email: info@scottishruralawards.org

All attendees will be featured in Scottish Field or online at scottishfield.co.uk and scottishruralawards.org



your guide to *Independent* schools

A detailed and informative guide to independent boarding and day schools in Scotland



Busy, happy lives at Lomond School



Lomond School
Helensburgh

- A co-educational HMC Independent School
- Superb all-round education and a family ethos
- Excellent standards of care and supervision
- Highly appointed boarding for ages 10-18 yrs



10 Stafford Street, Helensburgh
www.lomondschoo.com

To find out more please call
01436 672 476



LOMOND SCHOOLS

Lomond offers an education that allows every student to explore their potential with the support and encouragement of teachers, peers and the wider Lomond community. We impart traditional values in our students while delivering access to the most up-to-date and effective methods of learning and teaching, supported by considerable investment in ICT.

We were one of the first schools in the UK to implement an iPad strategy, which has provided every student from P6 to S6 with their own personal iPad. It is this mix of old and new that has created our unique character and allows us to produce dynamic individuals who face their future with confidence, resilience and determination.

Our boarding provision adds a distinctive dimension to the school; the mix of cultures and backgrounds enriches our curriculum and co-curriculum, supporting all of our pupils to develop their global awareness and understanding. Like many independent schools we provide small class

sizes, an extensive programme of extra-curricular activities, attention to the individual and a strong record of academic achievement.

Whether they have lived locally all their lives or have joined us as boarders, Lomond pupils appreciate how lucky they are to live in a small, safe coastal town only 10 minutes from Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Our location makes us different and our students thrive in an environment which opens the door to new experiences, and allows skills and talents to be explored.

Situated in Helensburgh, the school is ideally located for children from the West Highlands with direct rail links to Oban.

Arrange a visit today by contacting admissions admissions@lomondschoo.com or visit our website www.lomondschoo.com.

EXPLORE
a
WORLD
of
OPPORTUNITY

Boarding & day, girls & boys aged 9 to 18

Dates for your diary:

Junior Assessment & Scholarship: (Entry 9 to 12 yrs) **Date:** Saturday 24 January 2015

Third Form Scholarship: (Entry 13+ yrs) **Date:** Monday 23 – Thursday 26 February 2015

Open Morning: (Entry 9 to 16 yrs) **Date:** Saturday 7 March 2015* **Time:** 10am – 1pm

*If this date doesn't suit, please call to arrange an alternative.

www.strathallan.co.uk

Forgandenny, Perth PH2 9EG | T: 01738 812 546
E: admissions@strathallan.co.uk

Registered in Scotland as a charity number SC008903

STRATHALLAN

STRATHALLAN SCHOOL

Founded over a century ago, Strathallan School continues to thrive on the core values set out by our founder Harry Riley: We aim to provide outstanding education, academic, social and extra-curricular elements, which give opportunities for all pupils to excel, developing their ability to benefit themselves and others. We believe in giving each pupil a chance to shine, gaining experience and confidence to develop their talents along the way. Holding a strong reputation with an extensive portfolio of achievements, Strathallan is known as a high-quality boarding and day school that creates a wonderful environment which allows children to grow and develop. It is vital that the educational process provides a variety of opportunities to ensure pupils are equipped to deal with the challenges that will face them when they leave school.

Offering pupils every advantage:

- Set in glorious countryside on a site of 153 acres
- A safe and secure environment for children to grow and develop
- Within 10 minutes of the city of Perth and 40 minutes from the nearest international airport

Key Facts:

- The newly refurbished Junior House is situated within its own campus, as well as enjoying the facilities of the senior part of the school
- Senior Houses feature individual study-bedrooms for privacy
- Wi-Fi internet access throughout the school
- Extensive playing fields, Strength & Conditioning Centre, successful Tennis and Clay Pigeon Shooting Academies and a golf course are just some of the facilities available



- Design Technology Centre and Art School
- Over 55 activities to choose from weekly
- A high percentage of boarders and we offers a programme which spans seven days
- All-encompassing offering an all-round education
- No weekend excats for senior pupils - children can stay at school if they wish only leaving for the holidays

We challenge our pupils, encouraging them to be as good as they can be. It is a world where they make friends easily and where our staff ensure exceptional standards of care both within and beyond the classroom. Nurtured, motivated and inspired; it is a home from home where they feel safe and happy and therefore excel in whatever they do.

West coast recruitment

Fish Farmer Magazine

EDITOR

Based Edinburgh or Oban

Industry Leading Magazine and Web sites

As Editor you will be responsible for managing the day to day production of the monthly print title "Fish Farmer" as well as sourcing and contributing daily news and analysis to the websites (fishfarmer-magazine.com and fishupdate.com) and associated social media.

You will continue to develop the printed publications and fully evolve all aspects of the business to include a comprehensive digital strategy.

The position requires a proactive approach from concept and strategy through to fulfilment. This includes the need for full liaison with the commercial team in order to maximise revenue from all platforms including online and offline company profiles and commercially led features.

In addition you will need to work closely with the senior management team to develop all products to their full commercial value.

You will enjoy a competitive salary, contributory pension scheme, healthcare and a generous holiday allowance.

Closing date for applications is Friday 23 January 2015

Apply by sending your CV, covering letter and present salary by post or e-mail to: Alison Arden Wyvex Media Ltd, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB. ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

Fish Farmer FISHupdate

Area Account Manager
Scotland West (Digital Marketing)
£18k + Bonus
ADS Interactive is Scotland's fastest growing interactive digital marketing company. We are rolling-out our network of local information touchscreens nationally across Scotland. Do you have experience selling Marketing/Advertising and currently residing in The Oban/Fort William Area ? If so, call 08435 235 165 or email your CV to recruitment@ads-digital.net. Driving license required.

Regional & local press advertising gets the job done.
Your local paper - the effective and trusted environment for recruitment advertisers.
So, if you're looking for a new job or new staff, use the regional press, the best medium to get results.

Regional Press

LOCAL services

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

DAVID McKELL

Qualified Electrician
Property Maintenance

Sound of Kintyre
Campbeltown

Mob: 07786650937
Tel: 01586 820413

mckell52@ymail.com

REMOVALS & STORAGE

MACQUEEN BROS LTD

Removals/Storage & Self Storage
Full range of packing materials

Glengallan Road
Oban, Argyll
PA34 4HG

Tel: (01631) 564848
www.macqueenbros.com

COMPUTER SERVICES

HOOK DATA SERVICES

- Hardware, Software
- Advice, Repairs
- Consumables



Call in or phone

Crinan Harbour by
Lochgilphead PA31 8SW
Tel: 01546 830157

PERSONAL NOTICES

Happy 40th Birthday Gary McEachran on Boxing Day



Lots of love from Mum, Dad, Ross & Beth
And lots of hugs, Uncle Gary from Christopher & Alyssa x

XMAS PERSONAL NOTICES

ANNIE HAMILTON
wishes all family & friends a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
to all my friends & neighbours from Lizzie & Davie, 65 Davaar Avenue.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Margaret McGown.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
to all my relatives & friends from Ian McConnachie, 48A Longrow.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
to my relatives & friends from Donald M Gillies, Dewar Avenue, Lochgilphead.

Happy 21st Birthday Rebecca



Love from Mum, Dad, Michael, Aaron & Mylo.

AUDREY MACINDEOR

Happy 50th on
30th December 2014

Love from
All the Family

PUBLIC NOTICES

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Comhairle Earra-Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR REFUSE COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS

Mid Argyll

Refuse and recycling collections due on Thursday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 27th December.

Refuse and recycling collections due on Friday 26th December will be collected on Sunday 28th December.

Refuse and recycling collections due on Thursday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 3rd January.

Refuse and recycling collections due on Friday 2nd January will be collected on Sunday 3rd January.

Lingerton Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25/26th December and 1st/2nd January.

Kintyre

Refuse collections due on Thursday 25th December will be collected on Saturday 27th December.

Refuse collections due on Thursday 1st January will be collected on Saturday 3rd January.

Roading Recycling and Civic Amenity Site will be closed on 25th/26th December and 1st/2nd January.

Information is also available on the Council website and from your local office.

COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES
COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES
COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES

COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES
COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES

COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES
COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES

MOTORING TIMES

✓ DRIVETIMES ✓ SAILING TIMES ✓ GARAGES
 ✓ CAR DEALERSHIPS ✓ MOTORING NEWS

DRIVETIMES NOW ONLY £30
 IF UNSOLD AFTER 1ST WEEK JUST CALL BEFORE TUESDAY 3PM TO GET YOUR SECOND WEEK FREE
 Tel: 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

WANTED ALL 4 X 4'S
 Toyota, Mitsubishi, Landrovers etc, mileage no problem. Distance no object. Specialise in Vauxhall Brava and Isuzu pick-ups.
Telephone 07789 138028

Honda CBF125 125CC bike
 2010, 150053 miles, reg KY60 YEL, perfect for learners.
 £1,200 negotiable
Tel 01852 300091 c.lackie1996@gmail.com

URGENTLY REQUIRED
 4X4s
 TOP PRICE PAID
 INSTANT COLLECTION
 AND PAYMENT
 ANY AGE AND CONDITION
CALL: 07711 573308 OR 01250 872424

WANTED
 Any 4 x 4 vehicle, Landrover, Toyota, Mitsubishi etc, high mileage, any condition. Non runners/ MOT failures accepted.
Telephone 07789855381

WANTED
 All 4 X 4 Vehicles any make or model, from 1990 to new, also high mileage, non runners, MOT failures etc considered. Finance settled, top cash prices paid, instant payment and collection.
Tel: 07546 788945

WANTED
 Wanted all 4 x 4s, old or new Toyota Hilux, land cruiser, all pickups single or double cabs, any condition, runner or not, high miles no problem.
Telephone: 07703490572 ask for Robert

WANTED
 4 x 4's, all makes and models, Toyota, Landrover, Mitsubishi, high miles no problem, MOT or not, instant decision, same day payment.
Contact William 07730 130284 or 07923 091694 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

Mazda MX5
 Dark blue Mazda MX5 198, 2 seater, soft top, in very good condition, 2 careful owners from new, MOT, 4 new tyres.
 £950
Tel 01631 566332

WANTED
 All types of 4 x 4 vehicles Landrovers, any 4x4, Toyotas, Nissan, considered. Also non-runner and accident damaged, MOT failure, single or double cab. Genuine people to deal with.
Telephone 01250 884306 Mobile 07885 203020

24/7 WANTED 24/7
 ALL SCRAP CARS
 MOT failures or accident damaged
 Top prices paid for the right cars
 Cars, vans, 4x4, light commercials
 Distance no object
 Also household white goods
Tel: 07887 868325 or 07845 462755

WANTED ALL 4 X 4'S
 Any year or condition, would consider any kind of pick-up or jeep, will collect and pay cash.
Telephone 07925 715321

WANTED
 Motor homes, caravanettes and camper vans, all makes or models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.
Contact William 07730 130284 or 07923 091694 or email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

54%
 of people travel 10 miles or less to buy a second-hand car
 Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.
Regional Press closer to home


 find us on facebook
www.facebook.com/argyllshireadvertiser
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

COURIER DRIVE TIMES ADVERTISER



click Visit us online
www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Business Stationery

Corporate Calendars

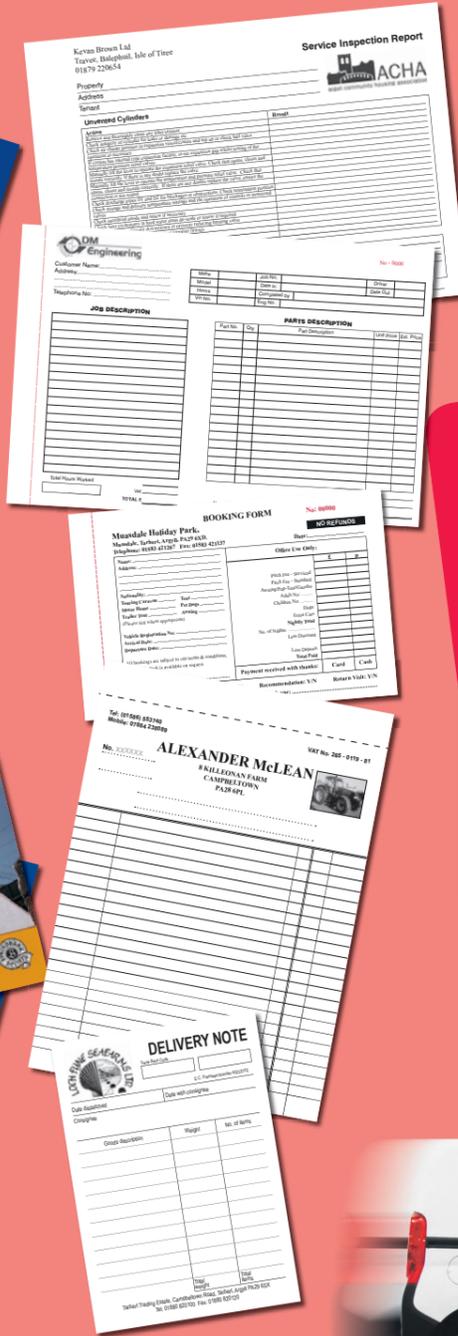
Duplicate & Triplicate Books

Office Supplies

RAN OUT?

SAME DAY DELIVERY for stock items

copier paper envelopes



Campbeltown
www.explorecampbeltown.com

FREE design on printed items that include the Explore Campbeltown logo

Call 01586 554975
Visit www.krispprint.co.uk

Or pop in to our brand new shop and speak to our friendly staff.
Krisp Print, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown

krisp
print

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

NOW ONLINE

Advertise your unwanted items in either The Campbeltown Courier, Argyllshire Advertiser or The Oban Times and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupons on this page or visit the website and input your details there

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES
 AMERICAN FRIDGE FREEZER Brand New! Unwanted prize, still in packaging. Colour silver, Retailing at £949.99, view on Co-op electricals website. Email stevejackie2008@gmail.com, £699 Telephone .
 VAX RAPIDE SPRING CLEAN upright carpet shampooer. 700watt, light weight, cleans carpets quickly, great for instantly cleaning up spills. Good condition, £25 Telephone 01631 770698.

DOMESTIC PETS
 G E R M A N S H O R T H A I R E D P O I N T E R P U P beautiful home reared puppies ready 20th Dec, KC reg and pedigreed, 3 bitches 1 dog. Both parents working can be seen, £700 Telephone 01387 740575.
 MALTESE TERRIER/ BICHON FRISE Pup, Adorable, cuddly white balls of fun, ready for the forever home, both parents can be seen, Boys £525 Girl £595 Telephone 07771 930975.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS
 PEARLISED PAPER & CARD White, Baby Blue & Baby Pink colours in stock available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

HOME ENTERTAINMENT
 LG FLATSCREEN TV 23", suitable for kitchen or bedroom, excellent condition, £55 Telephone 01880 820772.

MAIL ORDER
 SCOTTISH FIELD CALENDARS , featuring spectacular photography of some of our most scenic lochs, rivers, beaches and mountains. Places include: Stirling, Fort William, Glencoe, Aberdeen, Isle of Skye, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Kelso, Aviemore, Forfar, Rum and Eigg, Shetland, Grentool and Dryburgh. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
 OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and

conveniently sized calendar. Places include: Inveraray, Appin, Oban, Seil, Isle of Mull, Campbeltown, Tarbert, Machrihanish, Fort William. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

MOBILITY
 AQUATEC BELUGA BATHLIFT clean and good working order, machine washable nonslip seat covers, two batteries & charger. Easy to lift in and out of bath, £99 Telephone 01631 770698.

PERFUMES
 JO MALONE Pomegranate Noir perfume, 100ml, boxed, new, unwanted gift, £55 Telephone 07809 678443 (Oban).

JO MALONE Amber and Patchouli perfume, 100ml, new, boxed, unwanted gift, £55 Telephone 07809 678443 (Oban).

PRINTING AND STATIONERY
 C O L O U R P H O T O C O P Y I N G A4/A3, single/doublesided, reduce/enlarge, from originals, files on disk or by email. A4 copies from 25p. Call Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

ENVELOPES Wide range of sizes and colours, sold individually or by the box. Contact Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975.

COURIER CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED
 ALL TYPES OF SCRAP METAL we uplift scrap cars, copper, brass, lead etc. Smaller quantities considered. Telephone 07435 589701.

WANTED MOTORCYCLE anything considered, any age or condition, road bike or off road for winter project, cash waiting. Telephone 07836 500403.



like us on facebook

www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

West Coast Classifieds

FREE LISTINGS FOR ITEMS UNDER £100

We've increased the minimum value for free listings to apply to items worth £100 or less. Plus, draw attention to your item with our new photo and description box for just £15 for two weeks.

CLASSIFIED PRICES:

- Items under £100 - **FREE**
- Items over £100 - **£10 for 2 weeks**
- Boxed ads - **£12.50 for 2 weeks**
- Add a photo - **£15 for 2 weeks**

All inclusive of VAT. Maximum 25 words. 20 words for photo ads. Terms & conditions apply. Book online.

For photo ads:

visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk/photo

For text only ads:

visit www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

Or telephone 01631 568000

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE MONDAY 4.00pm

NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS PLEASE

ITEM.....
 DESCRIPTION.....
 PRICE..... TELEPHONE.....

ONLY ONE ITEM PER COUPON

FOR MULTIPLE ITEMS INPUT YOUR DETAILS ONLINE AT www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

YOUR LOCAL WEST HIGHLAND OFFICES:

OBAN : The Oban Times, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB
 FORT WILLIAM : The Oban Times, Mamore House, The Parade, Fort William PH33 6BA
 CAMPBELTOWN : The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE
 LOCHGILPHEAD : Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8NB

Have a clearout

UNDER £100 FREE!

~~Towel Rail~~
 Acoustic Guitar
 for sale
 £££



and make some extra cash too

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God" (Matthew 5:9).

BIRTHS



MCINTOSH CRETTON

At Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, on December 11, 2014, to Laurene and Jim, Carradale, a daughter, Flora Margaret. Granddaughter to Gail and Duncan McIntosh, and Margaret and Colin Cretton. Sincere thanks to midwives at Campbelltown Maternity Unit.

DEATHS

BOASE - Peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilhead, on December 20, 2014, Nigel Lindsay Boase, aged 80 years, of Ardlarach, Ardfern. Beloved husband of Lu and loving father of Alastair, Neil and the late Catriona. Funeral service will be held at Craignish Parish Church, Ardfern, on Monday, December 29, 2014 at 11.00am, thereafter to Kilvaree Cemetery. All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

MACKINNON - Peacefully, at the Campbelltown Hospital, on December 18, 2014, Christina Isabel MacDiarmid, in her 95th year, 10 Tormore, Carradale, dearly beloved wife of the late John MacKinnon, formerly of Auchnasavil, dearly loved mother of Alex, Duncan, John and Catherine and a loving and much loved granny and great granny.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEMPLE - Margaret Scott (nee Henderson) Suddenly at the Southern General Hospital on December 19, 2014, Margaret of Muasdale, Kintyre. Beloved wife of the late Richard, step mother of the late Mairi, sister of John and the late Joseph and Barbara, much loved sister-in-law of Joan and Agnes and adored aunt to her nephews and nieces. A celebration of Margaret's life will take place on Saturday, December 27, 2014 at 10am at the Linn Crematorium, Lainshaw Drive, Glasgow, thereafter to Carmunock Parish Church at 11am. There will also be a Memorial Service held at A'Chleit Church, Kintyre on Saturday, January 3, 2015 at 11am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MCCAIG - The family of the late Neil McCaig would like to thank all relatives, friends, colleagues and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, phone calls, cards, flowers and visits received following their recent sad loss. Special thanks for their excellent care, to the doctors and staff of the Acute Ward in Campbelltown Hospital. Sincere thanks to Father David Connor for a warm, uplifting service; to Kenneth and Rhys Blair for their support, guidance and excellent professional service, and to the Argyll Hotel for fine purvey. Lastly, thank you to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside. The retiral collection for the Acute Ward raised £224.41. Thank you all.

IN MEMORIAM

CHISHOLM - In memory of Johny who passed away on December 28, 2011, loving husband, dad and papa. Loved and remembered always, Netta and family at home and abroad.

SELFRIDGE - Treasured memories of Fred, a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, who died December 26, 2013. Always in my thoughts. Miss you every day.

- Myra.

SELFRIDGE - Dad, Grandad, we think about you every day and smile.

- Love, Carol, Ali, Colin, Siobhan and Rebecca.

SELFRIDGE - In loving memory dear Pop. The world is much emptier without you.

- Ange, Josh and Fred.

SELFRIDGE - In loving memory of Fred, sorely missed, from Ishbel and Dougal.

To Grandad, deeply loved and remembered every day, Christopher, Kyle and Morgan XXX

SINCLAIR - Treasured memories of Emily, our lovely mum, gran and great gran, who passed away December 27, 2013. Forever in our hearts.

- Evelyn, Charles and families.

SMITH - In loving memory of a loving mother and grandmother, Katie McFadyen (Gribun, Mull), who passed away December 24, 1974.

More than ever just a treasure
Only tireless love she knows
Tireless in her dedication
Her's the font from which life grows
Every thought of her's a joy
Reaped each year and knowledge grows.

- With love, Flora and granddaughter.

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
(Established 1964)

DONALD MACDONALD

New Office Premises
17 Lorne Street, Lochgilhead, PA31 8LU

Complete 24-hour confidential service throughout Argyll
Telephone
Lochgilhead 01546 602226
Mobile 07768 472 953
Email: info@donaldmacdonald.org
www.donaldmacdonald.org

Golden Charter Funeral Plans
Agents for new memorials, cleaning, lettering and restoration

STAN LUPTON
Funeral Directors Ltd

Mid Argyll ~ Kintyre
(24HRS)
dignified
personal supervision

Office & Enquires
01880 820 995
Mobile
07899 862 922
E-mail: mail@stanlupton.co.uk

T.A. Blair Ltd Golden Charter Funeral Plans

Funeral Directors Est. 1978
& Monumental Sculptors

Burnside Street, Campbelltown

Funerals carried out in Campbelltown, Kintyre and throughout the UK
For personal attention assured at all times
Telephone Alasdair or Kenneth
(01586) 552918 or Mobile **07810 443473**
blairfunerals@btinternet.com

CHURCH NOTICES

Highland Parish Church

SCO02493

Sunday 28th December
First Sunday after Christmas

The service will be in the Church and will be led by Rev Catriona Hood

Badminton Club
will start again on Tuesday 6th January in Kirk Street Hall
P1-5: 6.30 - 7.30pm
P6-7: 7.30 - 8.30pm
Everyone very welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm

LIVING STONES CHRISTIAN CENTRE KILMARTIN

Sunday 28th December 2014
11.00am
Worship Service for all ages followed by light lunch
Speaker: Graham McLean
"Christ in us the hope of Glory"
All Welcome

Scottish Episcopal Churches Everyone Welcome

Christ Church
Bishopton Road, Lochgilhead (SC013787)

Sundays
11.00 am Eucharist service
4th Sunday of the month 10am Mattins
& 11am Eucharist Service
Coffee & Cake follows the service

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

1st Sunday of the month 9am Eucharist service
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong
Scottish Prayer Book
All Saints, Inveraray (SC025646)

Saturdays 5.30pm Eucharist Service
Father Simon Mackenzie
Priest in Charge of the charges of Mid Argyll & Arran
01546 602315

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002

Sunday 28 December
Tayvallich Church 11:30 am
Morning Worship
Marilyn Shedden
All welcome
Enquiries 01546 606926
www.argyllcommunities.org/nknapdalecofs

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686

Sunday 28th December
Morning Service 11.15am
Rev P Wallace

THE SALVATION ARMY
The Salvation Army
Campbeltown Corps

Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046

Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship
No Army Kidz or Evening Worship
Lt. Mark Scoulding

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD

Holy Mass Sunday 10am
ALL SAINTS, INVERARAY
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
ST KIERAN'S CAMPBELTOWN
Saturday 5pm

Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome
(SC0002876)

TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 28th December 2014
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Kilberry Service 2pm
Rev. Tommy Bryson

For all church enquiries and pastoral care
Telephone 01880 821012
Everyone very welcome
SC002622

free church of scotland

George Street, Campbeltown

Sunday 28th December
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Finlay Mackenzie
All Welcome

There will be no Water of Life Café for the next three weeks.
It will resume on
Wednesday 14th January
www.campbeltownfreechurch.com
Scottish Charity Number: SC009980

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER 2014

11.00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
All Welcome
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilhead (Church of Scotland) SC016311

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 28th December
Sunday Worship
Kilmartin 10am
Rev. C. Acklam

A new loop hearing system has been installed.
All welcome
SC0 02121

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT:

Tarbert 10.00am, located on School Road.
Lochgilhead 11.30am, located on Lochnell Street/Manse Brae
New Years Day Service 12 noon
Minister: Rev. R Macleod
Prayer Time (fortnightly) Mondays 1.15 - 1.45pm
Ladies Bible Study 2pm
Soup Lunch Monthly (last Thursday)
All welcome.

lochgilhead baptist church

All Welcome

Pastor Rev Derek Gibson
Sunday 28th December 2014
11.00am
Scottish Charity SC015187

St. Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

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

Sunday 28th December
Holy Innocents Day
10.45am Holy Communion
All Welcome
Details of services are on the church door
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday 28th December
11.00 am
All Age Service
"Get in the Picture"
Refreshments after the service.
We meet at the Guide Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk

baptist union of scotland
Campbeltown Community Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Scotland
SC043322

Visit us online

click

www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



I REALLY wanted to make worship extra special for Christmas Sunday and had enlisted the help of two of my young piping friends.

Cameron and Gregor played as the congregation gathered at Chleit, again during the service and then piped us out. It was a wonderful sound and it lifted the spirits of us all on a dreich day.

The Christmas story was told as in an imaginary stable with soliloquies from Mary, Joseph and a shepherd.

But what a difference a baby makes.

Baby Alec is seven months old and his behaviour was impeccable.

It was a delight to hear these lovely baby sounds permeating the story of the Nativity.

What a difference a baby makes.

This lovely baby boy gurgled and chatted quietly as babies do and he just made the scene so perfect.

He loved the pipers and he responded when the voices changed and he kept us all focused on the essence of Christmas.

What a difference a baby makes.

Amidst all the rushing and busy-ness, how good to stop and listen to the sounds of a baby and remind ourselves of the wonder of that first Christmas.

In all the sadness and pain in this world there will be many times in many places where a baby's smile will cheer the heart and refresh the soul with hope.

What a difference a baby makes.

Jesus would make his mother smile many times and make his father proud, just as babies do - and no doubt he got into mischief too.

The baby who crept in beside us on Christmas morning, who held Mary's hand as he learned to walk, is the one who will grow to take our hand and walk beside us all our lives.

What a difference a baby makes.

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

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

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

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

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

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



Tarbert man Martin Jefferies and Margaret MacNeill at the corner house race night for charity.

Pub races to help two charities

MARGARET MacNeill, license holder at Tarbert's Corner House pub, has raised more than £2,300 from a race night in aid of two charities. She held the event after finding out two people close to her had been struck down with Parkinson's Disease and Myasthenia.

Parkinson's, a degenerative condition that affects the central nervous

system, and Myasthenia, a relatively rare muscle wasting condition, are serious and life changing illnesses.

Margaret said: 'Since taking over the Corner House around 18 months ago, my family and I have been supporting lots of local causes.

But recently with our two friends being diagnosed with these illnesses in particular, I felt it

only right that we support Parkinson's UK and Myaware.'

Margaret raised £2,324.76 by holding a race night in the pub.

The cash will be split equally between the two charities.

Margaret also contacted both organisations which supplied her with information leaflets to give out on the night.

She said: 'Myaware

was really keen for me to work on raising awareness, more than money. On the night itself it did become a talking point as a lot of people hadn't heard of it.'

Margaret aims to host the race night annually.

For more information on either Parkinson's disease or Myasthenia, go to www.parkinsons.org.uk or www.myaware.org

Shadows of Christmas 1914

PUPILS from Tarbert Academy put on a special Christmas musical to mark the centenary of the First World War.

Children from primary four up to S6 put on a shadow performance called Christmas 1914 for pupils and parents as

part of a final instalment to their school project on the war.

Those who took part were said to have been

particularly touched by letters written during that time and they combined their own script with sequences of letters from a soldier to his sweetheart.

Louise Paterson, deputy head teacher, said: 'I was extremely excited about their performance.'

'It was decided to sing the pieces from Christmas 1914 run along with their own script-written sequence of letters between a soldier and his sweetheart.'

'It was all done from behind a large white screen dressed all in black with flat caps and head scarves.'

A silver collection on the night raised £240 for Poppy Scotland.



Pupils at Tarbert Academy put on an emotive shadow performance.

Man threatened to 'burn down' policeman's house

A DRUNKEN young man made serious threats against a police constable and his parents, warning, 'You better watch your house. I know where you live - I'll burn it down'.

David Johnstone, 23, of 6 Millers Park, Campbeltown pleaded guilty at the town's sheriff court last week to uttering threats of violence to the officer on December 14 of this year.

He also admitted to shouting and swearing and behaving in a threatening and abusive manner likely to cause fear and alarm, and challenging members of the public to fight, in Main Street, Campbeltown on the same date.

He further admitted possessing £60 worth of the class A drug cocaine.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said it was 2.40am when Johnstone was seen by police officers challenging people to fight.

He was warned to stop and leave the area but he persisted. When challenged again by the police, he swore at them and ran off.

He was caught but continued to hurl abuse at officers and make threats to one in particular.

Cautioned and charged in Campbeltown Police Station, where he was searched and found to have cocaine, he stated: 'I didn't mean to say anything - I was drunk.'

Sheriff Ruth Anderson QC deferred sentence on Johnstone until January 15 for a criminal justice social work report.

This is YOUR paper...

Send your photos and stories to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Chambers is Dunaverty's Christmas cracker

DUNAVERTY golfers battled strong winds and cold showers in their Christmas competition, in which none of the early morning starters managed to return a winning score.

The afternoon players enjoyed a drop in the wind strength and Haydn Chambers took

full advantage, recording 32 on the outward half and despite playing into the wind on the inward nine and a disastrous 17th hole he carded a 37, good enough to ensure a one-stroke win ahead of Campbell McCallum.

CSS for the day was 66, and the scores in this

event will be combined with those in the New Year competition on January 2 for an overall prize, although both competitions will have individual prizes.

Results are as follows: 1 Haydn Chambers 69-5-64; 2 Campbell McCallum 70-5-65; 3 Ian Docherty (bih) 82-15-67; 4 Alastair O'May (bih) 79-12-67; 5 Keith Johnson 84-17-67; 6 Owen Morgan 80-9-71.

Youngsters are bowled over

SANTA and his lead reindeer Rudolf made their annual visit to Campbeltown Bowling Club last Saturday to deliver presents to the members' children, grandchildren and great grandchildren at their Christmas party. This event is run and funded by the club's ladies' section.

Football fundraiser this Saturday

TWO former footballing rivals will be pitted against each other once again in a four-team tournament for Kintyre Kidney Dialysis.

Over-35s from Campbeltown Pupils and the same age group from former SAFL-member club Campbeltown Boys, along with Tarbert over-35s and a team from the Campbeltown Loyal, will be taking part.

It is being held this Saturday, December 27 at Kinloch's all-weather pitch. Matches will be 15 minutes per half, with the first one kicking off at midday.



Members of Tarbert Gun Club at the final shoot of the year.

Partridge for Christmas shoot

JOHN Weir and Bob McColl won Tarbert Gun Club's annual Christmas shoot.

Andy Wilson and Ronald Jenkins were second and Peter Allison and Donald Nicolson third. All names went into a hat and

it was down to luck who was paired together.

Difficult

A simulated game shoot saw 20 driven pheasant and partridge and 24 pigeons released in batches of three and four to

test the shooters' skills with poor weather making the competition more difficult.

Fourth place went to Andrew and Lynn MacDonald with Stephen MacSporran and Mal Weaver fifth.

To allow for postage over the festive period spot the ball will run for 2 weeks. Winners will be announced in the issue dated 2nd January 2015.

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT £2550



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 Tuesday 30th 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.



WEEK 2 of 2

Please tape your £1 coin here (if posting)

Name

Address

..... Tel No.

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



The Carradale defence come under early pressure. 08_c52carr02

Eight-goal drubbing for Carradale

Home side left sorry their opponents made it to Campbeltown

CARRADALE were humbled in front of their own supporters last Saturday when visitors Corkerhill dished out an eight-goal hammering at Kinloch's all-weather park.

The East Kintyre side were left waiting almost an hour on their oppo-

Carradale	1
Corkerhill	8
West of Scotland AFL	

nents who had travel problems, but when the action started it was Carradale who looked like they had just stepped out

from a tiring, four-hour minibus drive.

Corkerhill's superior skills, pace and fitness immediately saw Carra-

dale fall into desperate defending, and it was no great surprise when the Glasgow side went ahead early on.

The McFadyens-sponsored Carradale equalised soon after when Cammy Maguire was brought down in the penalty box, and dusted himself down to score from the rebound after his initial shot was blocked by a keeper who had already saved five penalties this season.

The equaliser only served to increase the Corkerhill attacks and the visitors took no time at all to re-assert their lead. After that, it seemed to unravel for Carradale. Skilful and fast Corkerhill raids repeatedly exposed the home defence and resulted in three further goals before half time.

The home team battled on to restore some pride but they had little impe-

tus and threat going forward, were disjointed in midfield and frequently under pressure at the back.

Carradale, normally very strong at home, found themselves wishing for a full-time whistle to end their misery.

Pick of the goals in the second half was the visitors' seventh strike, when one of Corkerhill's midfield pair burst through and rounded keeper Neil McMillan and despite a wide angle he sidefooted the ball into the net in clinical fashion.

The result was a thorough disappointment for Carradale, with the only consolation being that Corkerhill are likely to prove to be the most skilful side they are likely to meet in the league this season.

Carradale's calendar resumes again in January, with fixtures to be confirmed at a later date.



Adam Graham closes in on the Corkerhill striker. 08_c52carr03



Carradale number nine Ryan McConnachie comes in for close attention. 08_c52carr01

John wins £200 in golf club lottery

CONGRATULATIONS to John Marrison who won £200 when he successfully chose the winning numbers in Dunaverty Golf Club's three number lottery on Sunday.

The winning numbers were 6, 9 and 18. The jackpot for the draw was sitting at £200. The next draw will take place on Sunday, January 4 with a jackpot of £100.

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

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



52>

Published by Wyvex Media Limited,
Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown PA28 6AE (01586) 554646
and
Wyvex Media Limited
Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB (01546) 602345.
Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper