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Couple 'humbled' by support after devastating house blaze

By Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A couple made homeless after fire devastated their Ardrishaig home have thanked the emergency services and everyone who has supported them.

The alarm was raised after the blaze broke out at their home at the former Ardrishaig United Free Church building on the evening of Friday January 25.

The flames were extinguished, but not before the building was severely damaged. The owners, Alan and Gillian Pitman, thankfully escaped unscathed along with

their dogs. Concerns over the building, however, forced Argyll and Bute Council and the police to cordon off Park Road and Kilduskland Road at their junction for public safety.

An assessment of the building's condition followed and the road closures remained in place this week while contractors moved in to make the fire-damaged building safe, after which the roads would be re-opened.

Access to Ardrishaig Primary School was disrupted and a council spokesperson said earlier this week: 'We thank parents and residents for their patience

and understanding while this important work is carried out and we are working to safely return things to normal as soon as possible.'

In a letter published in this week's Argyllshire Advertiser, Mr and Mrs Pitman said: 'We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who have either given or offered assistance and support to my family following the fire at our home on the night of January 25, and special thanks to the emergency services that attended.'

The couple were offered temporary accommodation nearby and they added: 'The support given by friends, work and the wider community has been truly humbling and as a family we thank you all and look forward to returning to our home, hopefully some time next year.'

Read the letter in full on page 6 of this edition.

Argyll and Bute Council advised that updates on when the road is likely to open again will be made available on the council's service disruption web page.



Tarbert Seafood Festival – complete with queen and princesses – is always a great event, whatever the weather. 06_a27TarbSeafood28

Tarbert festivals miss out

Organisers have been left frustrated as two of Tarbert's most popular annual festivals were denied grant funding by Argyll and Bute Council. Limited funding and overwhelming demand meant tough decisions had to be made, affecting events across the region, according to the local authority.

More on this story on page 3.

Savings demand in health cash crisis

NHS and council officers have been told to find huge savings by the end of March, amid a health and social care funding crisis.

Members of the board overseeing Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership asked that the cost-cutting measures to fill a big budget gap be available by their next meeting. Services will be affected and staff are being impacted by the pressure to find savings.

More on this story on page 46.

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Mary's Meals has antidote to cold winter weather

Mary's Meals did its part during last week's cold weather.

In a move of giving to the community as well as feeding hungry children, on Friday February 1 Mary's Meals offered all customers a free cup of tea and coffee to heat them up.

Hostess for the day was volunteer Susan Campbell pictured with shopper Maureen Sinclair.

YOURSTORY

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Rest and Be Thankful mitigation project moves to next phase

The next phase of the works to form landslide mitigation catch-pits next to the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful is now underway.

The £2.2million project was started in spring 2017 with works now continuing with the construction of the fourth catch-pit next to the road side.

These landslide mitigation measures involve the excavation of debris flow catch-pits next to the A83.

The catch-pits are designed to stop debris reaching the road from a landslide down the channels above each catch-pit location, helping to keep the A83 open.

Once completed, this fourth catch-pit will provide an additional 2,600 tonnes of debris storage capacity, bringing the total volume protection of the catch-pits to approximately 15,000 tonnes.

In addition to the catch-pits, works on additional

protection measures at Glen Kinglas, approximately three miles from the Rest and Be Thankful, will continue.

The works at Glen Kinglas involve the re-use of the excavated rock from the Rest and Be Thankful to form bunds above streams along Glen Kinglas.

The bunds will help reduce the risk of debris reaching the A83 in the event of a landslide.

Recycling

This project allows BEAR Scotland to maximise the benefit of recycling the material being excavated from the Rest and Be Thankful while minimising the overall cost of these works.

To keep workers and motorists safe throughout the work, temporary traffic lights will be in place on the A83 at each location.

This next phase of the works is expected to last approxi-



Landslips at the Rest and Be Thankful on the A83 have hit tourism hard.

mately 18 weeks.

Eddie Ross, BEAR Scotland's North West Representative, said: 'The installation of the next stages of the mitigation measures will provide more protection and resilience against any future

landslips blocking this key route at both the Rest and Be Thankful and Glen Kinglas.

Safe

'The temporary traffic lights are necessary to keep our teams as well as users of the route safe during the works,

and the teams will do all they can to complete the project as quickly and safely as possible.

'We encourage road users to plan their journeys in advance by checking the Traffic Scotland website for up-to-date travel information.'

POLICE FILES with Sergeant Iain MacNicol

Abusive behaviour

A 54-year-old woman was charged and issued with a recorded police warning for behaving in an abusive manner about 5am on Tuesday January 29, in Baddens Park, Lochgilphead.

No insurance

About 11pm on Wednesday January 30, a car was stopped by police for a routine check, on the A83 at Lochgilphead. Checks revealed that there was no insurance in force for the vehicle and the driver, a man aged 58, was charged with the offence and the vehicle was seized. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Abusive behaviour

Following a report of a man behaving in an abusive manner and throwing an item at a woman in Ross Crescent, Lochgilphead, a 41-year-old man was arrested about 6pm on Thursday January 31. The man was later charged with assault and abusive behaviour. He was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Shoplifting and drug possession

On Saturday February 2, at about 5pm, a 16-year-old male stole a bottle of juice from the Tesco on Paterson Street, Lochgilphead.

Police traced and searched the teenager who was found in possession of the bottle.

He was arrested and then behaved in an abusive manner, resisted arrest, attempted to headbutt a police officer and was also found in possession of cannabis. He was later charged, held for court and a report was sent to the procurator fiscal.

Abusive behaviour

A male, aged 16, was charged and issued with a £40 fixed penalty notice for behaving in an abusive manner in Burns Brae, Lochgilphead, about 11pm on Friday February 1.

Anyone with information in relation to the above, or to any incident, should contact their local police station on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Inveraray man fined after police altercation

A 27-year-old man from Inveraray apologised when he appeared before Oban Sheriff Court last week.

Christopher Mullen, who represented himself, told the court: 'My behaviour was inexcusable. I would like to say I am sorry.'

Mullen, of Fisher Row, admitted banging on the windows of a public house in Oban on December 4 last year, failing to provide constables with his name and address and obstructing and hindering constables in the execution of their duty, struggling with them and causing them and himself to fall to the ground, thereby causing one of them an injury.

The court heard staff at the pub called the police when Mullen began to bang on the windows and shout abuse towards members of the public.

Procurator fiscal Eoin McGinty said there was 'a tirade of abuse' from Mullen towards the officers as three of them tried to restrain him. 'His agitation was such all four of them fell to the ground and one officer struck her knee hard against the kerb,' he said.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes fined him a total of £200 and ordered Mullen to pay £200 compensation to the injured officer.

Blow after festivals' funding bid rejected

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Tarbert is undeniably the festival capital of Argyll, but organisers say two summer events in the fishing village will be 'diminished' after council cash was refused.

Tarbert Enterprise Company submitted bids to Argyll and Bute Council's strategic events and festivals grant scheme for three events – Tarbert Scottish Series (£4,000), Tarbert Music Festival (£2,000) and Tarbert Seafood Festival (£2,500).

The bids for the music and seafood festivals were rejected in their entirety, while the Scottish series yachting event was granted £2,160.

John Hardie, chairman of Tarbert Enterprise Company, said the two high-profile summer festivals would be 'diminished' after failing to receive council support. 'It's pretty devastating when you think you've put a good bid together,' said Mr Hardie.

He questioned why three large events – Cowal Highland Gathering, Tisee Music Festival and Oban Live – should receive around 70 per cent of the total funding

'A contribution would have been acceptable. Even if they had given us £1,000 it would have helped.'

allocation of £110,000. Mr Hardie asked: 'Are these events being generously funded at the expense of others?'

He added: 'A contribution would have been acceptable. Even if they had given us £1,000 it would have helped. We do generate income, there is support through the local community trust and people are embarrassingly generous.'

An Argyll and Bute spokesperson said: 'Demand for this fund was almost double the amount of funding available, so we could not support all the bids. Each application was judged on merit. Criteria for the fund were clearly set out. It was aimed at strategic events, reaching a national and international audience, that would increase Argyll and Bute's tourism offering and stimulate the local econ-



The hugely popular Tarbert Seafood Festival draws visitors from all over the country.

omy. Applicants were asked to show, through marketing and business plans, a good return on public investment.'

Mr Hardie continued: 'It just makes it very difficult when we're just a bit shy of what we need. There is little

doubt that it will be more difficult to keep these events fresh and the experience will be diminished.'

'Community commitment' welcomed ahead of crunch meeting

A meeting in Lochgilphead will hear the voice of patients is being 'ignored' as health chiefs review public engagement on health and social care services.

As reported in last week's edition of the Argyllshire Advertiser, concerns arose after Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) withdrew support and participation from Mid Argyll Health and Care Forum.

Members of the forum – designed to be made up of members of the public, third sector representatives and health professionals – expressed anger that, in their view, public engagement was being ignored.

A HSCP spokesman said: 'The Health and Social Care Partnership is extremely grateful for the commitment and the enthusiasm our hard-working community representatives have for improving health and social care in Argyll and Bute and we would encourage

them to feed back any issues they have locally.'

Argyll and Bute HSCP is consulting on its latest draft strategic plan and the spokesperson continued: 'The HSCP undertook an evaluation of the existing locality health and care forums in the autumn of 2018.

'One aspect of the evaluation involved a survey of members as well as detailed semi-structured interviews with the chairs of these groups so that we can continue to build effective and sustainable engagement mechanisms.

'We will be sharing the completed report, and the recommendations, with all participants in February.'

A special meeting of Mid Argyll Health and Care Forum will be held on Thursday February 14 at Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall, starting at 6.30pm, at which everyone is welcome.

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Win free council tax for a year

Argyll and Bute citizens are being given the opportunity to win a year's free council tax if they sign up to the council's new e-billing service.

Everyone who joins the online portal and signs up for e-billing before Sunday March 24 will be entered into a prize draw to win 12 months' free council tax.

The e-billing service allows payers to access their council tax account online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It also enables balances to be checked, see previous payments, access copies of letters, view current instalment plans, and check which benefits have been received.

To be eligible for the lucky draw payers must sign up to council tax e-billing through the new online portal no later than Sunday March 24 and not have any council tax arrears on Tuesday March 26 2019 – the dates of the prize draw.

Everyone who has already enrolled for the service will be automatically entered into the draw.

To sign up visit: argyll-bute.gov.uk/myaccount-register

Council tax single person discount and empty home discount can be applied for and a change in benefit circumstances can be reported via the service

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for customer services Councillor Rory Colville said: "This competition is a great incentive for people to sign up to the new online portal. By joining MyAccount, you can access a variety of online services with just one login - the council tax and benefits portal is just the latest in a range of personalised services. You can also find out your bin collection days, track service enquiries, bookmark pages on the council website, and lots more. It's also a great opportunity to help us cut down on the amount of paper we all use. I hope that people make the most of this great opportunity and sign up."

For more information on the new service, visit: argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-tax-e-billing

Mid Argyll causes to share in multi-million pound funding

Community groups in Mid Argyll will share a funding boost after the Co-op welcomed the latest beneficiaries to its local community fund.

Forty-five causes are to benefit in the west Highlands, including Glenaray and Inveraray Parish Church, The Auchindrain Trust for Auchindrain Museum, Mid Argyll Round Table's fireworks display team, Mid Argyll Community Enterprises which owns and operates Lochgilphead's MACPool, Moving On Mid Argyll food bank, 1st Tarbert Guides, Loch Fyne Pipe Band and Tarbert's Our Castle of Kings aims to excavate Tarbert castle.

Each group is in line to receive several thousand pounds as of the end of the year. Last year, 41 groups in the West Highlands shared £240,430.

Co-op members receive a five per cent reward for



Members of Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation, Mid Argyll Youth Forum and the Lochgilphead Phoenix Project shared more than £33,000 in December last year.

People can get involved by becoming a member, swiping their card, and choosing the cause they want to support. By choosing their local cause, our members are telling us what really matters in their communities.

'Last year we invested £19 million in more than 4,000 groups UK-wide, supporting a wide range of initiatives from village halls and community spaces to skills initiatives and neighbourhood watch schemes, all of which are helping to make communities across the UK safer, happier, and healthier places to live.'

themselves with a further one per cent going to local causes when they buy own-brand products. Members can decide how the money is allocated, and are encouraged to select the causes they wish to support online.

Recent figures from the Charity Commission show that 40 per cent of all charities survive on an income of less

than £10,000, meaning that the funding raised by Co-op members will have a significant impact on the difference causes can make in their community.

Rebecca Birkbeck, director of community engagement at the Co-op, said: "The more people shop, the more we share, and the more impact we can have in communities."

The show must go on, just a different one

The curtain may be drawn already on the Lochgilphead and Tarbert Amateur Dramatics Society's first play as the numbers were less than enthusiastic.

No sooner had Andrew Hillier and Laura Mackintosh unpacked their bags in their new home in Lochgilphead, than they began to look for ways to fulfil their passion for drama, starting with Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

It seems the problem with being earnest is others matching the enthusiasm, as, in a Facebook post, am dram society leader Laura Mackintosh said: "After two audition sessions unfortunately we have to announce we can no longer stage *The Importance of Being Earnest* as we just didn't have enough people audition."

There is hope, however, for those with an itch to act. As the couple leading the society are instead focussing on plays with a smaller cast. Some suggested are *Para Handy* and *The Steamie*. Laura said: "In the mean-

time, regular meetings will be held at Lochgilphead Community Centre on a weekly basis where everyone interested can join and discuss what we will be doing."

"These meetings will then be

used for rehearsals as we go on. We will soon be posting when these meetings will be so please do keep an eye on here and feel free to bring along friends and family who are interested when we do."



Laura Mackintosh and Andrew Hillier of the Lochgilphead and Tarbert Amateur Dramatics Society. 06_a03AmDram01

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Angel steps in to save church for Kilmartin community

An anonymous angel has stepped in after the Church of Scotland decision to put the historic Kilmartin Church and Glebe Field up for sale.

The benefactor has offered to purchase Kilmartin Church as a holding position until a newly established community initiative makes a decision whether or not to buy it for the community.

The sale risked the church being bought for housing. However, a good friend of the museum has stepped forward with the offer and agreed to allow Dunadd Community Enterprise time to explore the possibility of buying the building and make a final decision that any community use has the full support of its members and is sustainable.

Since the Church of Scotland moved to its new premises in Kilmartin, it has been its intention to sell Kilmartin Church and the Glebe, as well as the churches in Ford, Kilmichael Glassary and Kilmichael of Inverlussa.

Kilmartin Museum has been in discussions with the Church of Scotland about buying the Glebe Field to use for its education programmes, and to develop overflow parking in a small area to accommodate the extra visitors expected when the redeveloped museum opens in 2021.

But the Church of Scotland head office wants to dispose of the church and field together and wishes to move quickly to reduce the cost of maintaining buildings.

At the recent AGM, members of Dunadd Community

Enterprise supported the committee to go ahead with seeking funding to commission a full feasibility study that would explore sustainable community use of the building. Funds would be required to buy, renovate and convert the church.

There have been lots of ideas and discussion, but careful business planning is required to ensure whatever the church is used for would attract grant funding and, crucially, would be sustainable in the long

Public access will be maintained to historic homes house in church

term. This will take some time and funding needs to be sought for a feasibility study in the first instance, so Dunadd Community Enterprise could not currently buy the church.

Kilmartin Museum already has funding in place to purchase the Glebe Field, and it needs to go ahead with this to keep to its redevelopment project timescale. The benefactor has said it will be possible to maintain public access to the historic stones housed in the church and that the museum could also use the building while the building work required during the redevelopment project is taking place.

Dr Sharon Webb, museum director, said: 'It would have been a real shame if the church and the historic stones had become inaccessible, and this decision by the church head office could have pre-



Kilmartin Church.

sented real difficulties to both the museum and community enterprise, so it's great that a temporary solution has been found. It's wonderful that there are such generous and philanthropic people who want to make a difference to both the museum and the local community.'

David Bracken, chairman of Dunadd Community Enterprise, added: 'This gives us the time we need to explore all the possibilities and make sure that if we do go ahead and raise funds to buy the church, it's the right thing for the community now, and for future generations.'

Patsy Dyer to tell folktales in library

Lochgilphead Library is hosting a storytelling evening featuring the musings of Kilmartin Museum head gardener Patsy Dyer.

Refreshments will be served while Patsy tells folktales from Japan, Norway and Flanders that are connected to some of the plants grown in the garden of Kilmartin Museum.

The stories will be shared on Thursday February 21 from 7pm, with a raffle to raise funds towards the Kilmartin Museum Redevelopment Project.



Patsy Dyer telling stories at Lochgilphead Library in 2016.

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LETTERS

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Unpalatable decisions ahead

In some ways it is like Groundhog Day, but yet again we are looking at severe cuts in health and social care services.

At last week's Kilmory meeting of the board in charge of these services – see page 46 – there was frustration at the pace at which these proposed cuts have been brought to the table.

Maybe that has something to do with the enormity of what needs to be done.

Once again our hospital beds, services for vulnerable people and other things taken for granted will be in the spotlight.

The impact on staff was raised, quite rightly, at the IJB meeting, but there was no mention of the impact on patients and service users.

As one NHS staff member at the meeting said: 'We can bring forward savings, but what we bring back to the board might not feel very palatable.'

There is a need for members of the public to have their say in changes to these public services, and a meeting in Lochgilphead (see page 3) next week will be discussing that subject.

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Ardrishaig thanks

Sir

We would like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who have either given or offered assistance and support to my family following the fire at our home on the night of January 25, and a special thanks to the emergency services that attended.

Anyone who was present either at the time or who has seen the remains will appreciate the level of destruction wrought upon our home and the contents within, however, as noted in this paper last week, all of us were unharmed and have been provided with accommodation nearby.

The support given by friends, work and the wider community has been truly humbling, and as a family we thank you all and look forward to returning to our home, hopefully sometime next year.

Thank you,

**Alan and Gillian Pitman,
The Old Church,
Ardrishaig.**

Invest in the Rest

Sir,

I must commend our MP Brendan O'Hara on his vision and wisdom on his recent fact-finding trip to the Faroe Islands to see first hand how The Faroese inter-connect their islands with 44 subsea and through mountain tunnels.

This common sense approach guarantees

safe connectivity 24/7 in any weather providing confident travel which is the least the people of Mid Argyll, Kintyre, Islay and Jura should expect. This area of Argyll is the most fragile in the region. The people of Argyll, businesses and visitors deserve no less.

Forget the squandering of £46m on unreliable, mitigation measures trying to justify a flawed decision made many years ago to use the Old Military Road as a diversion which has failed on many occasions and now has a landslide between the two roads. Forget the expensive excavation of pits by the A83 rather use the cuttings into the hillside to form a two lane road protected with a flow over canopy with closed outer edges at the four problems gullies. If the contractors on the present scheme can work without any road closures then the flow over canopy option would not lead to closures as many officials and some politicians claim.

This is a red herring postponing 'a proper solution'. When this option is completed it will save on the expense of manning the diversion route involving 12-14 personnel and six-eight vehicles, replacing expensive nettings, delays whilst the farmer clears his animals and collects his fees. A scandalous waste of public money. Solve the Rest landslides and stop wasting on mitigating measures.

Like Brendan O'Hara I'm neither an engineer or geologist but both of us are blessed with plain common sense. If the Faroese can build a tunnel at £12.5m per kilometre surely a simple open sided 500m canopy would cost considerably less. In 2014 at Dawlish 2.2km of double-tracked railway and 1.2km of sturdy

seawall was built at a cost of £40m in eight weeks. Why have we in Argyll, after nine years, four different transport ministers and £46m spent and still have not got a guaranteed safe passage 24/7 on The Rest and Be Thankful?

Follow the Argyllshire Advertiser's campaign 'Invest in the Rest'. Transport Minister Michael Matheson, Transport Scotland and our government must abandon their obsession with mitigation measures and fund a permanent solution. We demand no less.

**Donald Clark,
Inveraray.**

Rest and Be Thankful improvements

Sir,

Calls for assurances that the Rest and Be Thankful section of the A83 will be improved to resist future landslides were made during a session of transport, infrastructure and connectivity questions in the Scottish Parliament.

I quizzed transport secretary Michael Matheson MSP, about what was discussed at the last meeting of the A83 Taskforce in November 2018, and asked what assurances the cabinet secretary could give to local residents and businesses who rely on the A83 being open at all times.

The Rest and Be Thankful was closed off for nine days in October 2018 following the largest landslide in a decade, forcing road users to either take a major diversion, or to use the Old Military Road during certain hours of the day.

Press policy

At The Argyllshire Advertiser, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01586 554646 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by its decision.



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A number of petitions were created during the period of the incident, including one by myself, calling for a permanent solution to the Rest and be Thankful.

The transport secretary said that the meeting was 'full and frank', and that there would be a 'review of the potential for additional landslide mitigation measures at the Rest and be Thankful', and that this would be discussed at the next A83 Taskforce meeting in March 2019.

There was also a commitment that Argyll and Bute would be 'prioritised' in the next Strategic Transport Projects Review.

I welcome the assurances by the transport secretary that there will be a review of any additional measures for the Rest and be Thankful, and that Argyll and Bute will receive priority at the next Strategic Transport Projects Review.

Donald Cameron, MSP
Highlands and Islands.

Reserve forces

Sir,
Last issue's (February 1) letter raising concerns about the UK government's proposed use of the army's reserve force in the event of a no-deal Brexit is timely.

In case anyone out there still thinks a no-deal Brexit is a good idea it's worth noting that the legal authority (s56(1)(b) of Reserve Forces Act 1996) allowing the secretary of state to take this step requires him to establish that it is necessary 'for the alleviation of distress or the preservation of life or property in time of disaster or apprehended disaster'.

Enough said.
Frances Roberts,
Ardrishaig.

YOUR PICTURES



Cheryl Ratcliffe-Nye sent in this photograph of her walk from Barnluasgan to Kilmory Oib, the remains of a 16th century settlement, next to the beautiful Loch Coille-Bharr.
Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

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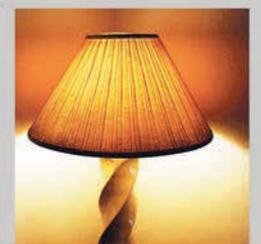
Voucher valid 31 March 2019 until 31 May 2019. Blackout dates apply. Subject to availability. Other terms & conditions apply and will feature on the voucher.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 March 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve Whisky.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words 'OPT IN' on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wyvex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

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New project launched to save Argyll woodlands

Cormonachan Community Woodlands between Lochgoilhead and Carrick Castle by Loch Goil, Argyll, are being protected for education, recreation and conservation.

The area comprises 58.9 ha of ancient Atlantic oak and hazel woodlands, termed ancient semi natural woodlands, which were first recorded on Roy's Map of 1747.

Over the last 20 years, more than 100 volunteers have created 2.5 kms of circular paths, a car park, red squirrel hide, contemplation shelter, outdoor sculptures and a resource centre – Jan's Hideaway – for outdoor education for primary school children visiting the Ardroy Outdoor Education Centre.

More than 1,000 children a year benefit from learning about the outdoors there.

Future plans include ex-

tending the paths by another 2kms and opening up the southern end of the woodlands at Upper Cormonachan with access to the forest road, the old village and the waterfalls with another car park. The paths would have five bridges and four viewpoints overlooking the beautiful waterfalls and great views over Loch Goil.

The community woodlands are maintained by Cormonachan Woodlands Association's (CWA) volunteer members.

The association is a not-for-profit organisation and relies on its members to support its work and volunteer. With no income stream other than annual subscriptions, all its projects have to be funded by donations and grants.

This latest project will cost £323,484.

CWA is trying to raise five

per cent through donations in order to obtain grants of 95 per cent for the balance of the cost.

A spokesperson said: 'We are grateful to the Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs for helping to support this project, which has support from Argyll and Bute's MP and MSP, Cowal ward councillor, Lochgoil Community Council, Forest Enterprise Scotland, the Community Partnership of Loch Lomond, Community Woodlands Association and other organisations and businesses.'

'We hope you will come and enjoy these existing wonderful walks and help support us with our Upper Cormonachan Paths Project Fund.'

For more information visit cormonachan-woodlands.co.uk



Volunteers Sue, Rebecca, Steve and Liz at Cormonachan Woodlands waterfalls.

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Sinopia String Quartet to play at Kilmory Castle

Mid Argyll Arts Association has invited the Sinopia Quartet to play at Kilmory Castle.

Tense Argyll and Bute Council discussions will be replaced with expertly played music from the chamber.

Frank Bridge, Borodin and Debussy are all in the programme, played by the quartet of string players.

Founded in 2012, Gabi Maas, Daniel Meszoly, Laura Sergeant and Elaine Koene are well-known across Scotland for bringing pieces to life with short introductions to their artistic or political times.

On violin and nyckelharpa, Gabi Maas has played with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, English Baroque Soloists and Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique.

Hungarian Daniel Meszoly started playing the violin before moving to Scotland

in 2010 to study at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and has enjoyed a varied career on baroque and modern violin and viola.

Larbert's Laura Sergeant is a chamber musician and orchestral and period instrument player who also studied at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

She was a member of the European Union Youth Orchestra and has played at various festivals as well as regularly freelancing with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and Scottish Opera.

Violist Elaine Koene studied at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the Royal Academy of Music which sent her on a world-wide tour beginning in Italy with the Milan Symphony Orchestra, moving on to contemporary

music specialists in Vienna and other places including New York, Shanghai, Beijing and Melbourne.

Enjoy the music of these prodigies in the council chamber in Kilmory Castle on Saturday February 9.



The Sinopia String Quartet will play at Kilmory Castle.

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Inveraray Burns Club celeb



Iain Farrell and Jim McMillan perform 'The Twa Dugs'.

Inveraray Burns Club held its 13th annual Burns Supper in the Inveraray Inn on Saturday January 26, in front of 53 members and guests.

The evening started with last year's president Sylvia Stark installing the new president John Burns with his jewel of office. He, in turn, presented Sylvia with her former president's medal. John spends most of his time in his mobile home at Park of Argyll, although his home is in East Kilbride.

John then took charge of the evening's proceedings and, after a solemn moment of silence to mark the passing of the club's honorary president Jim McCulloch, excellently compered an evening of laughter, song and recitations.

Before an excellent four-course meal, the haggis was piped in by a new club

piper, Johan Van Der Wal, manager of the Whisky Shop in Oban and Inveraray. It was carried by Marie Docherty from Renfrewshire, another regular visitor to Argyll, and addressed by club secretary Kenny Stark.

After the meal, there was a selection of pipe tunes from Johan, a member of Inveraray Pipe Band.

John Watson, from Dumfriesshire, proposed an informative Immortal Memory and Cumnock man Iain Farrell proposed the Toast to the Lassies.

Fiona Elliot replied to the Toast to the Lassies in rhyme, humorously highlighting the club's male office bearers.

The speeches were interspersed with a presentation of Burns' 'Twa Dugs', by Jim McMillan and Ian Farrell, in which both assumed the parts of a dog, one

being the Laird's dog, the other the poor man's dog, discussing how they saw life from their respective positions.

'To a Louse' was ably recited by club member Hamish Thomson, who has a home in Shira Glen, and who reminded the audience in Burns' words that sometimes we are seen by others in a way we would rather not.

'Oh wad some pow'r the giftie gie us, To see ourselves as others see us.'

Popular folk duo Bletherskyte, from Cumnock, entertained the audience with pieces ranging from tender love songs to rousing Jacobean songs showing the immense depth of Burns' genius.

Members and friends rounded off the evening in traditional style with the whole company singing 'The Star o' Rabbie Burns' and 'Auld Lang Syne'.



Hamish Thomson performs 'To a Louse'.



President John Burns is installed.



Fiona Elliot replies to the Toast to the Lassies.

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Johan Van Der Wal pipes in the haggis.



The haggis was addressed by Kenny Stark.



Folk duo Bletherskyte from Cumnock entertained.

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Argyll's winter beauty captured by r



Kilmory Castle Garden. Photographer Grace Heafey said: 'It's like looking at two seasons at once.'



A snow-covered Lochgilphead golf course and Blarbuie on Wednesday January 30 – with Max the lab doing circuits. The photo was taken by Christine Fletcher.

A late January snowfall cloaked much of Argyll in a layer of snow that added a different dimension to the region's stunning beauty.

Readers sent in their favourite winter photos via the Ar-

gyllshire Advertiser Facebook page, and here is a selection of images of ice and snow-dusted scenes, all taken in the week beginning January 28.



This view across Loch Gilp was taken by Caitlin Amber Bradley.

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Snow clinging to branches above the A816 just north of Kilmelford captured by Sean Taylor.



A wintry view of Inveraray, by Kim George



The scene from Kilfinan view, Ardrishaig looking across to...well...Kilfinan. Photo sent in by Mandy Awcott.



Allan MacIntyre sent this beautiful scene of an ice-coated Kilmory Loch, Lochgilphead.



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STATUE OF ST VALENTINE IN THE ITALIAN CITY OF TERNI

St Valentine is celebrated by lovers the world over and long may this continue; in the hectic pace of life today we need to take time to stop and reaffirm our love for our partners and all that we do for each other.

Pope Gelasius originally made Valentine a saint back in 496AD and he became a by-word for romance but his feast was removed from the general church calendar in the late 1960s.

With little confirmed about his life and the chance that there might be two or more Valentines whose stories merged over the centuries, this all led to his demotion and removal of his liturgical feast. There is no doubting there was a Valentine; archaeologists found a catacomb in Rome dedicated to him and his feast still appears on the calendar of some local churches, particularly the Diocese of Terni, Narni and Amelia in the Umbria

region where St Valentine is claimed as a former bishop

The diocese says it has hard evidence that the martyred Bishop Valentine was known and venerated in the city about 65 miles north of Rome, as far back as the seventh century.

The Basilica di San Valentino in Terni has become a place of pilgrimage and hundreds of betrothed couples gather there before getting married, to promise to love each other at the Festa della Promessa, Celebration of the Promise.

But did you know that at the Blessed John Duns Scotus Church on Ballater Street in the Gorbals there is a reliquary containing a bone said to be from one of St Valentine's arms? A French family donated the Glasgow relic to the Franciscans in Victorian times; it came to its present home via the Church of St Francis, Glasgow.

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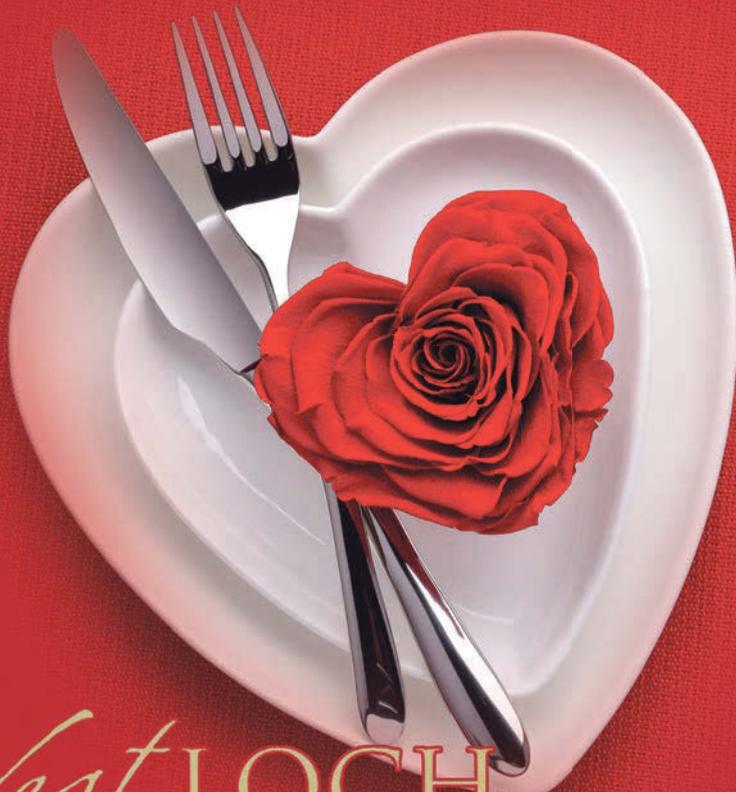
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When is a fire extinguisher not a fire extinguisher? When it hasn't been serviced and maintained properly.

'It is the most common mistake people make both in business and in the home,' said Kenny McGillivray of Argyll Fire and Safety, 'that and having the wrong type of extinguisher for the fire. Use a water extinguisher on an electrical fire and you run the risk of electrocution.'

Go and look at the service sticker on the back of your fire extinguishers; if it is 12 months out of date then they might not work if needed in an emergency. The probability increases with time. By law there should be an annual service by a qualified engineer.

Kenny and apprentice Donald Ross are a regular

sight on the roads and ferries of Argyll and Bute and even farther afield in the 'safety car', their fully-kitted-out van.

'I say we go from the Isle of Iona to Hamilton,' said Kenny. 'Businesses and landlords, large or small, know we can provide a complete service: fire risk assessment, keeping them up to date with the legislation and making sure their fire extinguishers and all equipment is regularly serviced as it should be, by trained, competent engineers from a conscientious company.'

Based in Dunoon, Kenny McGillivray has worked extensively in the health and safety field; he started up his own business in 2000. His expert knowledge as a

health and safety consultant for the building trade was already well-known across the area with many leading local businesses calling on his expertise to ensure they comply with the law and pass insurance audits.

'When people first encounter the fire legislation they can feel overwhelmed, be they small business or landlord, but they shouldn't be,' said Kenny. 'This is where our expertise comes in. Get in touch with us and we will call and see you; look over your existing protocols, check that everything is up-to-date and what you need to become complaint and keep your equipment and paperwork up-to-date.'



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Service & Supply

We are so lucky living here in the West Highlands and islands for we have such a low level of crime but we do have something to fear – and that is becoming complacent.

If you talk to police and security professionals they will tell you that most of us do not do enough when it comes to home security because we think it will never happen to us.

While it is rare, crime does happen and business premises, farms, homes and vehicles are targeted occasionally; the weekly police reports in this paper will remind you of that.

This is an area famed for welcoming visitors from all over the world but some of them are unwelcome and un wanted – people coming from the central belt

because they know how relaxed we can be. We do have reports every so often of a number of crimes taking place on the same day or night, as crooks head for home, taking our possessions with them.

So we should always make sure that we develop, and maintain a good security habit. Don't get paranoid or fearful that you are going to be a victim, just get yourself prepared.

It is also worth remembering that insurance policies often dictate a certain level of security regarding the quality and types of locks and failure to comply might hurt any possible claims.

It goes without saying that windows and doors should have good locks – make sure that extends to garages and sheds.

When we want to sell our house, estate

agents tell us to make sure we have 'curb appeal' and the property looks attractive to people as they arrive to view or see the for-sale sign.

Now think the exact opposite. Remember that most of the theft from property in this area is 'opportunistic crime', when a weakness is spotted and a criminal thinks that it is worth a go. So send the message that yours is a secure home with strong locks, good quality outdoor lights, lights on timers inside and some judicious planting of shrubs which have nice, long, nasty, thorns in strategic places.

Make sure the security extends to garages, sheds, garden houses and parked cars.

Thefts of heating oil are not uncommon so make sure your tank has a secure, locking, cap.

Farmers should also make sure they have good security; thefts of agricultural vehicles and machinery are on the increase across Scotland.

Money spent on good locks is money well spent. BS 3621 is a British Standard relating to thief-resistant locks and EN 1303:2005 is a European equivalent. Locksmiths and your local DIY store will be able to advise you. Your insurance policy might insist on these.

Sliding doors and patio doors need slightly different types of locks

Check the small print: Your insurance policy may specify that key-operated security bolts should be fitted to the top and bottom of doors.

Remember that closed shackle padlocks are more difficult to force open.

World Wide Worries

Yes, we live in the safety of the West Highlands, but that is in real life. We are spending increasing amounts of time online and that can be a dangerous place.

The minute you switch on a computer you in a different world and it is one where there are a lot of people ready and waiting to make you their next victim.

Once upon a time it was a cough that was hacking, a virus was a bad cold and 'phishing' meant that you owned a pair of waders. Identity theft was someone stealing your passport while you were on holiday. Not anymore.

The chances are that if not now, then very soon, you will know more people who have fallen victim to online crime

than in real life.

It is good to know that there is as much security advice available for your online life as there is for your property and possessions and it is even better to know that we have highly-qualified IT businesses based here in the West Highlands who can advise, install and maintain your online life. And if things

do go wrong, they are there to help.

Another plus is that there are plenty of internet products to help monitor your home and keep it secure.

So it makes sense to take time to review your security for your home, possessions and internet activities, decide what improvements you need to make and to consult the experts.

Stay safe online

- A good quality firewall and virus protection are essential and you should always invest in these.
- Upgrade your passwords once a year; avoid using the obvious like birthdays and anniversaries. Use the first letter of the words of a phrase; swap out letters and use numbers, 1 for I or 3 for E; mix up UppeR and loWer case letters.
- Always check your statements. Criminals will often make a small test purchase on your account before a big one, look for a pound or so, or even pence.
- You know when bills are due to arrive, if an invoice or statement is late let the sender know; your post might have been intercepted.
- Shred your old documents, or turn them into kindling for the log burner! Do you know where our paper waste ends up once our bins are emptied?
- Beware the phone call which asks for account numbers and details of accounts. Your real bank does not do that.
- Are you in the right online shop? Counterfeiters and identity thieves will often create websites incredibly similar to that of a famous brand.
- If you are offered something that is too good to be true, then it probably is not true.

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL: your children's online safety is way too important for a tick list like this. Go and read up and research, take advantage of advice offered by schools and police, talk to your kids and take action. This is part of being a parent today, sadly, and we all have to make sure we are up to the mark.



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Whether you buy from a local dealer, a distant retailer, an online broker or via the internet, it pays to do your homework so you are in the best position to get a good deal. This means deciding what make and model you want, as well as any add-ons that you need.

Once you have the facts and figures in front of you, it's time to talk to the dealer and negotiate your best price. Our guide will help you get the right car, with the right features for the right price, so read on and get inspired!



Volvo XC90 acclaimed as Britain's Best Used Luxury SUV

Already a multiple new-car-award winner, the Volvo XC90 has proven its market-leading strength by being crowned Best Used Luxury SUV in the Diesel Car and Eco Car Used Car Top 50. The honour demonstrates the lasting quality of the XC90 and the sustained appeal of its contemporary design, efficient powertrains, luxury specification, and advanced connectivity and safety technology.

Announcing the award in today's issue of Diesel Car and Eco Car magazine, Editor Ian Robertson said: "This fantastic luxury SUV is a triumph of subtle design. The interior is a lovely place to spend time thanks to Volvo's trademark seats and a tablet-style touchscreen that removes any clutter from the dashboard. If you're lucky enough to find one with the optional Bowers & Wilkins audio system, give it a listen because it turns the XC90 into a concert hall on wheels."

The top-50 list was determined by the magazine's team of second-hand car experts, who took a wide range of issues into account, including purchase price, residual value, general ability and fitness for purpose. More than 750 vehicles were considered, from which the XC90 made the final top 50, in 32nd place. Volvo was further represented by the V40 premium compact family car in 35th place.

The best way to access a pre-owned Volvo is through Volvo Selekt, Volvo's approved-used car programme. The service offers the best cars available on the market and complete customer peace of mind. Each vehicle undergoes more than 100 checks by

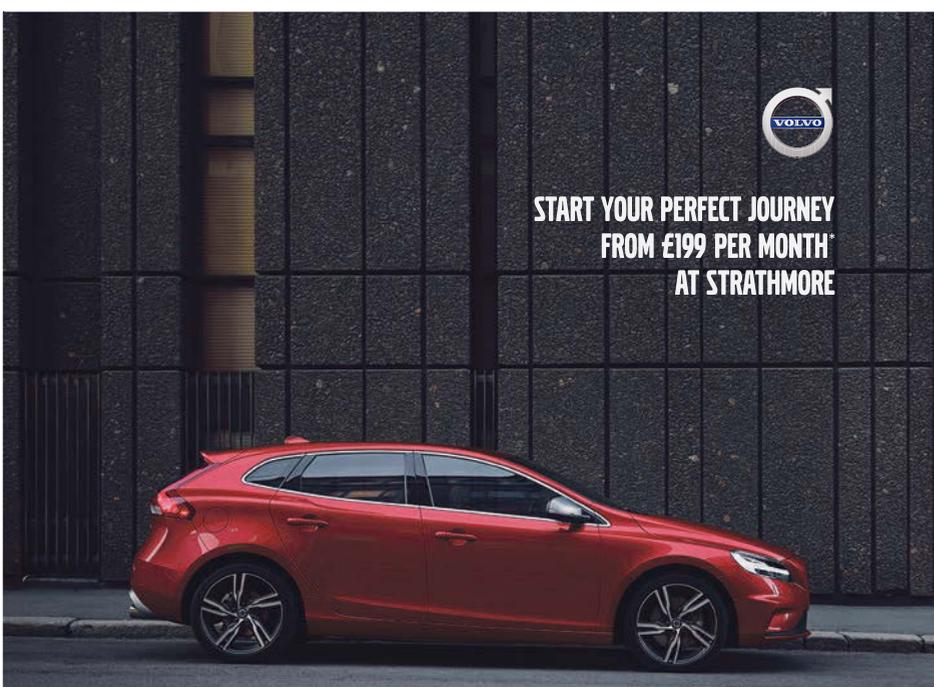
Volvo's technicians and is given the latest factory software upgrades. Sales are backed with a minimum 12-month/unlimited-mileage Volvo Selekt warranty and cover for the car's first or next MoT test, plus a minimum of 12 months' roadside assistance cover. And should the car not meet the customer's expectations, they have 30 days or 1,500 miles to return and exchange their vehicle.



Bruce Greenwood, Volvo Car UK's Used Car Programme Manager, said: "It is great to see the XC90 being recognised as such a strong all-round proposition for people looking for a stylish, practical and reliable pre-owned SUV with luxury guaranteed."

With the benefit of our Volvo Selekt programme, we can help customers seeking the best-quality used XC90s – or any other Volvo model – find their perfect car with confidence."

Full details of the Volvo Selekt Approved Used Car package, and the latest XC90 and other Volvo models currently available, can be found at www.volvocars.com/uk/find-a-dealer/retailers/perth



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Official fuel consumption for the V40 range, in MPG (l/100km): WLTP Low 26.9 – 47.1 (10.5 – 6.0), WLTP Medium 37.7 – 52.3 (7.5 – 5.4), WLTP High 43.5 – 67.3 (6.5 – 4.2), WLTP Extra High 36.7 – 55.4 (7.7 – 5.1), WLTP Combined 37.2 – 56.5 (7.6 – 5.0). NEDC CO2 emissions 143 – 118g/km. Fuel consumption figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.

*T&Cs apply, Contract hire provided by Santander Consumer (UK) PLC trading as Volvo Car Financial Services, RH1 1SR, 18s & over, subject to status. You will not own the vehicle and it must be returned in good condition to avoid further charges. Excess mileage will be charged at 7.56p per mile for the first 5,000 excess miles. After 5,000 excess miles, excess mileage will be charged at 10.08p per mile. Subject to availability at participating retailers on orders received between 01/01/2019 - 31/03/2019. Guarantee may be required. Not available with other promotions. Ian H. Cameron Ltd trading as Retailer Strathmore are a credit broker not a lender for this financial promotion. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for introduction.

New Sprinter crowned Large Van of the Year at Great British Fleet Awards

The new Mercedes-Benz Sprinter has been crowned Large Van of the Year at the inaugural Great British Fleet Awards, held at a glittering ceremony in Hammersmith, London.

Dan Gilkes, Van Fleet World Editor and one of the judges for the Great British Fleet Awards, said: "We were very impressed with the technology in the new Sprinter last year, but had yet to drive the van on UK roads, which ruled it out of our awards in 2018. Having got behind the wheel mid-year, it was an easy decision to give Mercedes' biggest LCV our large van award this year.

"With the addition of front as well as rear-wheel drive, and more recently new 4x4 versions too, Mercedes has something for everyone with the latest Sprinter. But it is far more than that, which puts the van at number one. The technology and connectivity available to customers is second to none and the whole PRO connect concept should make it far easier for

operators to get the best out of their vans."

Steve Bridge, Managing Director, Mercedes-Benz Vans UK, commented: "The new Sprinter has raised the bar in the large van segment and with this award, further cements its place as the king of the large vans.

"To win an award not just for the 'metal', but for the connectivity and technology too is testament to the capabilities of this vehicles and how it really can keep businesses moving."

Like previous generations of the multi-award-winning Mercedes-Benz workhorse, the next Sprinter – which is priced from £25,330* excl. VAT – raises the bar in the large van segment. Since its launch in 1995, the Sprinter has defined and re-defined a whole segment numerous times. It has notched a succession of technological 'firsts' including the ESP stability system, Crosswind Assist, the Euro VI emissions standard, COLLISION PREVENTION ASSIST, Blind Spot Assist and Lane Keeping Assist, and collected more than 80 industry awards.



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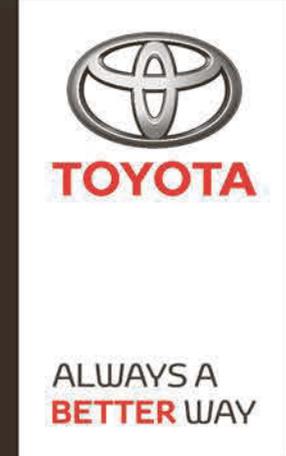
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 Motability



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The Future is Hybrid and Helensburgh Toyota are the experts

Toyota has been perfecting and innovating hybrid technology for over 40 years and its vehicles are now enjoyed by over 10 million drivers worldwide. Here at Helensburgh Toyota, we are keen to show our customers the benefits that come with hybrid vehicles. From the Yaris to our hybrid SUV range, there is a model to suit everyone.

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Does a hybrid save you fuel?

On average, at least 50 per cent of the journey time for our hybrid test drives is spent purely in electric mode. This means during this time the conventional engine is not needed for power and therefore no fuel has to be used.

Our Hybrid Experts

At Helensburgh Toyota we have experts on hand to guide you through the hybrid experience. We can take you on a test drive using technology that demonstrates how much of your journey was spent purely in electric mode.

Get in touch

If you would like to know more about the Toyota hybrid range, please get in touch with our friendly sales team or pop along to our Hybrid Open Weekend, February 22-24.



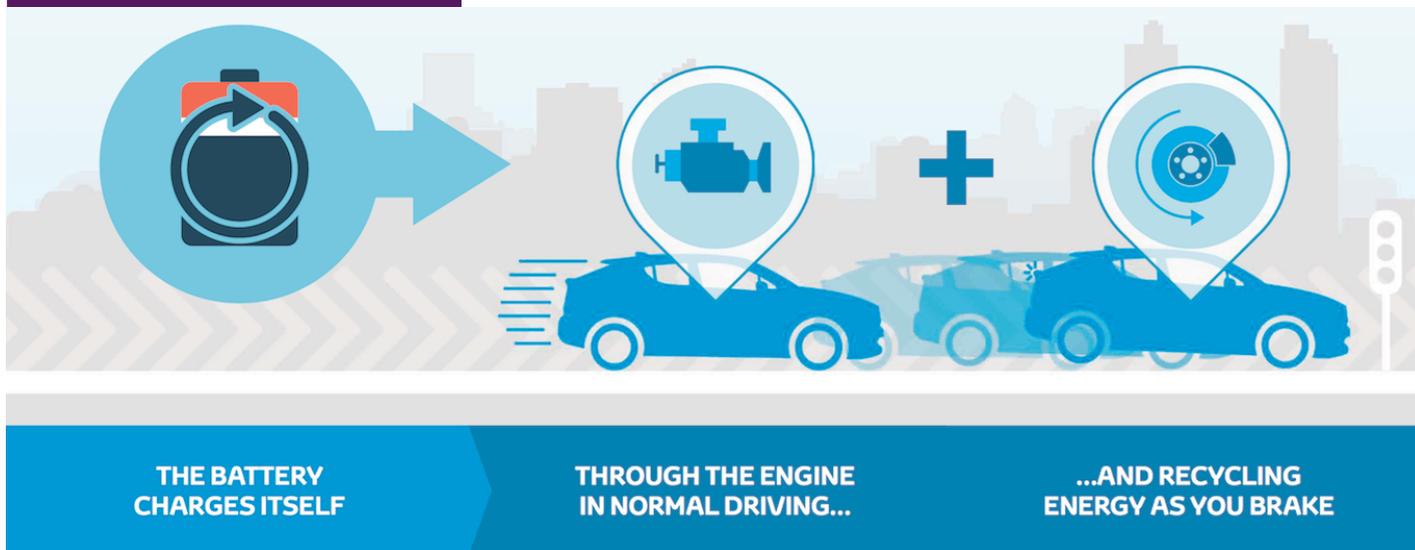
Self-charging hybrid: No plug-in required

Toyota's self-charging hybrids feature an electric motor and conventional engine, which work cleverly together, not just on the move but also when you stop or slow down. Every moment you are driving, your battery is charging thanks to technology like the regenerative braking system, which recovers energy that would normally be lost and stores it in the battery for later use.

How long does a battery last?

Our hybrid battery is not like a standard car battery, but a much more sophisticated component which has been designed and engineered by Toyota to last – and keep working – for the entire lifetime of your car. Unlike a pure electric 'plug-in' vehicle that needs to have its battery recharged after a long journey, a hybrid battery continually recharges itself when your car is in motion.

Hybrid technology example below



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Isuzu D-Max picks-up yet another award in 2019

Birmingham – January 16, 2019 – The multi award-winning Isuzu D-Max has just been awarded ‘Pick-up of the Year’ 2019 by Pick-up & 4x4 Pro, a testimony to our ongoing desire to provide the best working pick-up for professionals. This is hot on the heels of being crowned What Van? ‘Pick-up of the Year’ for the second consecutive year (2018 & 2019) and Pick-up of the Year in the Commercial Fleet Awards!

The Isuzu D-Max was awarded Pick-up of the Year for 2019 with the Pick-up & 4x4 Pro praising both its substance and style. The Isuzu D-Max emerged victorious, beating strong competition from rivals in a highly contested sector. Judges were impressed by the economy and refinement of the innovative 164 PS turbo diesel engine, that provides impressive performance and builds upon the Isuzu D-Max’s reliable workhorse character.

With a 3.5 tonne towing capacity and over 1 tonne payload, the Isuzu D-Max was also praised for providing a quieter, more economical driving experience. The 1.9L turbo diesel engine meets Euro 6 standards without the need for the addition of AdBlue, unlike most of

the Isuzu D-Max’s competitors. The breadth of the Isuzu D-Max range also impressed judges with single, extended and double-cab forms available, as well as a wide choice of trim levels. Coupled with the attractive five-year/125,000 mile warranty package and five years’ roadside assistance (in the UK & Europe), the Isuzu D-Max proved it was truly built for the professionals who use it.

Pick-up & 4x4 Pro said of the win: ‘The Isuzu D-Max is utilitarian at its core and doesn’t try to disguise it, which is charming and endearing. Yet it is still perfectly civilised regardless. And that is why we comfortably chose it as our Pick-up of the Year for 2019.’



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15 65 Vauxhall Viva SE AC	£5,795
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13 13 Peugeot 3008 Active HDI	£6,795
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13 13 Volkswagen Polo S 60	£5,995
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2018 (68) Peugeot Rifter Allure BHD1 100



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2018 (68) Peugeot 208 GT Line PureTech



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2016 (66) PEUGEOT 3008 ALLURE 1.6 BHD1 120. Grey, 7000 miles, glass roof, sat nav, reversing camera, alloys.**£13999**

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REASSURANCE

BUILT IN

Peugeot 5008 SUV wins 'Large SUV of the Year' at the What Car? Car of the Year Awards for second year running

The PEUGEOT 5008 SUV 1.2 PureTech 130 Allure has won the 'Large SUV of the Year' award at the 2019 What Car? Awards for the second year in a row, one of the most prestigious accolades in the automotive industry.

The What Car? team of judges praised the 5008 SUV for its high build quality and use of premium materials including soft touch fabrics. Judges were also left impressed by PEUGEOT's innovative i-Cockpit® and advanced driver assistance systems, along with low running costs from the award winning 1.2L PureTech petrol engine.

The 5008 SUV features a class-leading interior, with seven individual seats. The rear row can be folded down, as well as fully removed, while the front passenger seat also folds flat for added practicality. The PEUGEOT i-Cockpit® technology helps drivers stay safe on the road with its compact, multi-function steering wheel, 12.3-inch head-up display and 8.0-inch touchscreen with Mirrorscreen®, and its driver assistance technology that include autonomous emergency braking and Active Blind Spot Detection (available as standard from Allure trim level upwards).

The 2019 victory means this is the second

year in a row the 5008 SUV has scooped the hotly contested 'Large SUV of the Year' title at the What Car? Awards. This year it beat rivals including the Audi Q5 and Mazda CX-5.

Steve Huntingford, Editor of What Car?, said: "The PEUGEOT 5008 SUV matches the quality and technology found in much more expensive SUVs, yet is cheaper to run, more practical and at least as stylish. It deserves to be the go-to choice for larger families."

David Peel, Managing Director at PEUGEOT UK, said: "The What Car? Awards are one of the toughest and most prestigious accolades to win. To scoop the Large SUV of the Year award once was already a fantastic achievement, but to do so twice is even better.

"The 5008 SUV offers drivers a whole new perspective on interior design and space, with its innovative i-Cockpit® technology. We'd like to thank the What Car? team for the award."

Since its 2018 launch, the 5008 SUV has won seven international awards and has sold more than 7,000 vehicles in the UK.

To find out more about the award-winning PEUGEOT 5008 SUV and the rest of the PEUGEOT model range call Campbeltown Motor Company on 01586 553 200.



All-New Peugeot 508 First Edition



Revealed at the Geneva Motor Show 2018, the all-new PEUGEOT 508 First Edition was made available to order to the public from the 6 March with only 200 models available to UK motorists.

The limited edition model comes as a high-spec version of the all-new PEUGEOT 508. The all-new PEUGEOT 508 First Edition features a range of style cues including front grille trim in gloss black and 19" 'Augusta' wheels featuring an exclusive tinted varnish, multipoint massage driver and front passenger seats with Alcantara® and part Nappa Mistral full grain leather seat trim.

The all-new PEUGEOT 508 First Edition also provides a diverse range of innovative on-board tech for the driver, including fully automated parking assistance, a 360° colour camera system and a wireless smartphone charging plate to keep your mobile's battery topped up during long drives.

The Fastback also comes with PEUGEOT's innovative Night Vision function. PEUGEOT'S Night Vision system is a first to the automotive D-segment, helping the driver to detect living obstacles in front of their vehicle at night, within a range of up to 200m beyond the main headlights scope.

David Peel, Managing Director at PEUGEOT UK, said: "It's great to see such demand for the all-new PEUGEOT 508 First Edition. This premium spec level brings innovative PEUGEOT technology and cutting-edge style to complement the model's radical new 'Fastback' design.

"2018 has been a big year for PEUGEOT with a strong range of new products showcasing some of the most innovative and advanced technology in the automotive industry. The limited run of all-new PEUGEOT 508 First Editions is just one example of the great products added to the PEUGEOT range."

All-new Peugeot Partner takes top award at the 2019 What Van? awards

The all-new PEUGEOT Partner has secured a double win at the 2019 What Van? awards, winning both Light Commercial Vehicle of the Year and Light Van of the Year.

The awards come just a few months after the all-new Partner was voted 'International Van of the Year 2019' at the IAA Hanover Commercial Vehicle Show by a panel of international judges.

"The PEUGEOT Partner has traditionally been a strong fleet model but the new van is set to broaden its appeal," said What Van? Editor James Dallas. "Impressive sophistication and ride quality combine with a line-up to cover all bases in S, Grip, Professional and Asphalt trim levels offered in standard and long versions.

"The workhorse Grip version has been designed for drivers that need to transport heavy equipment on rough terrain, while the range-topping Asphalt is built for drivers making long trips or multiple deliveries in urban areas and benefits from acoustic and thermal enhancements.

"The Partner gets the same impressive engine and transmission options as its siblings but a USP is the iCockpit® interior carried over from its passenger car line-up. The instrument cluster is mounted higher, resulting in a clear view of the road and the steering wheel is flattened top and bottom, giving the cabin a stylishly modern feel."

All-new Partner is available with four trim options: S, Grip, Professional and Asphalt.

Standard equipment includes, i-Cockpit® compact steering wheel and high-mounted instruments, remote central locking with deadlocks and separate locking for the cab, electric front windows, electrically adjustable door mirrors, an overhead storage shelf in the cab, automatic headlights, DAB radio,



Bluetooth® handsfree, PEUGEOT Connect SOS and Assistance system, full bulkhead, unglazed rear asymmetric doors and six tie-down hooks in the load area. Standard and Long body options are available with payload ranging from 667kg to 1,050kg, depending on model.

All-new Partner was not the only PEUGEOT light Commercial vehicle honoured at the 2019 What Van? awards. The PEUGEOT Expert was highly commended in the 'Medium Van of the Year' award category.

The all-new PEUGEOT Partner is available from a Campbeltown Motor Company approved Peugeot dealer, 01586 553 200.

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17	Dacia Duster Lau DCi, 4WD	White	13,000	£12,750	64	Vauxhall Corsa SXi 5-door	Silver	35,000	£5,500
66	Dacia Sandero Laureate DCi	Silver	6,000	£8,950	14	Skoda Rapid TDi	White	27,000	£6,550
66	Renault Captur Dyn Sat Nav TCe	Blue/Black	6,500	£12,500	63	Nissan Qashqai 1.5 DCi Visa	Black	48,000	£7,550
66	Renault Clio 1.2 Dyn Nav	White	14,000	£9,750	13	Renault Megane Dyn DCi Estate	Black	75,000	£5,350
66	Renault Captur TCe Dyn Nav	Cream	18,500	£10,250	13	Kia Rio, petrol	Black	44,000	£4,750
15	Nissan Micra Visia 1.2	White	24,600	£5,750	13	Dacia Duster Lau 4WD	Grey	44,000	£7,250
64	Renault Twingo SCe Play	Blue	12,000	£5,950	62	BMW Series SPH 1.6	Black	48,000	£8,650
64	Renault Clio Dyn TCe	Red	16,000	£7,500	61	Renault Megane HB Expression 1.6	Blue	23,000	£4,500

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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN MID ARGYLL

Casa Hair to host charity variety show

Ardrihaig hair salon Casa is hosting a variety show for the most fabulous of days.

Run by Lilia Sinclair, on Saturday February 16, the doors to Casa will open to a world of hair turned new, vibrant colours, stalls full of items to make anyone look and feel good and a fashion show of dresses to try on for

brides-to-be whether the groom is chosen or not.

There's also something for youngsters with a disco in Ardrihaig North Hall.

The day starts at 11am with a coffee morning, stalls, jumble sale, bottle stall and home baking, followed by the Casa hair and fashion show at 3pm, featuring designer brides'

dresses and the latest 'hair colour applications, ideas and trends of 2019'. At 4pm there will be a children's disco, entry by donation. Finally the variety show, featuring local talent and live music, kicks off at 7pm. The event is BYO bottle and the entry fee £5.

All proceeds will go to Heal Scotland.



Right: Lilia Sinclair of Casa in Ardrihaig.

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Ardrihaig North Hall

Heal Scotland charity day
Saturday 16th Feb 2019

11am - Coffee Morning & Stalls
3pm - Casa hair show £5
Brides in the city - designer dresses
Accessorising for style
4pm - Kids Disco - donation
7pm - Variety Show £5
BYOB (bring your own bottle)

Local Youth talent
Live music & Disco



WIN AN OVERNIGHT STAY FOR TWO AT THE FAIRMONT ST ANDREWS WITH BREAKFAST, AFTERNOON TEA AND A ROUND OF GOLF



During springtime guests at Fairmont St Andrews are treated to a truly remarkable experience. As the Scottish countryside blooms visitors are able to enjoy exquisite views across the championship golf courses and the renowned St Andrews Bay. At the Savoy Afternoon Tea guests enjoy delicate finger sandwiches, delicious pastries and fantastic cakes in the Atrium Lounge whilst watching the Zephyr lighting sculpture dancing above.

As well as an overnight stay the lucky winners of this competition will receive spa access, a round of golf, Savoy Afternoon Tea and breakfast in the Squire restaurant.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:
What is the lighting sculpture in the Atrium Lounge called?

Voucher valid 31 March 2019 until 31 May 2019. Blackout dates apply. Subject to availability. Other terms & conditions apply and will feature on the voucher.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 March 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve Whisky.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words 'OPT IN' on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wywex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

Celtic and Pictish Festival returns



Lochgilphead's Celtic and Pictish Festival is returning to the front green on Saturday August 3.

The event will see figures of yesteryear, brandishing swords and helmets, swarming the area.

Last year's festival included battle re-enactments and weapons demonstrations, living history demonstrations and workshops where adults and children tried their hand at traditional crafts including spinning, weaving, stone carving and woodwork, dressing up and blowing a Celtic war horn.

Visitors to the August event will get a taste of what life was like for their ancestors.

A scene from last year's Celtic and Pictish festival. 06_a32PictFest02

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

To advertise in the community noticeboard call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

**ARGYLL BOOK CENTRE
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Meet the Author
Saturday 9th February
2 -3 pm
Christina Noble will be at the Bookshop chatting about her book 'Arkinglas - a Highland Estate' and signing copies
All Welcome

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A MUSICAL AFFAIR
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Sunday 10th February 2.00pm
Campbeltown Town Hall
Tickets £7 available from Town Hall, or pay at the door
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**Inveraray & District
Accordion & Fiddle Club**
Inveraray Inn
Wednesday
13th February
At 8.00pm
Guest Artistes
From Newtyle
Scott Band Trio
Supporting players
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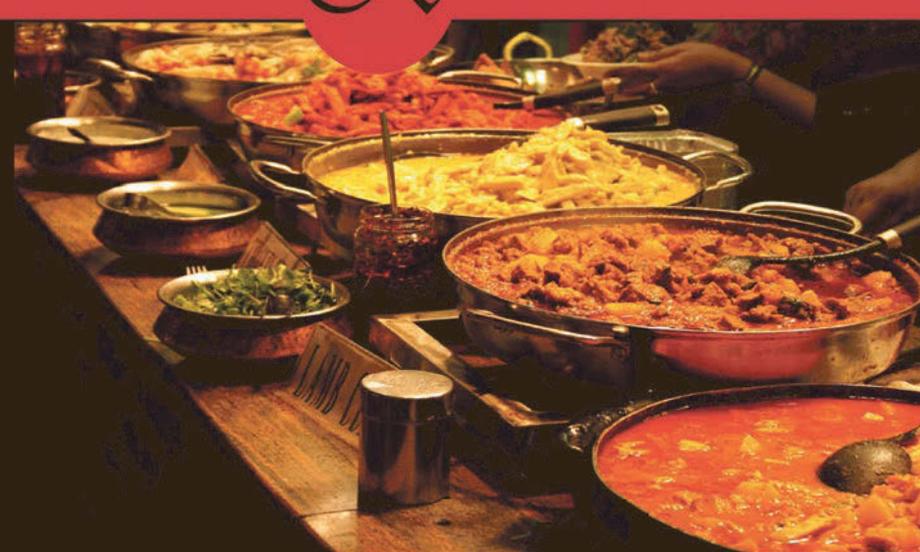
Mairi Semple Fund
COFFEE MORNING
Saturday 9th February
Templars Hall, Tarbert
10am - 12pm
£3
Usual stalls

MID ARGYLL ARTS ASSOCIATION
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SINOPIA QUARTET
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Scouts make the most of freezing weather

Members of the 19th Argyll Scout Group made the most of winter weather at their meeting on Tuesday January 29.

Den building, snowball fights, a warm fire, brewing

hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows kept the Scouts entertained.

Scoutmaster David Smart said the snowfall meant the group could enjoy the 'perfect winter evening'.



Brewing hot chocolate kept the Scouts warm.



The Scouts roast marshmallows by the fire.



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Saturday 12.30pm & Tuesday 3.00pm
Subtitled Screening
Monday 5.30pm

How To Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World (PG)

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Saturday, Monday & Tuesday 12.00pm, 2.30pm & 5.00pm
Wednesday 12.00pm & 5.00pm
Thursday 12.00pm & 2.30pm
Relaxed Screenings
Sunday 12.00pm & Wednesday 2.30pm
Subtitled Screening
Thursday 5.00pm

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Mary Queen Of Scots (15)
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The Favourite (15)
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Accordion and fiddle club rings in the new year

Inveraray and District Accordion and Fiddle Club got the New Year off to a great start at the Inveraray Inn on Wednesday January 9.

Supporting players were Fyne Folk, with Sally Hall, Alex John MacLeod and Jake MacKay on fiddles and Agnes Liddell on keyboard. They were joined by Calum Satchel on fiddle.

Also playing were Sandy Carr on melodeon; Willie Buchanan on accordion, accompanied by Jimmy MacDonald on keyboard, and Jake on 'moothie', accompanied by Agnes on keyboard.

Their varied selections were much enjoyed.

Guest artists were Craig McFadyen and his band.

Unfortunately Craig had injured his hand, so he moved over to play second accordion, with dad Hector taking on lead accordion.

They were joined by Matthew MacLennan on keyboard and Alastair Murray on drums.

Both of their spots featured a great variety of sets, which delighted the audience, and great craic from Hector.

After the final set of reels, chairman Niall Iain MacLean thanked the 'local' players and Hector and company for a superb night.

On Wednesday February 13, the club welcomes Scott Band, chairman of the Blairgowrie Club, and his trio who will be making their first visit to Inveraray.

January's guests were Craig McFadyen and his band.





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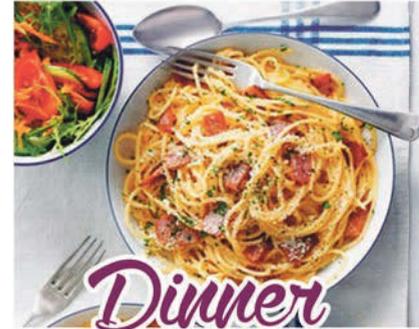
Breakfast

Overnight Oats
Lots of people have been going bonkers for overnight oats. We have to agree, they're absolutely amazing! **10mins**



Lunch

Tuna and sweetcorn jacket potato
Warming, comforting and easy to prepare - you can't beat an oven baked spud, especially with a tasty tuna and sweetcorn topping! **2hrs, 5mins**



Dinner

Spaghetti carbonara
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Masonic Recreational Lodge, St John Street
Tuesdays 1pm,
5.30pm & 7.30pm
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Detailed recipes available at:
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New church dedicated at Kilmartin

The congregation of Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Church of Scotland will dedicate their new place of worship at a special service on Sunday February 10.

Their new Kilmartin-based building will be dedicated at a joint service with North Knapdale, their linked parish.

The service, led by the moderator of Argyll Presbytery Reverend Dr Roderick Campbell, will include a letter from the moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Reverend Susan Brown, wishing everyone well in this exciting new venture.

Everyone is welcome to attend the service which will start at 11.30am. The congregation has been worshipping in the new building since November and have settled in well.

Session clerk Linda Tighe said: 'It is well-known that the church is its people, not a building, but it is also pleasant to worship in a warm church and enjoy the fellowship within our new surroundings. We hope to see many old and new faces at our service on Sunday to dedicate not only our church building, but ourselves, to a bright future for Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Parish.'



Session clerk Linda Tighe at Glassary Church.
06_a40ChurchClosures03



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Friday:
Accent Players: Grave Prospects by Isabella C Rae
Dunaverty Players: Mission to Planet Bob by Andrew Bawn Peninver Players:
Melons at the Parsonage by Nick Warburton

Saturday:
Dalintober Drama Club: Mystery at Magpie Manor by Mary Green and Julie Stanley
Benderloch and North Connel: English for Pony Lovers by John Finnemore
Dunoon Players: A Respectable Funeral by Jimmy Chinn

Please note: Curtain up 7pm. Strictly no admission during plays.
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The Highlanders

Oban welcomes the 128th spring show of the Highland Cattle Society

Records look set to be broken at the 128th Highland Cattle sale in Oban next week.

The catalogue for the forthcoming sale and show is bulging; it boasts the largest number of entries for several years and it is attracting serious interest from breed enthusiasts at home and abroad.

The total of 55 bulls and 70 females on offer is going to mean a packed ringside at the sales and there is another unique feature: 12 black bulls on sale, a record entry number.

A spokesman for the Highland Cattle Society said: 'This is by far the largest consignment of black Highland bulls at the Oban event for well over a century; gone are the days when it was nigh on impossible to find a black Highland bull in any fold.'

There will be a selection from 10 leading folds which will include two from HM Queen's Balmoral fold along with entries from Ardbhan, Craighluscar, Cailaich, Hope, Allanfearn and Culloden folds.

Many of the bulls on offer were shown throughout the summer 2018 season and will be in the show ring again on Sunday, February 10, prior to the Monday sale.

It is an impressive line up; the breed champion from the Great Yorkshire Show, as well as the overall reserve champion and reserve male champion from the Royal Highland Show. Champions from the Black Isle and Biggar shows are also competing for the top awards in the Oban show ring.

These will be joined by others from the more remote corners of the country which as yet have never graced a show ring; they have every chance of coming out on top at Oban, as has been the case in the past.

There is also an excellent selection in all the female sections; remember that October's show and sale saw the record price for a Highland heifer calf equalled when the dun-coloured nine-month-old Sonasag the Second of Cladich sold for 4,000 guineas – matching the previous record set at the first sale in the then-new Oban Livestock Centre on October 1994 when the Auchnacraig fold sold Fiach of Auchnacraig to Mrs DO Wain for 4,000 guineas.

The spring sale features in-calf heifers from Mottistone, Craigowmill, Glengarnock folds and Ardbhan, North Uist.

The bulling heifer classes have some of the oldest folds in the breed including Woodneuk, Pollok and Borland, Hynford and Seam.

The two-year-old classes feature folds from a wide area, Kelby from south of the border; Ceannacroic, from Islay and also Gray Brae, Corntown, Ashmore, and Gartocharn. The Dempster family's Teaghlach fold will be selling for the first time on their own account.

The yearling classes will comprise entries from Craighluscar, Shenavallie, Mosscairn, Glengorm, Kynedor and Edgertson fold from south of the border.

A feature at the spring sale will be a draft consignment of

in-calf heifers from Iain and Sheena Graham's well-known Killochries fold, going through the ring at the end of the sale in the un-haltered section. They will be in calf to Uilleam of Dumyat and Challenger of Mottistone. This is going to give the pedigree breeders an opportunity for some new genetics and should also attract breeders who focus on the production of highly-popular cross-Highland heifers.

Sunday's show

The show takes place on Sunday February 10, beginning at 10am.

This year the judge is Haydn Alun Garton with Jimmy Laing as chief steward. The stewards will be: John Singer, Jim Ogston, Robert Tedbury and Roy Abel-Wright.

Trophies from the show will be presented at the society's dinner and ceilidh in the Royal Hotel, Oban on Sunday night.

The sale will begin at 10am on Monday February 11.

A great get-together

The Highland Cattle Society's sales and shows are a chance for the owners of all the folds to come together and socialise



128th Annual Spring Show & Sale

www.highlandcattlesociety.com



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10 & 11th February

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are coming

which has the largest number of entries in years

alongside the important business of running the society.

Saturday's programme includes a meeting of the society's council, the AGM, a drinks reception and a forum.

This includes experienced breeders talking to members about their farm systems, breeding programmes, feeding plans and route to market; question time follows and then there is an open forum which is a great opportunity for breeders old and new to share ideas.

Bull measurement will take place at 2pm at the market.

The prize giving after Sunday's show will take place during a dinner and ceilidh at the Royal Hotel in Oban; the Royal has been the Highlanders' social headquarters for the sales and shows since its earliest days.

Young handlers

Monday's show also gives young handlers a chance to shine.

The prize for best young handler aged 13 - 18 years is the Woodneuk Cup presented by William and Margaret Thomson, Woodneuk Fold, Barrhead.

The young handlers aged 12 or under compete for the Thistle Fold Trophy presented by Annie Perkins of the Thistle Fold.



Market reports

Islay Auction Mart, Tuesday January 29:

Three lorry loads of stock left the island, consisting of 605 hogs, 123 ewes, wedders and cast rams and 48 cull cows. The following are the principal prices obtained:

Cull cows:
Aberdeen Angus X: Uiskentuie £920
Highland: Kinnabus £305.
Limousin: Lossit £900; Neriby £895 & £855; Uiskentuie £845; Dunlossit, Keills £840.

Bulls: Claggan & Smalladh - Limousin £930

Cull cows and bulls per kilo:

Aberdeen Angus X: Uiskentuie 114p.
Limousin: Dunlossit, Keills 142p; Neriby 132p; Dunlossit, Keills 132p; Claggan 122p; Uiskentuie 122p, 121p & 115p; Lossit 110p; Neriby 109p; Uiskentuie 106p; Dunlossit, Keills 104p.

Simmental cross: Uiskentuie 110p; Dunlossit, Keills 102p.

Bulls: Claggan & Smalladh 114p.

Under 30 months stores: Lossit £930 (200p).

SHEEP

Hoggs per head:

Suffolk: Foreland Estate £76 & £74; Lossit £73; Duich £72; Coille £72.

Texel: Blackrock £76.50; Carrabus £76.50; Blackrock £71.50; Carrabus £71.

Cheviot cross: Duich £60.

Cross: Carrabus £70.50; Foreland Estate £61; Coille £60.50.

Mule: Duich £64.

Blackface: Lorgba £75; Lossit £63; Duich £55.50; Lorgba £55.

Jacobs: Ardlussa £60;

Cast rams: Ardbeg £99; Blackrock £75; Ardbeg £56.

Wedders: Esknish £63.

Cast Ewes:

Blueface: Balachlaven £39.

Texel: Blackrock £83; Lossit £60; Ardbeg £56.

Mule: Balachlaven £46.50.

Blackface: Lorgba £49; Lossit £39;

Balachlaven £36; Islay Estates £36;

Lorgbaw Croft (Wiggins) £35.

Riggs: Carrabus £70; Balinabby £65;

Foreland Estate £54.

Hogg prices per kilo:

Suffolk cross: Foreland Estate 213p;

Coille 206p; Duich 200p; Lossit 200p;

Foreland Estate 197p; Octofad 193p;

Islay Estate 191p.

Texel: Blackrock 247p; Carrabus 215p;

Blackrock 207p; Ardbeg 198p; Carrabus 192p.

Cheviot cross: Duich 194p & 191p

Cross: Balinabby 209p; Foreland Estate 207p; Duich 192p.

Blackface: Lorgba 200p; Duich 191p;

Lossit 185p; Islay Estate 185p.

Jacob: Ardlussa 182p.

United Auctions Stirling, January 31:

A total of 5,544 prime sheep were sold comprising of 4,110 prime lambs selling to an average of 190.97ppk and 1,434 ewes and rams.

Lambs (4,110) - Luckenburn (Tex) £117.00; West Park (BTex) £105.00;

Shannochoer (Suf) £96.00; Coulshill (Chev) £93.00; Ballymyre (Char) £90.00;

Meikle Gourdas (Mule) £84.50; Cadogan Est (BF) £83.00.

Lmabs (4,110) - West Park (BTex) 259.00ppk; Luckenburn (Tex) 242.00ppk;

Redheugh (Suff) 205.00ppk; Croftgary (Chev) 202.00ppk;

Croftintygan (BF) 194.00ppk; Darnhall (Mule) 187.00ppk;

Ballymyre(Char) 184.00ppk.

Ewes (1,434) - Woodhead of Aberdalgie (BTex) £130.00;

Glenrath (Tex) £120.00;

Redheugh (Suf) £91.00; Toxside (Chev) £84.00;

Horseley (Cross) £79.00;

Middleton of Glasscune (BFL) £76.00;

Ballingall (Mule) £72.00; Quixwood (BF) £56.50.

Rams - West Park (Tex) £118.00;

Greenwall (Suf) £102.00; Redheugh (Cross) £90.00;

Stuck Farm (BFL) £65.00;

Glenfernate (BF) £55.00.

Caledonian Marts Ltd, January 31:

A total of 157 cattle sold comprising of 86 prime bullocks, heifers and young bulls, and 71 OTM cattle.

prime heifers peaked at 258p for a Limousin from W Dandie & Sons, Learielaw, Broxburn purchased by G Kirk & Son, Butcher, Denny and to £1,554 for a Limousin from J & J Wyllie, Knockhouse, Crossford purchased by H A Black & Sons, Butcher, Stirling.

Prime bullocks sold to 240p for a British Blue and a Limousin, both from Learielaw purchased by T Johnston, Butcher, Falkirk and to £1,570 for a Limousin from W M Pettigrew, Faskine, Airdrie.

Young bulls sold to 188p for an 18-month-old Limousin from W Dick & Sons, Mains of Throsk, Throsk and to £1,501 from the same home.

Other leading prices:

Bullocks per head:

£1,541 & £1,512 Learielaw

£1,488 & £1,487 Bankhead

£1,472 Brockwoodlees

£1,463 Greencraig

Heifers per head:

£1,545, £1,513 & £1,499 Brockwoodlees

£1,484 Newton of Logierait

£1,475 Angle Park

Heifers per kg:

255p Learielaw

242p & 240p Brockwoodlees

Bullocks per kg:

232p Knockhouse & Brockwoodlees

230p Brockwoodlees

228p Dullomuir

225p Angle Park.

Also forward were 71 OTM cattle. A mixed show forward with 60 per cent of the OTMs being dairy cattle. Fleshed OTMs averaged 132p selling to 192p for a Limousin from J & J Wyllie, Knockhouse and to £1,360 for a Limousin from W I & A W Callion, Bolfornought. The overall average levelled out at 121p for beef OTMs. Dairy OTMs averaged 90p selling to 128p on multiple occasions from W M Andrews & Sons, Crossflat, Kilbarchan and to £930 from the same home.

Male OTMs sold to 158p for a Limousin from I & W Wilson, Wood of Auldbar, Aberlemno and to £1,720 for the same beast.

Other leading prices:

Beef OTMs per kg:

178p Knockhouse

147p Flemington

146p Bolfornought

144p Wood of Auldbar

Beef OTMs per Head

£1360 Bolfornought

£1290 Flemington

£1100 Flemington

Dairy OTMs per kg

125p, 118p & 112p Crossflat

110p & 105p North Cassingray

104p Kirkton of Beath

Dairy cows per head:

£910 Crossflat

£900 Kirkton of Beath & Crossflat

Dingwall & Highland Marts, January 30:

A total of 728 sheep of all classes were sold.

Lambs (536) averaged £63.63 and sold to £83.50 for a pen of Cheviots from Davoch, Rogart.

Ewes (184) averaged £45.01 and sold to £69 for Cheviots from Drumore, Evanton.

Rams (8) averaged £66.19 and sold to £110 for a Blue Faced Leicester from 134 West Langwell, Rogart.

Store lambs once again met a firm enquiry with ewes following the previous day's trade.

Other leading prices per head:

Lambs: SuffX - Davoch, £83;

Chev - Teanluick Croft, Muir of Ord, £82;

BF - Bogburn, Duncanston, £79.50;

DST - Bogburn, £79.50;

Tex - 15 Glenconon, Uig, £78;

TexX - 15 Glenconon, £78;

Suff - Bogburn, £77.

Ewes: TexX - Garguston Shore, Muir of Ord, £58;

Chev - Kirksheaf, Tain, £57.

Rams:

TexX - 15 Glenconon, £83.50;

Chev - Allamore, Drumadrochit, £50.



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Farm income figures fall by £57m

Total income from farming is estimated to have fallen by £57 million in 2018, after increasing in 2017

The chief statistician in the Scottish Government last week published Total Income from Farming estimates for Scotland 2016-2018, which contains near-final estimates of total income from farming (TIFF) for 2017 and an initial estimate of 2018 TIFF.

Although not all the data is yet in, net income for 2018 was estimated as £672 million, down from £729 million in 2017. The fall is partly due to the cost of feed stuffs, which is estimated to have risen by £74 million in 2018.

Total costs were estimated to have increased about five per cent. Labour costs increased by £26 million to £441 million, and fuel costs increased by £18 million to £147 million.

The total value of outputs only increased marginally. Barley and milk saw the biggest increases in value. While the harvest was adversely affected by the dry summer, prices were good and barley output was estimated to have risen £58 million to £312 million.

The dairy sector also saw a gain, with increased production and a small increase in price resulting in milk output being worth £402 million, up £29 million on 2017.

Overall, livestock is estimated to have seen a small increase in value in 2018.

The largest sector, the beef industry, again remained reasonably steady in 2018, with prices slightly above 2017. Output from slaughter or sales of cattle amounted to an estimated £714 million in 2018. The sheep sector saw another year of price rises, with output worth £234 million. Lower prices saw an eight per cent drop in the value of pig meat, to £100 million, while the poultry sector saw a similar decline to £77 million. The value of eggs increased 12 per cent to top £100 million for the first time.

Depressed prices and quantities resulted in a five per cent decrease in the value of potatoes, with both seed and ware dropping. The vegetable sector saw little change, and now stands at an estimated £140 million. Fruit saw a small increase to £140 million, but growth has slowed since the large increases a few years ago.

Subsidies, including coupled support, were budgeted at to £549 million in 2018. The figure, which for accounting purposes is based on the claim year irrespective of when payments are actually made, includes £425 million in direct payments, a further £66 million in support for Less Favoured Areas, and £47 million in coupled support.



In the longer term, income from farming has been rising steadily since a dip in the late nineties. However, within that trend the figures have fluctuated from year to year, and have struggled since a drop in 2015.

The data also show that productivity, which measures the amount of output per input, irrespective of prices, has fallen in the past three years.

Reacting to the figures, a spokesman for NFU Scotland said: 'It is important to remember when looking at the TIFF figures, that they are aggregate measures for Scottish agriculture as a whole and therefore mask the performance of different sectors and individual businesses and farms.'

with greater clarity on the operating environment that they will find themselves navigating over the next few years.'

The NFUS's livestock policy manager John Armour said: 'While these figures demonstrate there are challenges for the sector, the national farm income figures demonstrate that the livestock sector is the biggest earner for Scottish agriculture – generating almost a third of the national farm output in 2018, worth £715 million. This is a sector which needs certainty, both from the market and from guaranteed support from government to continue to deliver for the Scottish economy by providing employment and opportunities in rural communities.'

Milk policy manager George Jamieson said: 'The figures show a welcome rise in dairy output due to higher production and modest but welcome price increases. Looking back, the graphs demonstrate the volatile nature of dairy, some of which can be mitigated by ever increasing efficiency and economies of scale, which is evidenced by the continued reduction of dairy farmers and increased herd size and yield.'

'However, we don't want or need to lose more dairy farmers from the sector.'

Dairy is a high investment sector, which is increasingly vulnerable to volatility in input and output prices, which is compounded by uncertain weather patterns, and a powerful, competitive supply chain, hence the challenges remain for those who are still in the industry.

'There is hope for a thriving future if we, the sector, can see a supply chain and political decisions that value production. These figures demonstrate that dairy can rise to challenges but needs help in forward planning and investment.'

Crops policy manager Peter Logie said: 'The cereals output is up around 10 per cent from 2017. That's the second rise in a row but it has to be put into context as the 2016 output figure was the fifth year in a row of falling output. So in real terms the output in 2018 is still lower than it was in 2013. And, of course, the input costs have also gone up. Growers report increasing costs of farm machinery, outstripping inflation or the rise of the Euro against the pound. Fertiliser costs are up and large increases are being seen in the cost of sprays.'

'Looking forward there is a lot of uncertainty about how Brexit will impact both on costs and on prices, for grain and the other crops.'

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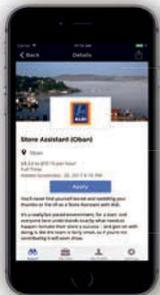
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West Highland College UHI is seeking a new Chair for its Board of Management.

West Highland College UHI is a growing, dynamic and successful provider of higher and further education in the West Highlands, supported by a Board that collectively helps guide the strategic direction of the College and fosters an environment which maximises the potential of learners.

As Chair of the Board, you will be well-connected and bring your expertise and skills used in business or in the community to play a key role in ensuring that the governing body works effectively. You will have particular responsibility for providing strategic leadership to the Board and for ensuring it successfully discharges its overall responsibility for the activities of the College. You will also play a leading role in the College's relationship with the University of the Highlands and Islands and other key stakeholders.

The commitment is an average of 2-3 days a month. The post is not remunerated but out of pocket expenses will be paid. There is a small honorarium of £200 per annum.

Closing date: 9am Monday 25 February 2019

For further information please contact the secretary to the Board:
Email: claire.wylie.whc@uhi.ac.uk Tel: 01397 874525 (Monday to Thursday)
or see the College's vacancies page at www.whc.uhi.ac.uk/vacancies

In line with our Equality and Diversity policy, West Highland College UHI is committed to ensuring that all candidates are treated on the basis of their merits and abilities, and that unfair and unlawful discrimination is eliminated. We positively welcome applications from all sections of the community.

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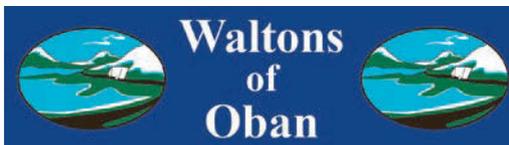
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Working hours are Monday to Friday 9am till 2pm approx. although we can flexible for the ideal candidate.

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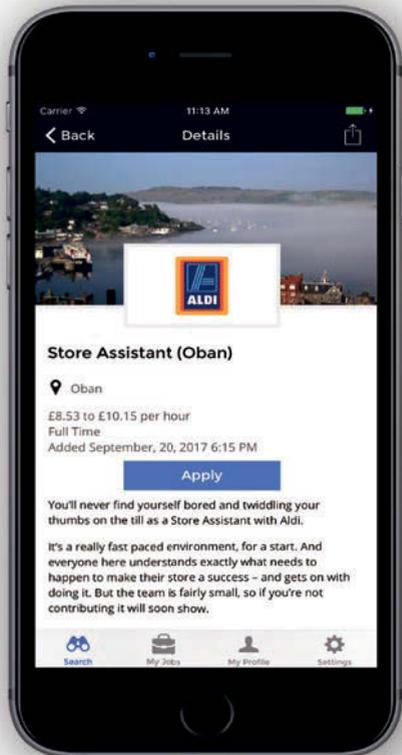
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Forest Enterprise Scotland Managing the National Forest Estate

**SITE FOR LEASE AT ACHNABREAC, LOCHGILPHEAD
FOREST ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND
WEST REGION**

INVITATION to notify an interest in leasing an area of land approximately 2.8ha in size at Achhabreac by Lochgilphead. The site does not benefit from planning permission but may be suitable for a range of uses subject to all necessary consents.

To register an interest please email – raymond.mundie@forestry.gsi.gov.uk with the subject title "Notification of interest for lease at Achhabreac"

Please note that the closing date to register an interest shall be 14th February, 2019.

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Friday 15th
February 2019
7.30pm

**Lochgilphead
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AGM**
Tuesday 12th
February 2019
7pm
at the Club House
All Welcome

**Kintyre & District
Ayrshire Breeders Club
AGM**
on Monday 11th
February 2019
in the Ardshiel Hotel at
8.00 pm
Guest Speaker:
Mr Keith Davidson,
Halmyre
President, Ayrshire
Cattle Society
All interested welcome

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE MACHRIHANISH GOLF CLUB INVITE MEMBERS TO AN EGM TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2019 AT 7:30 PM IN THE ARGYLL ARMS HOTEL, CAMPBELTOWN TO APPROVE THE PLANS FOR THE NEW CLUBHOUSE.

G1 Architects will present proposals and plans and answer Members questions on the project. Under Rule XXVI (g) - The Committee proposes the motion that Members approve the plans for the new clubhouse at Machrihanish Golf Club. All Members are respectfully invited to attend M Wylie, Secretary

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Abnormal Load Engineering Ltd trading as A L E of New Road, Hixon, Staffordshire, ST18 0PE is applying for a licence to use C S Wind, DE Machrihanish, Campbeltown, PA28 6NU as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicle and 0 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12.30 -13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, your Local Customer Service Point and by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
18/02413/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land West Of Glebe Cottage (Plot 2) Whitehouse Argyll And Bute
18/02414/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse	Land South West Of Glebe Cottage (Plot 1) Whitehouse Argyll And Bute
18/02675/PP	Construction of internal road layout and hard standing compound (retrospective)	Kilmory Park Land South Of Kilmory Industrial Estate Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute
18/02557/PPP	Site for the redevelopment of ruined steading to form dwellinghouse.	Kilnash Dunmore Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XZ
19/00143/PP	Demolition of ruin, erection of dwellinghouse and installation of sewage treatment plant	Land North West Of Kilmartin Quarry Kilmartin Argyll And Bute
18/02732/PPP	Site for the erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access	Land North Of Achnashelloch Farm Kilmichael Glassary Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8RE
19/00139/PP	Renewal of planning permission reference 16/00415/PP (Demolition of ruin, erection of new dwelling and installation of sewage treatment plant)	Former Ruin Tullochgorm Minard Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll Et Bute visit us at:

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



**EDF Energy Renewables Limited
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017**

Notice is hereby given that EDF Energy Renewables Limited (company number 06456689 and registered at 40 Grosvenor Place, Victoria, London, SW1X 7EN), has applied to the Scottish Ministers for consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 to construct and operate a wind farm known as Airigh, approximately 8.4km south-west of Tarbert, Argyll and Bute (Central Grid Reference 176262, 665798). EDF Energy Renewables Limited has also applied for a direction under Section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted. The installed capacity of the proposed generating station would be up to 58.8MW, comprising up to 14 turbines with a maximum ground to blade tip height of 149.5m. The proposal has been subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). EDF Energy Renewables Limited has now submitted supplementary information to Scottish Ministers, which includes information relating to minor changes to proposed onsite infrastructure (and updated assessment), landscape and visual amenity, peat, carbon balance, traffic and transport, ornithology, forestry, and an assessment of effects on climate change, major accidents and disasters and human health.

Copies of the supplementary information are available for public inspection in person, free of charge, during normal office hours at:

Location	Opening Hours	Address
Argyll and Bute Council	Monday to Friday - 9am to 12:30pm then 1:30pm to 4pm.	1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD
Glenbarr Stores	Monday to Saturday - 7:30am to 5pm Sunday - 8am to 5pm	Glenbarr by Tarbert Argyll, PA29 6UT
Tarbert Post Office	Monday to Saturday - 7am to 6pm Sunday - 7:30am to 4pm	Woods Newsagent Harbour Street Tarbert, Argyll, PA29 6UD
Peter Law and Sons Store	Monday-Sunday 5am-5pm.	47-49 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig Lochgilphead, PA30 8EY.
Port Bàn Holiday Park	Monday to Sunday - 9am to 7pm	Kilberry, near Tarbert Argyll, PA29 6YD

The supplementary information can also be viewed at the Scottish Government Library at Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; on the application website at <http://www.force9energy.com/projects/current/airigh> or at www.energyconsents.scot (application reference: ECU00000471).

Copies of the supplementary information may be obtained from Force 9 Energy (telephone: 0141 354 1410/email: info@force9energy.com) at a charge of £200 for a hard copy and £10 for a CD or USB pen drive copy.

Any representations to the application may be submitted via the Energy Consents Unit website at www.energyconsents.scot/Register.aspx; by email to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit mailbox at representations@gov.scot; or by post to the Scottish Government, Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU, identifying the proposal and specifying the grounds for representation.

Written or emailed representations should be dated, clearly stating the name (in block capitals), full return email and postal address of those making representations. Only representations sent by email to representations@gov.scot will receive acknowledgement.

All representations should be received not later than 10th March 2019 although Ministers may consider representations received after this date.

Any subsequent supplementary information which is submitted by the developer will be subject to further public notice in this manner, and representations to such information will be accepted as per this notice.

As a result of a statutory objection from the relevant planning authority, or where Scottish Ministers decide to exercise their discretion to do so, Scottish Ministers can also cause a Public Local Inquiry (PLI) to be held.

Following examination of the supplementary information, Scottish Ministers will determine this application for consent in two ways:

- Consent the proposal, with or without conditions attached; or
- Reject the proposal

All previous representations received in relation to this development remain valid.

General Data Protection Regulations

The Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit processes consent applications and consultation representations under The Electricity Act 1989. During the process, to support transparency in decision making, the Scottish Government publishes online at www.energyconsents.scot. A privacy notice and a fair processing notice are published on the help page at www.energyconsents.scot. These explain how the Energy Consents Unit processes your personal information. If you have any concerns about how your personal data is handled, please email us at: Econsents_admin@gov.scot or write to Energy Consents Unit, 4th Floor, 5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow, G2 8LU.

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THE BEATLES 1962-1966 emi apple label, collectors items, well looked after, part of collection of similar album has 2 LP's. Campbeltown, £10 Tel 01586 554537.

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TOGGI AUSTRALIAN BUSH HAT Genuine leather outback/drovers wide brim hat, by "Toggi", suede effect, 59cms (l) rich brown. Campbeltown), £12 Tel 01586 554537.

TOGGI LEATHER DROVERS HAT dark brown smooth real leather wide brim, size l, never worn, drover dbr-l, part of selection of similar. Campbeltown, £15 Tel 01586 554537.

WAXED HAT dark green waxed hat, Barbour type, waterproof with tartan lining to interior, size m (58cms) never worn, Campbeltown, £12 Tel 01586 554537.

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SHAKESPEARE DIAMOND FISHING RO vintage Shakespeare diamond fishing rod, 1308, 2 sections, range 2,40m/aktion b-60/cloth rod bag bit tatty/rod good, £19 Tel 01586 554537.

SHAKESPEARE NORIS REEL Shakespeare "Noris" Fishing Reel, 2152, good quality, (saltwater fishing?), £18 Tel 01586 554537.

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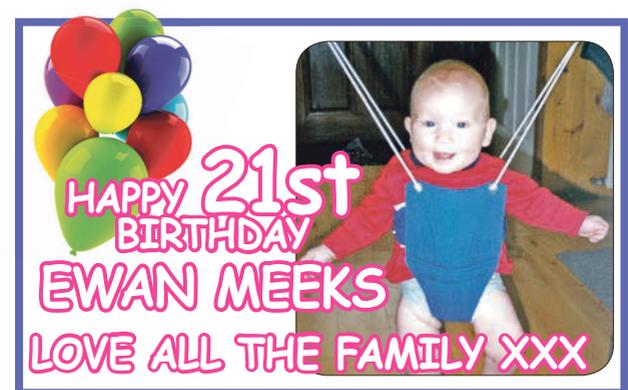
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OBAN

New trout farm jobs

The UK's largest producer of farmed trout has unveiled plans for investment in Argyll and Bute, creating 12 in the area jobs.

Dawnfresh, which already employs 27 people near Taynuilt, has submitted scoping reports for two additional fish farm sites elsewhere in Argyll and Bute as the first steps in the planning process.

If consented, the Taynuilt-based company would invest £4 million in each of the high energy sites at Ardentinn on Loch Long and at South Bute. Around 7,000 tons of trout would be produced per 22.5-month cycle across the two sites.

As well as creating six permanent full-time jobs at each of the sites, the new fish farms would create an additional 12 permanent full-time jobs on service boats, servicing the two Argyll sites and two other sites planned for North Ayrshire.

The other two proposed sites in North Ayrshire would be located at the islands of Great Cumbrae and Little Cumbrae.

Additional downstream jobs will be created and safeguarded through the supply, servicing and maintenance of the sites and will create jobs for suppliers elsewhere in Scotland through boat and feed barge construction, equipment provision with further positions created in processing.

The 2017 HIE report on Scottish Aquaculture quantifies the knock-on benefit of aquaculture to Scotland as able to support approx. 4.8FTE (full time equivalent) positions per one FTE direct position which could equate to up to 170 additional FTE positions in Scotland in addition to the 36 direct positions across all four sites.

CAMPBELTOWN

Walking in a window wonderland

Campbeltown Picture House's Window Wonderland is back.

Following the success of last year's event, the festival pioneered by Campbeltown Picture House returns to brighten the streets of Campbeltown by asking everyone to decorate

LOCHGILPHEAD

Dinah, hero of MS Centre

Masseuse Dinah Bosomworth was named the hero of the MS Centre when she trekked through last Wednesday's snow and ice to reach her clients.

Rather than sit by the fire with a cup of tea when snow fell on Wednesday January 30, Dinah packed up her massage accessories and walked from Dalavich at 5.30am to Ford, before getting at lift at 8am, in time for her first client.

An MS Centre spokesperson said: 'Not all heroes wear capes. Some wear waterproofs and carry massage oil.'



Dinah Bosomworth setting up for a day of massages.

their windows into a 'magical outdoor gallery for all to enjoy'.

This year's theme is the sea. Going strong or going off-track, anything goes.

Viewers can expect to see mermaids, and waves and little fishes, as well as a few surprises while going through Campbeltown soon.

BUTE

Choose Bute. Love Bute

Victory for Bute as Argyll and Bute Council's supposed policy of removing the name Bute from marketing and publicity materials has been dropped.

The SNP Bute Branch in partnership with Bute Community Council, which feared that Bute's identity was under attack, asked the community of Bute to sign a petition to 'Stand up for Bute'.

With more than 1,750 people (electorate 2,400) having signed the petition voicing their displeasure and concern at the actions of Argyll and Bute Council, the council has created a new marketing identity for the island with the slogan 'Choose Bute. Love Bute'.

An Argyll and Bute spokesperson said: 'We have had constructive discussions with all

three Bute elected members, to listen to the concerns expressed by the residents on Bute, and have discussed evolving a family of brands under the over-arching campaign abplace2b.scot and #abplace2b.'

MSP Michael Russell said: 'This is a great example of a positive outcome forced by a community coming together and making its voice heard.'

DUNOON

Last bus to Glasgow

News that McGills is to withdraw the 907 bus service from Dunoon to Glasgow has been met with disapproval from many.

The vital link to the central belt has been running at a loss for some time and its last service will be on Saturday March 2.

The McGill's webpage for the 907 bus service says: 'We regret to advise that the last day of McGill's 907 services is Saturday March 2.'

'Despite our best efforts, this service is not attracting the passenger numbers necessary to continue and unfortunately, we no longer have the ability to cross-subsidise this service.'

Thought for the Week
with Marilyn Shedden

What an amazing universe we inhabit. I was intrigued to learn that a new galaxy has just been discovered by astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope.

The universe is very cluttered. Myriad island cities of stars, the galaxies, form a backdrop tapestry.

Much closer to home are nebulae, star clusters, and assorted other foreground celestial objects that are mostly within our Milky Way galaxy.

Despite the vastness of space, objects tend to get in front of each other.

Hubble's sharp vision uncovered a never-before-seen dwarf galaxy. The loner galaxy is in our own cosmic backyard, only a mere 30 million light-years away.

Because of its 13 billion-year-old age, and its isolation — which resulted in hardly any interaction with other galaxies — the dwarf is the astronomical equivalent of a living fossil from the early universe.

These figures all seem totally mind-blowing and virtually impossible to imagine within our finite time frame.

What an amazing universe we inhabit.

We are but a blink in the cosmos, a split second in eternity, a drop in the ocean.

Yet since time began our ancestors have gazed into that same cosmos, that same galaxy filled with stars and planets billions of years old spinning in an eternity of timeless time.

As our species has evolved to develop the ability to understand some of the physics, we have also developed the ability to articulate that which we don't understand.

And so we can say to the great creator of it all, as the psalmist said some thousand or so years ago: 'What are human beings that you care about us.'

What an amazing universe we inhabit.

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

TEXT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep' (John 10:11).

PLATINUM WEDDINGS



ALLAN - CAMPBELL
Stevie (James) to Florence, at Saddell Church, Carradale, on February 10, 1949, by the late Rev J A Argyll Baker.

DEATHS

BOYD - Peacefully, in the Sunshine Room at the Campbeltown Hospital, on February 4, 2019, Alistair James Boyd, in his 65th year, Sceirbuie, Peninver, dearly beloved husband of Alison Boyd, a much loved dad of Laura, and a loving grandpa of Joey. Funeral service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 11.00am, thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of Kintyre Cancer and Palliative Care.

DEVLIN - On February 1, 2019, peacefully at home, James (Jim) Devlin, formerly of Scottish Ambulance Service, in his 61st year, beloved husband of Caroline and much loved dad of Paul, dearly loved son of Margaret and dear grandson of the late Annie. Funeral service at Cardross Crematorium, (today) Friday, February 8 at 12.15pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

GALBRAITH - Peacefully, at the St Vincent's Hospice, Johnston, Howood, on January 25, 2019, Flora McIlchere McMurchy, in her 84th year, Broom Terrace, Johnston, dearly beloved wife of the late John Galbraith and a much loved sister of Margaret McKinven.

LOGIE - Suddenly, at his home in Eastling, Faversham, Kent, on January 28, 2019, Dr James R Logie, aged 50, caring husband of Trish and proud father of Jamie and Katherine. A dear brother to John and a much missed son of James and the late Rhona Logie, Inverneil. A memorial service will be held in Lochgilphead Parish Church, details at a later date.

MARTIN - Suddenly but peacefully, at home, 29A Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, on January 19, 2019, Ronald Martin (Ronnie), in his 68th year, much loved dad of David and Nichola, loving granda of David, Joshua, Joseph, Kyra, Mathew, John, Craig, Jenna, Faith and Grace, a loving great granda of Elijah and a much loved father-in-law. An interment service will take place in Kilkerran Cemetery, Campbeltown, on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 11.00am, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

MCDONALD - Peacefully, in the Campbeltown Hospital, on February 5, 2019, Flora Emily Gillies, in her 89th year, 15 Lochend Street, Campbeltown, and formerly of Knocknaha Farm, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late John McDonald, much loved mum of Catherine, Christine, Isobel and John, mother-in-law of Neil, Colin, Bruce and Elizabeth, loving nana of Derek, Johnny, Iona, Euan, Craig, Karen, Alistair, Lisa, Stuart, Kirsty, Graeme and Robert, and Nana Emily to Erin, Mia, Calum, Cameron, Beth,

Cara and Brodie. Funeral service in the Highland Parish Church, today Friday, February 8, 2019 at 1.00pm, thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of Kintyre Cancer and Palliative Care.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ARMOUR - The family of the late Maimie Armour would like to thank relatives and friends for all expressions of sympathy received on the loss of their aunt. Sincere thanks to Rev William Crossan for personal and comforting service, at home and graveside, to Kenny and Rhys Blair, funeral directors, for making a very stressful and emotional time so much easier with their compassion and professionalism, to the Ardsiel Hotel for their hospitality and excellent catering, to all staff at Kintyre Care Home for the love and care given to Maimie over the last year, and to all who paid their respects at house and Kilkerran Cemetery.

CAMERON - Charles, Duncan and their families would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many phone calls, visits, messages and kind expressions of sympathy following the recent sad loss of Sandy. Our thanks are extended to the doctors and care teams at the local hospital and also at the RAH, Paisley. Grateful thanks to Rev David Carruthers for leading the service, and to Dougie Philand and Ian Morrison for their personal contributions to a very fitting service and tribute to Sandy. Thanks to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their efficient and caring arrangements; to Morna for beautiful floral tributes, and to the Stag Hotel for catering for the large

numbers in attendance. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at the church and graveside to pay their respects, and in particular the wider Brethren who travelled from far and wide to honour Sandy's wishes. The retiral collection raised over £1,500 which will be split between the MS Centre, Lochgilphead, Macmillan Nurses Mid Argyll and SAAS.

MCGLYNN - David, Shona and their families would like to thank all relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, phone calls and messages received following the sad loss of Cathie. Special thanks are extended to everyone who assisted Cathie in her last few years in Brodie Crescent, and to Nan and her staff at Ardfenaig Residential Home, Ardrishaig for their unfailing support, care and kindness given to Cathie during her time there. Grateful thanks to Rev Hilda Smith for a most personal and uplifting service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their guidance and caring arrangements, to the Stag Hotel for fine purvey, and to Corinna for the lovely floral tributes. Finally, our thanks to all who attended at the church and graveside to pay their respects, your support was greatly appreciated by us all. The retiral collection raised over £400 for Ardfenaig Comfort Fund and Dementia UK.

IN MEMORIAMs

SOUDEN - In loving memory of a dear dad and granda, Alex, who died February 4, 2007. You're always in our hearts. - From your loving daughters, Isabel and Liz, and all the family.

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CHURCH NOTICES

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
(The Church of Scotland)
"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Sunday Services
in Ardrishaig at 11.00am and Achahoish at 12.30pm All Welcome
For all church enquiries and pastoral care contact DCarruthers@churchofscotland.org.uk

ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr. David Connor
01546 602380
All Welcome (SCO002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH Kilmartin
Sunday 10th February 2019 11.30am
Dedication Service of new Church
Rev Dr Roderick Campbell
All welcome (SCO 02121)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Charity Number SC001002
Sunday 10th February
11.30am United Service in Glassary, Kilmartin & Ford Church - Kilmartin followed by lunch.
Saturday 9th February
Achnamara Hall
Cafe Connect
10.30am - 12.30pm
Tuesday 12th February
2.30pm Tayvallich Church
Kirk Session
All welcome
www.northknapdale.org


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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE
Sunday 10th February 2019
Cumlodden and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Cumlodden Church - 10.00am
Service will be taken by Rev. Bill Gray
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
Inveraray Church - 11.30am
Service taken by the Rev. Bill Gray
ALL WELCOME

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY
Church of Scotland
Sunday 10th February 2019
Skipness service 10am
Mrs Marion MacDonald
Tarbert service 11.30am
Baptismal service
Rev. Christine Fulcher
Kilberry service 2pm
Rev. Christine Fulcher
Everyone very welcome
Tarbert & Kilberry SC002622
Skipness SC004280
For all church enquiries and pastoral care: Contact DCarruthers@churchofscotland.org.uk

Highland Parish Church

SC002493
Sunday 10th February 2019
The service will be conducted by Mr Matthew Ramsay and will be held in the church at 11.15am
All welcome.

ST. KIERAN R.C. ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN
01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
Vigil Mass
Saturday 6pm
(except 1st Saturday of the month)
Sundays, Holy Mass 10.00am
All welcome (SCO02876)


Argyll Street, Campbeltown
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown
Scottish Charity No SC023277
Sunday 10th February
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC011686
Sunday 10th February
Morning Worship 11.15am
Creche, Triple C, Gen 1
Rev W Crossan
Tuesday 12th February
Tiny Tots 9.45am
New Hall
Thursday 14th February
Choir Practice
Friday 15th February
Lunch Club 12.00 noon


Campbeltown Corps Church and Community Centre
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009599
Burnside Street, Campbeltown
01586 552046
Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Worship (Army Kidz)
6.30pm Evening Worship
Wednesday
12.15pm Lunch Club
1.30pm C.A.M.E.O.
7.00pm Make 'n' Munch Craft Group
Major Ruth Russell
All welcome

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Friday 8th February
SKY Youth Group
7.30pm
Sunday 10th February
Family Communion Service
11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies
All welcome
Wednesday 13th February
Bible study
7.30pm at the manse
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.co.uk
SC014646


George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 10th February
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
4.00pm Service in Tayinloan Village Hall
Wednesday 13th February
12 noon Bible Study & Prayer
All Welcome
All Rodger Crooks' sermons can be found through our website: www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745


CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday 10th February
11.00am Family Service
Speaker - Ken Watson with Sunday School and refreshments after the service
The Ark
Baby & Toddler Group
Starts again on 28th February
South Kintyre Youth
Every Friday at 7.30 pm
Visit our Facebook page for upcoming events
We meet at the Kinloch Hall, Kinloch Road
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322

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Health and care funding crisis – getting a grip

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Frustration was evident at the latest meeting of the board overseeing the region's health and social care services.

At Argyll and Bute Council headquarters in Lochgilphead on January 30, the Integration Joint Board (IJB) heard that savings measures have been slow to achieve, though members praised a new financial reporting process.

A £4.398m overspend is currently being forecast by Argyll and Bute



Interim chief financial officer
Kirsty Flanagan.

Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) for 2018/19, which may rise as high as £5.5m depending on a service level agreement with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Argyll and Bute Council's head of strategic finance Kirsty Flanagan is interim chief financial officer for the HSCP. Mrs Flanagan told IJB members, which oversees the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP): 'It is really disappointing to note that this is a deterioration in the position reported to the board in November, when it was £4.006 million. The main reason for

the overspend relates to a shortfall in delivering the 2018/19 savings.'

She stressed, however, the risk connected to the HSCP's service level agreement with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

Mrs Flanagan continued: 'At the IJB meeting on September 26 the board instructed officers to put in place measures to minimise discretionary spend. While this was communicated to staff, the figures you have before you, I would suggest that they have been largely ineffective.'

'For this reason, along with the financial situation NHS Highland

finds itself in, we are implementing a range of further measures known as grip and control. This will take a great deal of time and effort and the measures will be in place until we see an improvement.'

IJB member and Argyll and Bute councillor Gary Mulvaney complimented Mrs Flanagan on the quality of financial information now available to the board. He commented: 'It doesn't change the overall picture, which is not good, but at least the clarity of information makes it easier for the IJB to monitor the situation.'

Board keeps up pressure on delayed healthcare savings

Less than half of planned health and care savings of £11.471 million set out in the quality and finance plan have been achieved.

With a sense of disappointment, the Integration Joint Board of Argyll and Bute HSCP agreed that anything deemed 'not achievable in full' be dropped, meaning an extra £3.898 million of savings will need to be found in 2019/20.

In an effort to bridge the budget gap, the IJB had requested revised savings options be brought to the current meeting.

This did not happen, and Kirsty Flanagan, interim chief financial officer, explained: 'Officers have been working on a series of savings options, but they are not at the stage to be brought forward to the board. I think it is vitally important they are

tested by the senior leadership team and there has really been insufficient time to do that with the Christmas period and all the meetings that have been taking place linked to NHS Highland's financial position.'

Instead, the savings options will be brought to the quality and finance programme board on Wednesday February 20 before being presented to the full IJB on Wednesday March 27.

IJB member Kieron Green said that there was a 'track record of proposals being brought forward at a very late stage' and continued: 'This isn't something that was decided just before Christmas. We have a timeline for this going back to the summer. The fact we haven't even seen outline proposals at this stage is very disconcerting to me.'

HSCP chief officer Joanna MacDonald replied: 'I can completely understand the concern,' adding 'but there have been a lot of changes to the leadership team. We recognise the seriousness of the situation and this will be a key priority for us.'

Pressed by Robin Creelman in the chair, Joanna MacDonald gave an assurance the proposals would come forward to the IJB in March.

Mrs Flanagan cautioned that the situation would be challenging, given the tight timescale: 'There is an assurance we will bring forward proposals in March. But we may come forward with some proposals that are still to be developed.'

Mr Creelman replied: 'I am very appreciative of the work you have put in, but it's our job to try to keep the pressure on.'

Demands on staff in savings push

Grip and control is all very well, but it does mean added pressure for staff already carrying out their day-to-day duties, according to a union representative.

Kevin McIntosh of the public sector trade union UNISON said at the IJB meeting: 'My concern is for staff. 'While recognising the need for and supporting all the recommendations, instructing officers and service managers responsible for grip and control activities to get us on an even keel, I am wondering whether the staff in these service areas will have time to do this while carrying out these other savings measures and engaging with other staff members – all while carrying out their day job.'

'The timescales are very tight with



Kevin McIntosh of UNISON.

regards to what is expected of people and that exerts a huge pressure on staff responsible for coming up with

results. It may be partly due to some of these pressures that the savings measures so far have been unsuccessful. Is there a risk in all of that? There surely must be and we should be recognising that.'

Joanna MacDonald, chief officer of the HSCP, said: 'All of the team who are sitting round this table are putting in tremendous hours across Argyll and Bute. All of the managers come in every day to do their best and they are finding it quite exhausting, so there is a risk to staff.'

'It is important we support staff health and well-being. There is also a lack of clarity and the uncertainty isn't good.'

'We welcome these papers coming to the IJB, but it is a lot of work for our staff.'



Many Argyll patients receive treatment at large centres such as Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow.

Glasgow cash wrangle a 'risk' to Argyll healthcare finances

At the January IJB meeting, interim chief financial officer Kirsty Flanagan was at pains to emphasise the significant financial risk resulting from a proposed increase in charges by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

According to its own figures, Argyll and Bute HSCP spent £60 million on buying hospital services from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde in 2017/18 – around 23 per cent of its total spending.

Rather than on an individual patient basis, the payment is contained within a single transaction covering all services provided, referred to as a service level agreement (SLA).

The stance of NHS Greater

Glasgow and Clyde is that there has been historic undercharging of £1.1 million for services provided and it is looking to address this in addition to an agreed uplift.

Argyll and Bute HSCP is currently challenging this. A spokesperson for the HSCP said: 'We renegotiate the SLA value each year with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde using the previous year's value as a baseline. For this financial year (2018/19) we have offered to make payment based on last year's SLA value plus an agreed uplift.'

If that is not accepted by Glasgow, then the HSCP forecast overspend for 2018/19 could increase by 25 per cent, or £1.1 million.

Third sector 'frightened' over healthcare cuts

Amid the drive to cut spending, the point was made at the Integration Joint Board meeting last week that pressures will continue to grow on third sector organisations contracted to carry out work on behalf of Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.

Many of their employees have not had a wage increase for up to five years and some third sector partners were 'too frightened' to ask where they stand in the face of big cuts. IJB chairman Robin Creelman said: 'As we move forward with transforming services, it is essential the third sector knows where it stands.' Joanna MacDonald, HSCP chief officer, added: 'The third sector has been heavily involved in the development of the strategic plan.'

Struggles in snow at Tarbert Gun Club

Tarbert Gun Club members had a busy weekend recently when they took part in a charity afternoon and their winter league February competition.

On Saturday February 2, Craig Samborek invited workmates and friends along to Barmore Shooting Ground to break clay targets.

Although billed as a 'fun afternoon', it got a bit serious as Steph Kirk was in top form.

Her colleagues challenged her on the down the line stand.

The real winner, though, was the Scottish Air Ambulance as £500 was raised for its funds.

The club thanked everyone involved.

Sunday February 3 saw 10 teams of five shooters trying to increase their scores in the winter league. Some did, some didn't.

The lying snow should have made

the targets easier to see, but it had the opposite effect and it was a struggle to pick out the clays.

Archie MacGilp Junior's team was top lot on the day. John Weir and Brian Baird were the top individuals.

Results:

Class A: 1 John Weir and Brian Baird; 2 Andrew MacDonald; 3 Jack Campbell.

Class B: 1 Matthew Peden; 2 Jonathan Gargan; 3 Stephen MacSparran.

Class C: 1 Billy Bergant and John Cupples; 2 Andy Peden; 3 Craig Samborek and Derek Ballantyne.

Class D: 1 Roy Laird; 2 John Winnard; 3 Shaun Johnson.

Class E: 1 Sinclair MacKinnon; 2 Chris MacEachren; 3 Bill Bidmead and Martin O'Keefe.

Winning team: Archie MacGilp, Jonathan Gargan, Andy Peden, Roy Laird and Martin O'Keefe.



Craig Samborek and friends at the Tarbert Gun Club charity shoot.



The winning team: Archie MacGilp Junior, Jonathan Gargan, Roy Laird, Martin O'Keefe and Andy Peden.

Sports club lottery numbers

Drawn on Monday February 4, Kilmory Camanachd Club's lottery numbers were 1, 8 and 15.

There were no winners so next week's jackpot will be £700.

Also drawn on Monday, Tarbert Football Club's lottery numbers were 12, 18 and 20.

Last week's jackpot of £100 was won by Alastair Kernachan. This week's jackpot will be £100.

Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery numbers were 5, 6 and 9.

M Blythe was the winner of the £500 jackpot.

Next week's jackpot will be £100.

Sportsdesk 01546 602345

SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT
£650

We have removed the football from the photograph below. 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.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Ball' Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into.

The final decision rests with the Company.

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. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

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.

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. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes.

Winners names and hometowns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



Please remember to enclose £1 for 10 crosses. 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

Name

Address

Tel No.

Please tape your £1 coin here (only if posting)

LAST WEEK'S BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:
L Nicolson & M Paterson
Campbeltown
K MacKay
Tarbert



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
 Struggles in snow at
 Tarbert Gun Club

Red Star youngsters rescue a point

Petershill	3
Red Star 2004s	3
Glasgow and District YFL	

Red Star 2004s faced another tough game on Sunday February 3 when they travelled to Glasgow to take on league leaders Petershill.

Petershill pressed from kick-off, putting Star under pressure, and took a deserved lead. The Lochgilphead youngsters tried to exert a bit of influence and equalised with Caskie forcing the ball into the net from a well-worked corner.

This simply encouraged Petershill and as Red Star

struggled to cope, Petershill fired in two more goals.

Star dug in and tried to keep in the game and they were rewarded just before half time with a goal from a Caskie penalty, with Petershill reduced to 10. The second half was more evenly balanced, although Star struggled to create and convert any clear goal scoring opportunities.

A breakthrough did come when, with time running out, Paterson fired in a long range effort to secure a draw.

Next up is a home game this Sunday, February 10, against last year's Glasgow League champions Drumchapel Amateurs.



The Red Star 2004s team.



The girls form a tunnel of Saltires.

Mid Argyll fans form honour guard



Amber Russell, Drew Buckley and Anya Gritten.

Three Mid Argyll-based girls were among those given the privilege of forming the honour guard on Friday February 1 at Scotland v Italy women's rugby international.

Amber Russell, Drew Buckley and Anya Gritten travelled to Scotstoun stadium in Glasgow on Friday night with their Oban U15 teammates to form the honour guard for the Scotland women's team as they took on Italy in the first game of this year's six nations tournament.

The girls formed a tunnel of Saltire flags for the teams to run through as they took to the field. The girls had a great night watching a very competitive game despite Scotland losing 28 - 7.



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 Wednesday 20th February 2019
 12:30pm – 3pm
 @ Campbeltown Picture House

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