



£2000 Spot the Ball winner announced

Feature:
Childcare
choices in
your area



Caring Esmie, 5, goes the distance for little brother

by Hannah O'Hanlon
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A caring Campbeltown girl is putting on her running shoes to raise funds so her little brother can gain access to innovative autism services.

Esmie MacLean, who is only five years old and has no running experience, is being sponsored to take part in this year's junior MOK Run. She will take part in the five-to-six age category, meaning she will run 500m.

Esmie, who will be six on Sunday, hopes to raise £5,000 so that her three-year-old brother Lyle, who is awaiting his official diagnosis as autistic, can attend Glasgow-based Bluesky, which offers pivotal response therapy for children.

Bluesky is described as an innovative and unique service providing individual programmes of therapy to young children experiencing development delays, including autism.

Esmie and Lyle's parents, Iona and Scott MacLean, said:



'We have been aware that Lyle was facing more challenges than other children his age, as he is often very frustrated and he wasn't hitting all his milestones – and the milestones he had made were

regressing.

'He is currently non-verbal and he was given an 'unofficial' diagnosis for autism on January 7, 2019.

'Unfortunately services like Bluesky cost a lot of money



Esmie MacLean, left, has been described as little brother Lyle's 'number one fan'; and above, three-year-old Lyle MacLean is awaiting his official diagnosis as autistic.

and it really is sad that these services aren't realistically affordable for most working families.

'Also with all the cut backs being made, there is absolutely no funding available to help with this type of therapy. However, we cannot simply sit back and let an opportuni-

ty to bring out the best in Lyle pass us by.'

Lyle is currently on the waiting list to attend Bluesky, so Iona and Scott aren't sure how much it will cost to enroll him. Esmie is hoping to raise £5,000 as it is thought that this will cover about one year to 18 months of therapy, including his initial assessment.

'Of course that could change depending on what programme they feel is best for Lyle,' added Iona.

'As a parent there are no boundaries to what you would do for your children and we cannot put into words how much this means to us, and to even have some hope that we might one day hear our baby boy call out Mummy, Daddy or Esmie. We long for those words and to have interaction with Lyle as a family unit and ease the frustration for him because he cannot communicate his needs.'

Iona and Scott describe their daughter as an amazing big sister and Lyle's number

one fan: 'She is so patient with him considering his needs always come before hers,' they said. 'We are so proud of her for not only entering the race but also doing the best she can for her little brother.'

The fundraising page, which can be found by searching for 'Esmie MacLean' on the GoFundMe website, had raised more than £1,000 by the time the Courier went to print.

If for any reason Lyle cannot be enrolled with Bluesky or the therapy does not work for him, the family plans to donate the money raised to the Scottish Autism charity, which has offered them 'invaluable support'.

Iona added: 'Campbeltown is a very caring and generous community. We are extremely grateful for everyone who has sponsored Esmie and we are thankful for all the messages of support we have received.'

'We are very proud of Esmie for taking part in the MOK Run and we are looking forward to cheering her on.'

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Carradale man fined £300

Michael Gruber, 45, of Tormhor, Carradale, was fined £300 at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week, after admitting threatening and abusive behaviour outside his home.

The charge followed an incident which happened on August 20 last year.

At the December 11 sitting of the court, procurator fiscal David Glancy said: 'This was a chance encounter in a communal car parking area. For reasons not apparent there appears to be some back-ground. Gruber challenged

the complainers; he was aggressive and at some stage said he was going to get them.'

Gruber then left and this gave them the opportunity to get back to their house and the police were called.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said: 'In a small village sometimes there are tensions between residents.'

He called for reports on Gruber and the case called again last week.

Gruber's defence agent Charles Drummond said that the reports were 'an encouraging assessment'.

£800 fine for paperwork failure

A fishing boat skipper explained to Campbeltown Sheriff Court how difficult it was to comply with paperwork when working in remote locations.

Ciaran McIntyre, of 68 Longrow, Campbeltown, admitted two offences when he appeared before the court last week.

He failed to submit the fishing log book and landing declarations to the relevant authorities, as required by law, between February 14 and

May 29, 2018 at Kyle, Portree, Campbeltown and elsewhere.

The paperwork has to be submitted as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after landing in respect of each voyage.

'At some places there is no box in the harbour [for leaving the paperwork] that you are supposed to use,' he said, adding, 'the whole penalty system is a farce.'

Sheriff Patrick Hughes fined the 34-year-old a total of £800.

Donald's surprise spot the ball win

by Hannah O'Hanlon
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A Kintyre man who has never played shinty in his life was surprised to land £2,000 in the Courier's Spot the Shinty Ball competition.

Donald McLellan, 83, from Machrihanish, was up against hundreds of people in the competition which also runs in the Courier's sister titles – the Argyllshire Advertiser, the Oban Times and the Lochaber Times.

Donald said: 'It was a great surprise. It's a lovely wee lift in the new year, after spending a few pounds at Christmas!'

'I play regularly – I've been doing it for years – and I've had a few near misses, winning £25, but I've never won the big money.'

The competition used to ask Courier and Advertiser



Donald receives his cheque for £2,000 from the Courier's Rebecca Harvey.

50_c03spottheball01

did', so it's just a guess – pot luck, I suppose. I thought 'I'll just keep on going.' If you don't try, you won't win.'

Asked if he had plans for the money, Donald said: 'I might get a new mower.'

Donald was the closest to the ball in this week's competition which ran for four weeks instead of the usual one because of the festive period. He landed the guaranteed £2,000 prize but, had he landed directly on the ball, he would have won the £4,150 jackpot.

For a chance to win next week's £2,150 prize money, turn to page 35.

readers to find the location of a football but changed last year to a shinty ball when the competitions in all four

papers were amalgamated.

'When it turned to the shinty ball I said to myself, "I don't play shinty, I never ever

Muneroy's meringue bridge makes waves

While last week's article about the possibility of a bridge between Northern Ireland and Kintyre was deemed far-fetched by some readers, it certainly created a lot of talk, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

Topical baker Frances Hill of Muneroy Tearoom whisked up her own creation in response to the news – a 'prototype' bridge made of meringue!

She uploaded a photograph of the construction, complete with a model car, alongside the caption: 'Prototype for new Mull of Kintyre to Northern Ireland bridge just leaked. Apparently £12 billion eggs to be used.'

It is not the first time



Frances Hill's 'prototype' bridge.

Frances's creations have hit the headlines, and many impressive Muneroy meringues and cakes have gained attention on the tearoom's Facebook page.

Frances told the Courier: 'I always try to post and make cakes and meringues to suit the mood and news of the moment when I can – it's what

makes my job so much more fun and enjoyable.'

With a high sugar content, meringues absorb water even from the air so it may take something a little more durable to withstand the waves of the North Channel – which is a good thing, as Frances's prototype is sure to be long gone.

POLICE FILES

■ A 42-year-old man has been charged with the theft of electricity and a report is to be submitted to the procurator fiscal. This follows a police visit to the man's flat at Longrow, Campbeltown, on Thursday last week when they found that the electricity meter had been allegedly tampered with.

■ A white Ford Focus car parked in Burnside Square, Campbeltown, between Monday January 6 and Saturday 11 was damaged

by having a passenger door struck by another vehicle, which failed to stop and report the collision. Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

■ On Tuesday night last week a motorist was stopped by police on the A83 near Killegruer on an alleged speeding offence. The driver, a man aged 58, was charged and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

In a separate incident on Thursday last week a 20-year-old motorist was stopped while driving on the B843 near Campbeltown after police inquiries showed that he allegedly did not have any insurance in force. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

■ Police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information on the above or any incident to phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Davaar Island Safe Walking Times

	Morning Safe Walking Times		Afternoon Safe Walking Times			
	Low Tide	From	Til	Low Tide	From	Til
Wed, 1 Jan 2020	08:57	05:57	11:27			
Thu, 2 Jan 2020	09:43	06:43	12:13			
Fri, 3 Jan 2020	10:35	07:35	13:05			
Sat, 4 Jan 2020				11:36	08:36	14:06
Sun, 5 Jan 2020				12:43	09:43	15:13
Mon, 6 Jan 2020				13:50	10:50	16:20
Tue, 7 Jan 2020				14:46	11:46	17:16
Wed, 8 Jan 2020				15:33	12:33	18:03
Thu, 9 Jan 2020				16:15	13:15	18:45
Fri, 10 Jan 2020				16:56	13:56	19:26
Sat, 11 Jan 2020				17:37	14:37	20:07
Sun, 12 Jan 2020						
Mon, 13 Jan 2020						
Tue, 14 Jan 2020	07:36	04:36	10:06			
Wed, 15 Jan 2020	08:25	05:25	10:55			
Thu, 16 Jan 2020	09:18	06:18	11:48			
Fri, 17 Jan 2020	10:14	07:14	12:44			
Sat, 18 Jan 2020	11:16	08:16	13:46			
Sun, 19 Jan 2020				12:28	09:28	14:58
Mon, 20 Jan 2020				13:40	10:40	16:10
Tue, 21 Jan 2020				14:45	11:45	17:15
Wed, 22 Jan 2020				15:41	12:41	18:11
Thu, 23 Jan 2020				16:29	13:29	18:59
Fri, 24 Jan 2020				17:12	14:12	19:42
Sat, 25 Jan 2020						
Sun, 26 Jan 2020						
Mon, 27 Jan 2020						
Tue, 28 Jan 2020	07:11	04:11	09:41			
Wed, 29 Jan 2020	07:46	04:46	10:16			
Thu, 30 Jan 2020	08:23	05:23	10:53			
Fri, 31 Jan 2020	09:02	06:02	11:32			

Stay safe: Check weather conditions and hours of daylight as well as tide times before you go.



www.explorecampbeltown.com

Call for action to secure medi-helipad

by Hannah O'Hanlon
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Councillors, community councillors, MSPs and members of the public have joined forces to urge NHS Highland and the Scottish Government to respond to calls for a purpose-built helipad to be built adjacent to Campbeltown Hospital.

Donald Cameron, MSP for the Highlands and Islands, has written to Cabinet Secretary for Health Jeane Freeman and NHS Highland chief executive Iain Stewart urging them to fast-forward a proposal to upgrade a water-logged playing field adjacent to the hospital so that it can safely host helicopters.

Mr Cameron said: 'I was contacted by a concerned member of the public, Stuart McLellan, who has consulted many of the relevant agencies, including Argyll and Bute Council which owns the land but is happy to make it available, the Civil Aviation Authority which has given the proposal the green light, and local health practitioners who are very keen to see progress.'

'And no wonder - presently, the air ambulance has to land some 20 minutes away from the hospital. If we can cut the delay in getting emergency cases to hospital I firmly believe we could save lives.'

'I was therefore very surprised to learn that despite the widespread support for the proposal, and the prospect of financial support

from a third party, NHS Highland appears to be very slow in moving the project forward. I want to get to the bottom of this and am asking for an explanation from the very top.'

Mr McLellan, who has relatives living near the hospital, said: 'I am very grateful to Donald for intervening and I hope he is successful in injecting a bit of urgency into NHS Highland. This is a golden ticket-on-a-plate offer that NHS Highland is about to throw away if it doesn't get a move on.'

'The initiative now needs to be backed by a sense of urgency.'

Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll and Bute, has also been in touch with the Cabinet Secretary, asking her to do all she can to expedite matters, as well as Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.

Mr Russell said: 'Mr McLellan's initiative on this is admirable and the local support, including from the councillors, has been terrific. It now needs to be backed by a sense of urgency from health service managers.'

South Kintyre councillor John Armour said: 'I share the frustration of Stuart McLellan in the time it is taking to get this done.'

'I asked Argyll and Bute Council to work quickly to issue a licence and permis-

sion to use the field which it owns and was delighted that this was done and in place nearly 18 months ago, but I'm really frustrated that NHS Highland is taking so long to give it the go-ahead.'

Argyll First councillor Donald Kelly, who contacted George Morrison, NHS Highland's head of finance for Argyll and Bute, just last week for an update, told the Courier: 'The NHS has been dragging its heels over this project and it's past time that it was delivered.'

Mr Morrison's response to Mr Kelly was in line with what an NHS Highland spokesman told the Courier: 'The construction of the helipad is treated as a capital project and we therefore have to follow Health Facilities Scotland Framework.'

'The appointed HFS Framework contractor is Kier Construction and we have asked them to provide a costed proposal for construction of the helipad.'

'Once we receive this proposal we will ask the proposed funder, HELP Appeal, to confirm they are willing to fund construction at the cost proposed by Kier and if this is confirmed we will then be in a position to move forward.'

The HELP Appeal is involved in a variety of helipad projects throughout Scotland and England. Established in 2009, the charity provides non-repayable grants towards the cost of improvements to helipads or the installation of new facilities altogether.

Air traffic debate is a must says Donald Cameron MSP

Highlands and Islands MSP Donald Cameron is supporting calls for a debate in Parliament on plans to centralise air traffic control in the region.

This would lead to air traffic controllers removed from airports and replaced with a single 'remote' tower in Inverness.

Mr Cameron has supported a motion by Shetland MSP Beatrice Wishart, which aims to hold a Member's Business debate on the changes which are being proposed by Highlands and Islands Airport Limited (HIAL).

The Scottish Conservative MSP, who is a regular user of HIAL services in the region, said airports like Barra, Benbecula and Stornoway in the Western Isles, and Campbeltown, Islay and Tiree in Argyll and Bute, are crucial parts of the area's transport infrastructure.

'As HIAL is wholly-owned by the Scottish Government, I wish to hear a justification directly from the minister for



Donald Cameron at Stornoway Airport.

these proposals which have caused so much concern, not least from HIAL employees,' said Mr Cameron.

'It is vitally important that changes of this nature are subject to thorough scrutiny. The focus should be on pro-

viding a better service rather than just saving money.'

'The Scottish Government's track record on our ferry service has left much to be desired and I wish to ensure that they don't make a hash of our air links as well.'

Cinema reels in donations

Environmentalists urge people to reuse and recycle as much as possible and that is certainly what Campbeltown Picture House has done in its latest fundraising bid.

David Mayo, a director of Campbeltown Community Business, the company which owns the cinema, created a unique collection box using an old cinema reel, perspex and the letters from the display board that used to be at the kiosk before

the cinema's restoration. There is the option to insert cash or use a contactless card or mobile device to donate.

Mhairi Hendrie, the cinema's assistant manager, said: 'Since it was installed it has certainly gained some attention. We thought something more eye-catching than your standard collection tin might be a bit of fun.'

'Any money raised will be going towards the cost of looking after the building.'



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Do you have time to help Kintyre victims of crime?

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Do you want to get a little something more out of your golden years? Or maybe you are a student seeking experience for your CV?

Victim Support Scotland (VSS), an independent charity to which Police Scotland refers victims and witnesses of crime for support, may have the perfect opportunity for you.

VSS offers free and confidential support to people affected by crime throughout Scotland, offering emotional support, practical help and information about the criminal justice system, and victim and witness rights.

Oban-based Gary Brown is a support coordinator for the charity, meaning he is responsible for recruiting and managing volunteers,



Eva MacDonald MBE.

making sure they adhere to the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) membership scheme and other training, and organising their deployment in areas such as Campbeltown.

He explained that VSS had about 130 paid staff and 500 active volunteers, working from 30 offices as well as 40 courts across the country.

The roles carried out by VSS volunteers includes helping vulnerable witnesses, having the ability to put in place special measures such as erecting screens or establishing video links for those giving evidence, or going into court and standing beside people who require that support.

Volunteers can also advise on personal safety and security, and carry out home visits, if requested.

Campbeltown's sole volunteer, Eva MacDonald MBE, has been in the role for 16 years.

Eva, 82, was a nurse for 54 years, and was recognised at the time of her retirement in 2010 as the longest-serving nurse in Scotland.

Eva, who comes from a 'strong police family', spent 25 years on The Children's Panel and it was when she left that role that she saw an

advertisement for volunteering with VSS, which she felt would combine her nursing skills and her police and court experience.

Self-described people person Eva said: 'No one thinks they'll be a victim of crime. Court can be a formidable place. I can do pre-trial visits, showing victims who sits where. Sometimes it's just being there for someone. Sometimes one phone call suffices, or people don't need anything at all.

'It's not a huge task but it can be challenging on your own. I say to people that if I can do it, anyone can.'

Two years ago, when she turned 80, Eva was a director at both Argyll and Bute Advocacy and Argyll and Bute Care and Repair, as well as a volunteer for VSS, the Kintyre Crime Prevention Panel (KCPP), and at the

RNLI shop. Now, she only volunteers for VSS, the RNLI and the KCPP, giving up her directorships due to the travelling they required.

She has also volunteered for a number of other charities and groups over the years.

'I was taught to be a good citizen and to serve your community. That's what volunteering is about for me,' she said.

'I learn a lot from volunteering. My whole career was based on nursing and caring, but now I'm doing other things. I get a lot back, it's not all giving.

'Volunteering at the court is a fulfilling role. If you can say you've helped someone, that's good. That's my philosophy in life.'

While Eva is very competent within the role, Gary thinks it would be good to have a small bank of

volunteers on which to rely. He said: 'Everything we do is about supporting victims of crime, if they want that support. Court only takes place one week a month in Campbeltown, and the services of volunteers may only be needed two or three mornings of that week, but it would be good to share the work between two or three people.'

He added that people from all walks of life are welcome to enquire, from retirees looking to give something back to the community, to psychology or criminology students, for example, who might want to boost their portfolio of experience.

Anyone who is interesting in finding out more can contact Gary by email at gary.brown@victimssupportsco.org.uk or by phoning 01631 565676.

SCOTTISH FIELD

February issue



OUT NOW

Scotland's wild goats... *Outlander* author
Diana Gabaldon... *Ayrshire & Arran*...
Scotland's top independent schools... *Stunning
wedding photography*... *Comedian Sanjeev
Kohli*... *Top tattie recipes*

Ship's former commander buys charity painting

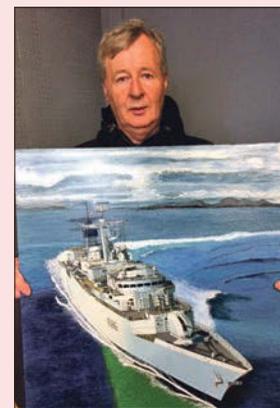
The former commander of HMS Campbeltown placed the winning bid on a painting of the vessel auctioned to raise funds for Shopper-Aide, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

The painting by Kintyre artist Billy McTaggart, which was donated to the Campbeltown-based charity, now belongs to Vice Admiral Sir Alan Massey KCB CBE, who placed the winning bid of £350.

When notified of his success, Vice Admiral Massey, a former senior officer in the Royal Navy who served as the Second Sea Lord, one of the most senior admirals of the naval service, said: 'The artist has done a brilliant job in his perspective of Campbeltown's beautiful, racy lines.'

Throughout his career Vice Admiral Massey also commanded HMS Newcastle, HMS Illustrious – during operations against the Taliban regime in Afghanistan in 2001 – and HMS Ark Royal, when the ship led the amphibious assault into Iraq in 2003.

He held a number of



Artist Billy McTaggart with his painting of HMS Campbeltown.

other roles, including three appointments to the Ministry of Defence in London, serving in the NATO policy directorate, defence programmes and as assistant director of Navy Plans, serving twice in NATO staff appointments, and, as a commodore, he led the operations division of the Permanent Joint Headquarters at Northwood and then went on to be assistant chief of the Naval Staff in July 2005.

He assumed office as Second Sea Lord in a ceremony aboard HMS Victory in July 2008.

In July 2010, after leaving the Navy, Vice Admiral Massey was appointed chief executive of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, stepping down from the role in October 2018.

The last deployment of HMS Campbeltown, the ship depicted in the auctioned painting, was a seven-month tour from 2007 to 2008 in the Persian Gulf where she operated in support of Operation Calash and Operation Telic.

HMS Campbeltown entered refit in September 2008 and the Royal Navy announced that she would be decommissioned in 2011.

She paid a final visit to her namesake town in March that year where a series of ceremonies, including a town centre parade by the ship's crew, took place to commemorate the end of the ship's active service.

For more on how Shopper-Aide benefits the community, turn to pages 14 and 15.

CalMac goes bi-lingual

CalMac, the UK's largest ferry and harbour operator, is adding to its support for Gaelic speakers by offering a bi-lingual English and Gaelic customer care service.

As a pilot project over the summer CalMac created a new customer care centre in Stornoway, bringing six new jobs to the town. It has now confirmed this as a permanent fixture with staff there enhancing the Gaelic face of the company.

Previously, assistance from a Gaelic speaker was only available to Gaelic-speaking customers phoning or visiting port offices in Gaelic-speaking areas, but now anyone who would like to make an enquiry in Gaelic can be transferred to a native speaker. The Stornoway team will also be steadily transforming CalMac's social media channels into a bi-lingual offering as well.

There are around 60,000 Gaelic speakers in Scotland, and the majority of people living in the Western Isles are able to speak Gaelic.

'We are committed to looking at ways of spreading jobs more evenly across our area of operations and I'm delighted

to confirm that the summer pilot we ran in Stornoway will now be a permanent fixture in the town,' said managing director Robbie Drummond.

'Given the prevalence of the Gaelic language in the Western Isles it was a natural step to make this the centre of our new bi-lingual customer service offering.

'This is something we have been keen to introduce for some time and this new centre now gives us the capacity to support this.'

CalMac has long history of support for the Gaelic language, including as the principal commercial supporter of the Royal National Mòd.

Shona MacLennan, chief executive of Bord na Gaidhlig, welcomed the news: 'We always welcome new developments which contribute to the National Gaelic Language Plan's aim that more people use Gaelic more often in more situations. By locating those jobs in a Gaelic speaking community this will bring important economic benefits to the Western Isles.'

CalMac's award-winning customer service team handles more than 300,000 calls and 44,000 emails every year.

Morton welcomes budget decision

Argyll and Bute Council's leader has welcomed the Scottish Government's decision to bring forward the date when its spending plans will be announced – but has warned that an increase in funding is still needed.

Councillor Aileen Morton was responding to the news that Scottish finance minister Derek Mackay has set a date of Thursday February 6 to announce the budget at Holyrood.

The council is due to set out its spending plans for 2020/21 three weeks later, but the process has been shrouded in uncertainty after the recent general election.

Further doubt was created by chancellor Sajid Javid's announcement that the UK Government budget will be set on Thursday March 11 – the same day by which Scotland's local authorities



Councillor Aileen Morton.

are legally required to agree their spending plans.

Councillor Morton said: 'These are times of considerable challenge, not only for Scottish councils but also for the people who depend on the core services we provide, and the staff we employ to deliver them. 'The Scottish

Government's decision to proceed with its Budget on February 6 helps to reduce uncertainty, but until we know the level of funding we will receive from the Scottish Government, we won't really know what kind of budget we will be setting for Argyll and Bute.

'As Audit Scotland made very clear in its report at the end of last year, local councils have faced substantial reductions in budgets in the last six years.

'If our services are to continue in a recognisable form, and if people are to receive the support they expect and deserve, then we need to see a real terms increase in our funding from the Scottish Government.'

The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities [COSLA] had previously backed Mr Mackay's announcement, having previously sought

that he prioritised funding for Scottish councils.

COSLA president Alison Evison said: 'I am extremely pleased the Scottish Government has listened and responded to calls from COSLA for an early Scottish budget.

'I wrote last week to Mr Mackay highlighting that in these exceptional circumstances it is vital that all spheres of government in Scotland work together to protect and support the essential services that local government provides every day to individuals, families and communities.'

CONTACTUS
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Work starts to remove diseased trees from Beinn Ghuilean

Forestry and Land Scotland was due to start work yesterday (Thursday) to fell diseased trees at Beinn Ghuilean, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

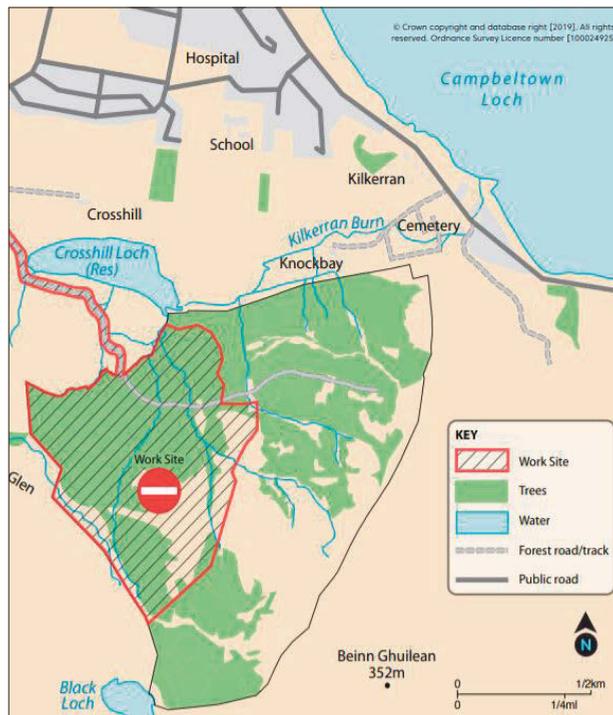
This means that access restrictions are in place from the Tomaig Road and Narrowfield entrance and there will be no through route or access along this route for the duration of the operations.

The larch trees – infected by Phytophthora ramorum, for which there is no remedy – are being felled in a bid to slow the spread of the disease to other woodlands in the area.

It is anticipated that the felling operations will be completed by April but may be increased if further infection is found.

Tommy McGrory, FLS planning forester, told the Courier: 'Now that we've started the work we'd like to remind everyone that, for public safety, we have restricted access to some sections of local trails and to sections of the forest road.

'There are plenty of signs in place across the site and it's



A map showing the restricted area.

really important that visitors heed those warnings, keep out of the work zone and keep themselves safe by using other parts of the forest.

'Because the spores that cause the disease can travel from forest to forest on

twigs, leaf litter and mud, we'd also encourage visitors to help prevent their spread by brushing off forest debris and mud from their boots, walking gear, bike wheels and dogs' paws before and after visiting the forest.'

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LETTERS

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Inspirational Esmie

Five-year-old Esmie MacLean, who is fundraising to help her brother access expensive autism treatment, can teach us all a lesson on altruism.

While many children her age would be dreaming of what they want for their birthday – Esmie is six on Sunday – she has signed herself up to run 500m at this year's MOK Run, which is no small feat for someone with such little legs.

They say that early intervention can be the key to success, and other parents, who have tried out the therapies for which Esmie is raising money, speak of outstanding results.

It can be very hard to 'go public' with such personal family matters, so not only should Esmie be commended, but also her mum and dad, Iona and Scott, who had the courage to talk out for the benefit of their family.

Campbeltown always rallies when it comes to such worthwhile causes and every penny counts, so please donate whatever you can.

We would like to wish Esmie the very best of luck for the race – and, of course, a very happy birthday on Sunday.

Support for independence is stagnant

It is not my intention to take part in a tit for tat, 'I said, you said' argument with Mr Wilson, so I will make this response as succinct as I possibly can.

Mr Wilson's letter is just a continuation of his previous one, a tirade against the Tory government and Boris Johnson, with more than half-a-dozen mentions of both, but also, again, not a single pointer to the benefits of independence.

I would suggest that his letter be read in conjunction with Brian Gee's submission, and that the reader consider which one addresses the real issues of independence, and which one is a rhetorical rant against Westminster.

Not hard, is it?

The fact remains that the SNP support, and therefore the support for independence has been stagnant at 45 per cent since 2014, and that Mr Wilson and his cohorts would drag us into another divisive and costly referendum without the merest hint of an economic plan on how to deal with the lack of currency, the huge deficit Scotland has, and the loss of the fiscal transfer, which incidentally has been worth more than £12,000 for EACH and EVERY person in Scotland since the 2014 referendum.

This speaks volumes about how they have no consideration for Scotland or its people... independence, regardless of the cost.

Finally, you just know that should we have another referendum and the separatist move-

ment loses, as it surely will, the clamour for indyref3 will commence straight away.

There is no economic case for independence, and as much as the SNP and its supporters may try to cloud and conceal this, that is the reality of the situation.

Michael McGeachy,
Campbeltown.

There will be another referendum

Last month, the SNP stood on a manifesto giving the people the right to decide their future. The British nationalist parties noisily opposed and were humiliated.

Since then Scotland has been hit with a barrage of, 'No, No, No,' as the Anglo British class rip up the pretence of 'British' values and democracy in their desperate fight to stymie Scotland's right to self-determination.

Two weeks ago in the Courier we had a correspondent attempting to downplay the size, and therefore legitimacy, of the SNP victory.

Imagine a party in England winning 80 per cent of the seats and someone saying they didn't have a mandate. They'd be left red-faced, just as the Tories are in Scotland.

Then we had Mr Gee's letter last week, one long caterwaul of economic disaster, with the hoary old 'deficit' chestnut centre stage.

Can I remind Mr Gee that Scotland doesn't control its finances and has minimal borrowing powers. It has a block grant budget, a stipend, yet we are being told that Scotland is a leech upon England with crippling debts.

Aye, right. There will be another referendum. Treating Scotland like an abused spouse, shouting and refusing to open the door with the choice to leave, is not tenable.

Barking, 'No,' Canute-like, to Scottish democracy and our right to choose our country's future betrays weakness.

It's coming for aw' that.

Ron Wilson,
Secretary of Kintyre Branch SNP.

Central belt-obsessed

I was at my first surgery of the new year and the decade in Tarbert recently.

I heard numerous concerns raised about local and national issues. These included concerns of planning regulations possibly holding back housing development, local council budget cuts brought on by a reduction of the block grant from the Scottish Government, burdensome regulations thrust upon our fishing industry, planned intrusive local pylon positioning, and slow internet along with sub-par mobile phone signal particularly being experienced by many farmers outside Tarbert.

We will always face very different challenges from the urban populations of Scotland and having a population that is more dispersed will mean it will take more resources to deliver services but this is no reason for these essential services not to be delivered.

We in rural Scotland are constantly treated as a backwater by, at times, a seemingly disinterested and central belt-obsessed Scottish Government.

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At The Campbeltown Courier, 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@campbeltowncourier.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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This is particularly true for Argyll and Bute so it is essential that governments and utility companies alike step up to the plate and give our rural constituency and my hard-pressed council ward the funding and recognition we deserve.

Councillor Alastair Redman,
Kintyre and the Islands.

Thanks from dialysis support group

On behalf of the Kintyre Kidney Dialysis Group I would like to thank all those who took part in our Christmas quiz – the entries were numerous and the correct answers also.

A draw was instigated and the winner, who received the £30 cash prize, was J Kerr.

In addition, the donations received were very generous and to all those who took part or donated, the committee appreciates the local support and thanks you all.

Those receiving dialysis appreciate the generosity the community has shown in funding this facility and improving their quality of life by having this unit based in Campbeltown.

John Forster,
1 Machrimore Mill Cottage,
Southend.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



This week's photograph, of daybreak last Friday, comes from David Mayo.

The photograph, taken on an iPhone 5 from Mr Mayo's home at Bellgrove, High Askomil, shows a reddish sky over Campbeltown Loch. 'Heralding worse to come our way later,' said Mr Mayo, alluding

to the old adage: 'Red sky in the morning, shepherds' warning; red sky at night shepherds' delight.'

If you have a photograph you would like to share, please email it to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk, send it via the Courier's Facebook page or bring it into the Courier office to be copied.

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FROM OUR FILES

TEN YEARS AGO

Friday January 15, 2010

Machrihanish Golf Club raises cash for charity

Charities have benefited from money raised at golf competitions at Machrihanish Golf Club last year.

More than £1,000 was raised through the competitions and tuition classes.

In February professional Ken Campbell held a putting clinic for the women with the proceeds of £197 going towards the Smile Train, which carries out cleft palate operations.

In July the women's open, held on the Pans course, raised £240 for the Community Support Network Group based at Kintyre Network Centre, Hazelburn. The money was used to buy goods like board games for the group.

In September, an annual best nine holes competition was held and the local branch of the RNLI was given £48.

In August, a shotgun start 'play in pink' greensome was held on the Pans course when



Catherine MacKay, Margaret Smith and Jen McMillan with the Beatson Oncology Unit cheque of £440 which was raised in August through the 'play in pink' greensome competition on the Pans course.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday January 20, 1995

Goose steps pay off on Islay

Islay farmers and estate owners are looking at nest eggs of as much as £15,000 this year... thanks to the geese that they used to dread the sight of.

Under the government-funded Islay Voluntary Goose Movement Scheme, the farmers can this year expect cash windfalls – on average between £1,500 and £2,000 – just for letting the birds feed on their land.

The 35,000 geese are now worth £9.50 each – provided they are left alone when they are on the island. Officials from Scottish Natural Heritage are currently making counts every two weeks to work out averages on which payments are to be made.

The scheme is on a three-year trial period, designed to blend farming and conservation. The birds are protected under an EU directive.

And it may yet be introduced in Kintyre and other west coast areas. Talks are on-going between Scottish Natural Heritage and the National Farmers Union of Scotland.

Islay's goose project officer Ross Lilley said: 'Islay is the main location of the geese during October and April, hence the importance of this incentive scheme.'

'The majority of farmers are now involved, and the scheme is seen as the way forward.'

One island couple, Blair and Margaret Rozga of Kilmeny Farm near Port Askaig, say they are happy to participate.

'It is good for me as we run a farmhouse bed and breakfast,' Mrs Rozga told the Courier. 'Having the geese helps me market the business, as visitors appreciate the environmentally-friendly scheme.'

'And on the farming side, my husband is happy. It's a good scheme, although we would like to see the counting system manicured. It can be annoying if a count is made and there are fewer birds there than usual.'

The Rozgas have around 300 geese – which is worth more than £2,800 to them.

President of Islay branch of the NFU Ian McKerrell said: 'We have to accept this as the way forward, and hopefully the scheme will be tidied up by the end of the year as a couple of refinements have to be made. Points will arise if goose numbers keep rising though.'

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday January 15, 1970

Tayinloan farmer presented with life-saving award

On Friday morning, shortly before the Sheriff Court began, Sheriff D. J. McDiarmid presented to Mr Ian Duncan Smith of Ferry Farm, Tayinloan, the Royal Humane Society's certificate for life-saving.

Mr McDiarmid, before making the presentation, told of the rescue which had earned Mr Smith the award.

On the afternoon of May 22, 1969, Neil Boyd, one of two small Tayinloan boys who had been playing on the Gigha ferry jetty, fell from his bicycle into the sea.

His companion, Neil MacDonald, saw

him 'floating away and he was very quiet'. Immediately, Neil MacDonald ran for help. Mr Smith was not far away and he sent his employee, Mr Archie McSporrán, ahead to the jetty to see what could be done.

Mr McSporrán ran back and reported to Mr Smith that the boy was too far out to help from the shore.

The two men quickly paddled out into Gigha Sound in Mr Smith's boat. About 80 yards from the shore, they found Neil Boyd floating under the surface.

Mr Smith fished him out and immediately applied artificial respiration while Mr McSporrán paddled the boat shorewards.

After half-an-hour's work the boy showed signs of consciousness.

Mr McDiarmid ended by remarking that 'but for Mr Smith's prompt and continuous actions, the boy would have been lost'.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday January 17, 1920

Boating tragedy at Campbeltown

A painful sensation was created in the town yesterday (Thursday) morning, when the sad news became generally known that two young men who had gone out fishing in a small boat on the previous afternoon had failed to return, and the gravest apprehensions were entertained regarding their fate.

The men were James Robertson, fitter, son of Mr James Robertson, fisherman, Burnside Street, and James McLean, carpenter, son of Mr D. McLean, fisherman, Glebe Street.

Both were idle on account of the shortage of material at the local shipbuilding yard, and on Wednesday afternoon in fair weather they put off from Glenramskill in a small boat for the purpose of fishing in the neighbourhood of the Dhorling.

They were seen during the afternoon by the crews of a number of fishing skiffs anchored off the Millbeg Buoy.

As the afternoon waned the wind began to rise from the south, and the herring fleet ran for port. It is stated that the skiff in which McLean's father is engaged passed them, and they were hailed from it with the advice that it was time they were making for home as the wind was rising fast.

The men appear to have replied to the effect that they were getting plenty of fish, and this fact apparently tempted them to prolong their stay.

That was the last that was seen of them. As the night wore on and there was no appearance of them returning alarm began to be felt.

McLean is a son-in-law of Mr T. McCallum, gardener, Glenramskill, whose boat the men had, and the news of their prolonged absence was brought to the town, but still there were hopes that, finding the wind and sea too strong for them, the boat had been run for the Baraskomill shore, in which event it would take the men some considerable time to beach the craft securely and walk home.

As the hours went by, however, and there was no news of them, fears as to their fate became very grave.

Some time after daybreak on Thursday morning the oars of the boat, her stern-sheets, and a cap belonging to one of the men were found on the shore near McCrinnon's Point, and this discovery extinguished the last hopes entertained of their safety.

Dragging operations were also begun in the vicinity of the ground where the men had been fishing, but up till darkness fell last evening no additional results of the search had been attained.

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New home for 'missing' candelabra which once lit up Kilmory Castle

A pair of candlesticks from a Parisien palace, which spent part of their life in Kilmory Castle which later became Argyll and Bute Council's headquarters, have sold at auction for £124,000 after being considered 'missing' for nearly 170 years.

The metre-high ormolu and hardstone-mounted candelabra, which were saved from French revolutionaries in the 19th century, sold on the telephone at prestigious saleroom Woolley and Wallis, in Salisbury, last week.

The candlesticks were originally commissioned by Ferdinand-Philippe duc d'Orléans, the oldest son of King Louis Philippe, in 1839, as part of a surtout de table – an elaborate centrepiece – for the formal dining table in the Palais de Tuileries in Paris.

The candelabra remained in the palace until the revolution in 1848 when a mob broke in and the candelabra, and many other valuables, were saved and taken to the Louvre for safe-keeping.

Five years later, they were auctioned off by the Duke's family and were acquired by Sir James Watts of Abney Hall in Manchester in 1853.

That was the last time that their definite whereabouts were known, and they were considered 'missing' as part

of a private collection for almost 170 years.

Kilmory Castle in Lochgilphead became their temporary home after they were passed down from Sir James to his grand-daughter, Lady Eleanor Campbell-Orde, then to her son, the late Sir John Campbell-Orde, whose family consigned them to auction.

Kilmory Castle or Kilmory House was the home of the Campbell-Ordes for many years until 1938. It then had several owners and uses until it was bought by the council in 1974.

Collection

One of a number of lots consigned from the collection of Sir John Alexander Campbell-Orde, 6th Baronet, the candelabra were sold as part of the Furniture, Works of Art and Clocks auction at Woolley and Wallis last Wednesday, January 8.

Prior to the auction, there were hopes that the candelabra could be sold for about £75,000, the price achieved in New York three years ago for a similar pair.

'It is very difficult to put a price on provenance,' said Mark Yuan-Richards, Works of Art specialist at Woolley and Wallis, 'and although we hoped that the candelabra would achieve well over their estimate

there are no guarantees at auction. Fortunately, we had a lot of interest from bidders within the UK, Continental Europe and the USA, and they eventually sold to a telephone bidder in New York.'

Mr Yuan-Richards added: 'The history of these candelabra is quite extraordinary. To be given the chance to market something that was made for a royal palace and had been considered lost for over a century and a half is a privilege that doesn't come along very often.'

'The duc d'Orléans himself never knew the fate of his surtout de table, as he tragically died in a carriage accident just three years after they were delivered to the palace. His widow remained there until the 1848 revolution, but France at that time was not a safe place for royalty.'

A group of these candelabra were made for the Palais de Tuileries in Paris in 1839, from a commission by Ferdinand-Philippe, duc d'Orléans. A pair was sold in Christie's, New York, in 2017 for £75,000, but the whereabouts of the others was at that time unknown.

'Somewhere there may still be another 10 similar candelabra in private collections around the world,' added Mr Yuan-Richards.



Kilmory Castle, in which the candelabra once resided, is now Argyll and Bute Council's headquarters. 06_a02KilmoryCastle01

A detail on one of the candlesticks which were designed for the Palais de Tuileries in Paris.



The metre-high ormolu and hardstone-mounted candelabra which ended up at Kilmory Castle.

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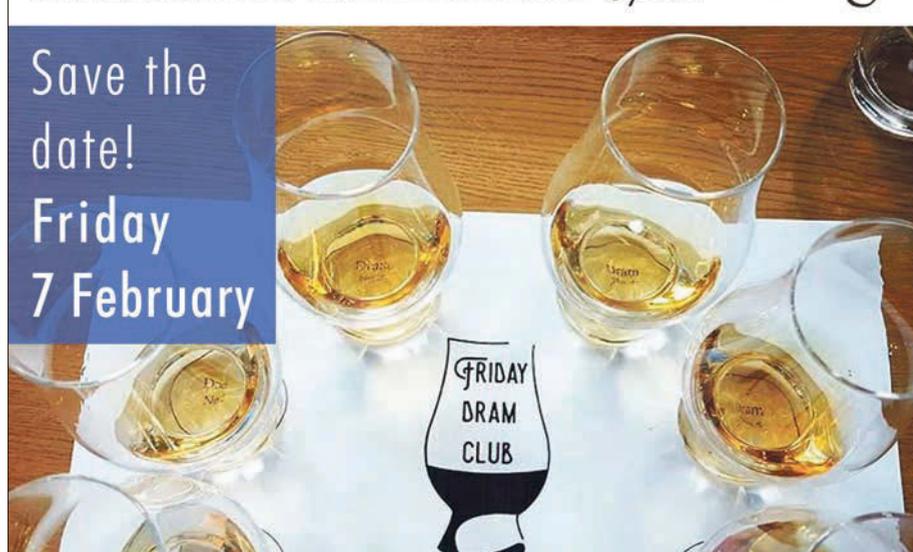
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Primary pupils tackle marine litter with Kerry

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

The GRAB Trust's new beaches and marine litter project education officer for Mid Argyll and Kintyre has joined forces with the area's primary pupils to tackle rubbish.

Kerry MacKay, who joined the ranks of the recycling organisation towards the end of last year, has been out and about interacting with pupils from schools across Kintyre.

In the latest issue of the GRAB Trust's quarterly bulletin, Flotsam and Jetsam, Kerry reveals what she got up to at three of those schools.

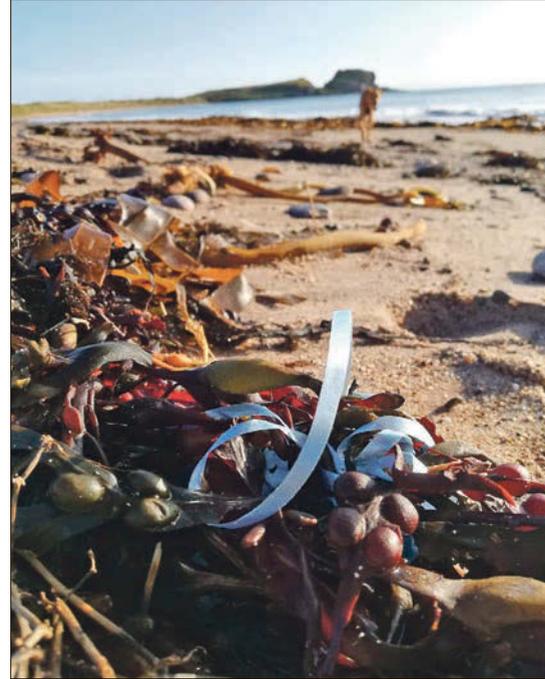
Kerry wrote: 'My first school visit was to lovely Carradale primary with the beautiful Carradale Bay right on their doorstep. We were lucky to have a beautiful day for a beach clean, which included an MCS survey of the beach, with the children in small groups collecting litter with an adult recording the finds on the MCS form. Our combined efforts collected a total of 2.25kg of litter.'

'Back at the school we settled into the warmth for an exciting story workshop followed by the pupils drawing illustrations for the story. They drew some wonderful illustrations and now have their very own copy of the story. As a keen



scuba diver, I love sharing all sorts of stories about my adventures, so when they asked about the underwater world they were fascinated that I was a diver and the stories I had of my adventures underwater; much like our story's main character Iona's adventures.'

Of her visit to Clachan Primary School, Kerry continued: 'Getting



into the festive spirit, Clachan primary joined me for a Waste-Free Christmas workshop.

'We discussed lots of ideas and tips to reduce your waste over the festive season, from gifting vouchers rather than 'things', to using last year's Christmas cards as this year's gift tags, and alternative tree ideas. Everyone was really engaged

and I was pleased to find they had already put a lot of thought into how they could be less wasteful at Christmas.

'We then upcycled household 'junk' and natural materials like twigs and pine cones into some fantastic Christmas decorations. While crafting we discussed pitfalls like glitter and how buying

Clockwise from top left: Clachan Primary School's Waste-Free Christmas creations; Southend primary plans to adopt Dunaverty Bay to carry on picking up litter like this; some of the litter discovered during a Clachan beach clean.

materials just to make things can be wasteful when there is so much that can be used already in the house and garden.'

Kerry's final Kintyre school visit was to Southend Primary School. She said: 'Southend primary invited me on a short trip in the mini-bus to the beautiful Dunaverty Bay. We did an MCS survey and general clean of the beach, collecting 1kg of litter. A quick Limpets game finished off our session at the beach with lots of hilarity.'

'Back at the school we did the Reduce Your Waste workshop, discussing simple swaps, the problem with packaging and the three Rs. This included the Recycling Relay game where, in teams, the pupils take turns to use the litter pickers to grab a card from the middle. When all the cards are gone they match the cards into pairs of products and their more eco alternatives; a great game to run around while getting some great ideas of easy swaps.'

'I'm very pleased to hear that Southend Primary plans to adopt Dunaverty Bay and look forward to helping and joining in many future beach cleans.'

Kerry added: 'It has been a pleasure visiting each and every school, and I hope you have all enjoyed the workshops as much as I have!'

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Did you know that most teabags are not eco-friendly? So why not enjoy an eco-friendly cuppa on Brew Monday.

Brew blue Monday away

Did you know the January 20 is Brew Monday as well as Blue Monday? **writes Kerry MacKay**, the GRAB Trust's beaches and marine litter project education officer for Mid Argyll and Kintyre.

Championed by the Samaritans, Brew Monday is all about having a nice hot cuppa to bring people together. There's nothing like a good conversation to help make us feel better on the most depressing day of the year, Blue Monday.

But did you also know that most teabags are not eco-friendly? Here at The GRAB Trust beaches and marine litter project, we are all about reducing waste as much as possible. So let's take a brief look at the environmental impact of your tea.

Compared to other beverages, tea is quite environmentally friendly until we consider tea bags. An estimated 165 million teabags are used every day in the UK. Many tea companies use plastic.

A recent study found a single plastic teabag releases billions of microplastic particles into a single cup of tea, much more than other foods. Microplastics are bits of plastic so small they are often invisible to the naked eye and their implications to human health are currently unknown.

Even paper teabags are not immune from criticism. To stop the tea bags bursting open in transit or in the cup, many are sealed with

a strip of heat-resistant polypropylene plastic; this plastic can't compost.

Many teabags are listed as compostable but beware, most require a special type of composting process. For example, Teapigs teabags are plastic-free as they are made from a by-product of corn starch known as Soilon. Soilon requires high temperatures to compost, so should only be placed in your food waste bin provided by your local council.

Most home composts are cold systems, whereas almost all council compost systems are 'hot' allowing the Soilon to be broken down.

So what can you do? Check your favourite tea brand's box or website to find out what plastic is in your teabags and how to dispose of them properly.

To avoid plastic entering your home compost cut the bag open and empty the tea residue into the compost bin. If the bag is biodegradable put it in the council compost bin.

Teapigs were among the first to go completely plastic-free but others are beginning to follow, including Pukka Tea and Jacksons of Piccadilly. Change to a brand that is plastic-free.

If your favoured brand is not plastic free, email or tweet the company to encourage them to go plastic free.

If enough people do this the companies will take notice.

The safest option is to use loose leaf tea. Choose Fair Trade and organic to be even better to the world.

You can get some lovely re-usable tea strainers so you can still brew your tea like you would with a teabag – but choose a tea strainer that is not plastic.

So now you know how to enjoy an eco-friendly brew with someone to brighten the day for both of you while being environmentally conscious.

If you are feeling super helpful then you can organise a fundraiser brew to raise money for the Samaritans. They have a whole fundraising kit to help you, see the link at the end of this article.

However you choose to have your brew, make it a waste-free one.

For more tips and advice follow the beaches and marine litter project on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GRABbmlp

Samaritans fundraising kit: www.samaritans.org/scotland/support-us/campaign/brew-monday



Landfill ban could force council to go cap in hand to Holyrood

Measures to ban landfill waste could force Argyll and Bute Council to seek more financial help from the Scottish Government, a report has warned.

A ban on sending biodegradable municipal waste to landfill under the Waste Regulations (Scotland) Act had been scheduled for January 2021, but has been pushed back to January 2025.

Disposal of rubbish via Energy from Waste [EfW], which involves the processing of rubbish to create fuel or generate electricity or heat, will be encouraged instead.

But a report for a short-life council action group set up to co-ordinate the authority's climate change efforts has stated that Argyll and Bute faces 'a unique set of challenges' in moving away from the use of landfill sites.

These include separate waste contracts between Helensburgh and Lomond and the rest of the area, increased revenue costs, and the impact on ferry capacity as a result of trans-

ferring rubbish for EfW use. Kirsty Flanagan, the council's interim executive director for development and infrastructure, said in the report: 'The council recognises the serious global impacts of climate change and is committed to reducing the environmental impact of the council and its residents, and accepts and endorses that increased waste reduction, reuse and recycling

'Argyll and Bute is committed to complying with ban.'

is critical to achieving the Scottish Government's 2045 target of a net zero carbon economy.

'Changing the council waste disposal methodology with a move away from landfill to EfW is extremely challenging for every local authority.'

'However, Argyll and Bute faces a unique set of circumstances that disproportionately increase this cost challenge of landfill ban compliance.'

Ms Flanagan added: 'Changing waste disposal methods from landfill by 2025 to EfW does have significant benefit to our local and national environmental performance.'

'The council's assessment of the costs of compliance with the biodegradable municipal waste ban shows that there will be a significant increase in revenue costs. Depending on the solutions put in place, the range of cost increase could be between £3.6 million and £6 million per annum.'

'There is also a significant capital cost requirement to support the necessary transition of around £2 million to £3 million.'

'Argyll and Bute Council remains committed to complying fully with the ban, however, due to the disproportionate challenge the council faces due to our rural/island geography and our existing contractual commitments to the Waste PPP agreement, we require a mixture of practical and financial support from the Scottish Government.'

TAX RETURN DEADLINE

31 JANUARY 2020

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Beinn an Tuirc Distillers aim to launch new café and gin school

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

These are exciting times for the home of Kintyre Gin, Beinn an Tuirc Distillers, on the east coast of Kintyre.

Following the success of the distillery shop and the popularity of its gin tours, the Beinn an Tuirc team, headed by the Macalister Hall family, has now decided to expand further, transforming the existing office area of the farmhouse into a licensed café, while a new building adjoining the farmhouse will provide space for gin schools.

The distillery itself is housed in a former piggery building on Torrisdale Castle Estate.

This latest phase for the award-winning distillery will help to encourage even more visitors to the area.

Emma Macalister Hall,



Bridge of Allan architect Willie Brown's impression of the new café.

Beinn an Tuirc Distillers Ltd director, told the Courier this

week: 'This is a major development for the business but

an obvious step for us to take. We have been bowled over by the success of the distillery shop and the popularity of our gin tours.

'Despite our remote location, we have benefited immensely from passing trade and hope that a café on site will encourage even more visitors to the area.

'The gin school ties in perfectly with our self-catering business and we plan to offer weekend courses as well as day courses.'

The café will seat around

20 inside, with a significant amount of outdoor space – Argyll weather permitting.

The menu will be simple and fresh, using as much local and Scottish produce as possible. It is hoped the café will open in July, with the first gin school courses beginning in August.

Bridge of Allan architect Willie Brown has been working on the plans and has created contemporary designs that reflect the sustainable ethos of Beinn an Tuirc Distillers while maintaining

the charm of the traditional building. The aim is to power both buildings from the 100kw hydro scheme which currently powers the gin still. Emma's co-director Niall Macalister Hall added: 'Highlands and Islands Enterprise has been instrumental in helping our plans become a reality and its support since we started the business has been fantastic. 'This new expansion will help us fulfill another objective, which is to increase our workforce and become a major employer in an area where opportunities are often scarce.'

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'This new expansion will help us fulfill another objective, which is to increase our workforce and become a major employer in an area where opportunities are often scarce.'

November last year saw the launch of Hall's of Campbeltown, a shop on Longrow, which as well as the distillery's own range of gin, stocks hand-selected fine wines, an eclectic selection of craft beer and cider, some particularly interesting spirits such as UWA tequila, and a good choice of mixers.

And that is not forgetting its ever popular bar-in-a-horse-box, which is a hit at events such as Kintyre Agricultural Show.

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An idea of how the gin school may look.

Guesthouse owners put Kintyre on European map

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

The owners of a Carradale guest house have helped to put Kintyre on the map while attending a European Business Development Mission in Frankfurt.

Maurice Whelan and Steve Reid, who run Carradales, took part in VisitScotland's second Pan-European workshop in November and described it as an exciting and worthwhile experience.

They were given the opportunity to expand the reach of their market and find potential clients through face-to-face meetings with 17 European tour operators – from Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands and Ireland – across the two-day event.

Maurice told the Courier: 'It was an opportunity to promote not just our business but the whole area – to encourage people away from Scotland's overcrowded tourism hot-spots to the lesser known hidden gems like this.'

'Everyone was really interested in what we have to offer – in fact, we recently got our first booking from a German company as a result of attending the workshop.'

'It was a great networking event, which welcomed hotels and tourism providers from across Scotland.'

'I believe it's not just going

to benefit us, but the whole of Kintyre and other local businesses. It will help to put Kintyre on the map.'

Maurice and Steve agreed that the event was very well organised, adding: 'VisitScotland had lined up appointments with tour operators who were looking for new products or things off the beaten track.'

'There was also a drinks reception and networking dinner, as well as digital marketing and branding presentations, so there were other benefits to the experience.'

Carradales has prospered since it opened in April 2018, receiving a five-star grading from VisitScotland's Quality Assurance Scheme earlier this year.

And the good news continues, with Maurice and Steve finding out in December that they have been shortlisted for the Rural Hospitality Award at the Scottish Rural Awards, which take place on April 2, 2020.

The guesthouse is up against nine other accommodation providers which are among the best in the business: The Three Chimneys, Invercassley Cottage B&B, The Majestic Line, Gleneedale House Islay, RiverBeds Luxury Wee Lodges, Nethy House Café and Rooms, Macdonald Cardrona Hotel, Golf & Spa, The Coll Hotel, and Tigh na Mara Guesthouse.



Maurice Whelan, right, and Steve Reid, left, owners of Carradales.

25_c14carradales04

'We're in good company,' Maurice said. 'We're all winners, even if we don't win.'

'I believe we've got something special here. Steve's reputation as a chef goes before him. You just need to read our reviews – people really seem to enjoy it here, where we try to offer something a bit different.'

'It's all about creating memories. It's lovely that people are choosing to spend their money coming to visit us and Kintyre.'

Last chance for Gigha residents to apply for community funding

The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust is reminding people that the deadline for the first round of applications to the newly formed Gigha Community Fund is Monday, January 20, at noon.

The community fund was launched in November last year, supported through the renewable energy income generated through the island's 'dancing ladies' wind turbines, to benefit the residents of the island and help support a thriving and healthy community.



Grants of up to £1,000 may be provided to individuals and community organisations on Gigha.

Anyone on the island who is looking for support for training, skills development or bursaries or help to set up a business can apply.

Community groups which want to put on events or activities, look after the heritage or natural environment or need to buy essential equipment can also apply.

Ian Wilson, chairman of the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust,

said: 'Gigha is a great place to live and work and we are really keen to help our young people stay and return, help businesses grow and support the community groups on our island.'

'The purpose of the fund is to help our community grow and thrive, so we hope groups supporting our elderly residents, the school, church and village hall amongst others, will be able to use the fund to make Gigha an even better place to live.'

For guidance, assistance or more information, email chair@gigha.org.uk or call the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Office on 01583 505390.

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Going the extra mile to help



Norman Stewart presenting Mrs Brodie with a birthday cake.

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Despite making an average of between 70 and 90 supermarket visits a week, shopping is far from all that Campbeltown-based charity Shopper-Aide does.

Formed in 2011 in a bid to battle social isolation and provide services and support for people in Kintyre aged over 60, Shopper-Aide has grown considerably since then.

It now has more staff and volunteers than ever before and runs clubs including Elderberries, Garry's Gang, Clachan Old Pals, Tayinloan Soup and Book Club, Carradale Elderberries Outreach, and Courier and Chat.

Arguably the most well known, Elderberries is a twice-weekly club in Campbeltown where clients have lunch and take part in a variety of activities including arts, crafts, music, exercise

sessions, quizzes, bingo and outings.

Shopper-Aide also arranges individual or group outings, carries out home visits to clients who are unable to leave their homes, and offers house-keeping services at more than 30 clients' homes, as well as one-to-one befriending.

Farm Eggs

The charity has sold High Bellochintuy Farm eggs and second-hand books for some time but its new, bigger, Longrow premises, along the street from the old shop, means that, as of this week, it also sells products on behalf of CGS4Gambia.

Joan Stewart, Shopper-Aide project manager, said: 'Shopper-Aide as a whole works very well with Campbeltown Grammar School (CGS) and all primary schools in the area.'

Development co-ordinator Sarah McFadzean, who runs Shopper-Aide's Dementia

Awareness Project, has recently visited Castlehill's P7 class, Dalintober's Community Cadets - pupils from P6 and P7 - and Rhunahaorine, with plans to go to most Kintyre schools.

Sarah's work with the children focuses on her Dementia Friends awareness training and aspects of the Alzheimer's Society's Memories with Grandma initiative.

The charity is keen on inter-generational work, with additional support needs pupils from CGS helping with shopping and other tasks, and primary pupils regularly visiting the Elderberries group.

Joan said: 'Sarah's Dementia Awareness Project is very important because the World Health Organisation lists dementia as one of the leading causes of death worldwide. People are living longer now, and society has to support their own.'

'We're not only here for older people but also their families and carers. If we



Staff, volunteers and clients enjoying a walk.



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January 2020 calendar of events

Friday January 17 - Elderberries Outreach, 2pm to 4pm, Carradale Village Hall.

Monday January 20 - Soup Group, 12.15pm, Tayinloan Village Hall, all ages welcome.

Tuesday January 21 - Elderberries, 12.30pm to 4pm, Campbeltown Free Church.

Wednesday January 22 - Garry's Gang, 1pm to 4pm, men only.

Thursday January 23 - Clachan Old Pals; Elderberries, 12.30pm to 4pm Campbeltown Free Church.

Friday January 24 - Shopper-Aide office, Courier and Chat drop-in, for carers and over 60s.



Tuesday January 28 - Elderberries, 12.30pm to 4pm, Campbeltown Free Church.

Wednesday January 29 - Garry's Gang, 1pm to 4pm, men only.

Thursday January 30 - Clachan Old Pals; Elderberries, 12.30pm to 4pm, Campbeltown Free Church.

As with all Shopper-Aide groups transport is available. Call 01586 551600 or visit the office at 47 Longrow to enquire.

Kintyre's senior citizens



can alleviate the strain on families even for an hour, it's worth it.'

One of Shopper-Aide's newest groups, Courier and Chat is a drop-in session run by Sarah aimed at supporting not only those aged over 60 but also their carers.

Held on the second and fourth Fridays of every month, Sarah offers help and support on issues. Even if carers do not have a specific issue, they are welcome to seek some respite by dropping in to read and discuss the Courier over a cup of tea or coffee.

The premise of the Tayinloan Soup and Book Club is that people take along a book and swap it with one of those Sarah has brought, and then enjoy a chat over a bowl of soup. The meetings, which last for an hour and a half, tie in with the Gigha ferry meaning senior citizens from the island can join in.

Activity-based

Because the groups cater to the needs and desires of those who attend, Carradale's Elderberries Outreach meetings are more activity-based, featuring Kintyre people demonstrating particular skills or presenting talks.

Sarah said: 'Regardless of what we're doing, it helps with people's well-being, especially those who might not even realise they are isolated. I would encourage everyone to come along, not just because they need support but to offer help as well, to contribute to the conversation.'

Again catering to the desires of members, Garry's Gang and Clachan Old Pals were established as 'men only' clubs, where members can enjoy a catch-up minus the distraction of the fairer sex.

Talking generally, Joan said: 'If there are issues, we deal with them. We contact clients' families, or third party agencies - we have a very good relationship with all the agencies with which we work.



Volunteer Iain McKerral with Cherryaide.

'Shopper-Aide offers everything but personal care - and if we don't do it, we know someone who can.'

Sarah added: 'While we don't do physical personal care, we do offer a very personalised service, catering to the needs of each and every client.'

'We are often the first place people turn to when something is wrong,' Joan added. 'And we always go the extra mile - if we go into someone's house with shopping, we may end up taking the bins out, clearing out the fridge or getting rid of old flowers.'

With more services and support being offered, more volunteers are also needed.

'Our workers and volunteers are absolutely brilliant, coming from all walks of life,' said Joan. 'But we need more volunteers - we could never have enough. Seventy per cent of our staff started as volunteers.'

'We look at many different areas to see where our volunteers are best suited, whether that's driving, shopping, admin, helping with our social media or window dressing in the shop - there's something for everyone. Some people only have an hour a week spare, whereas others come in every day - it all makes a difference.'

'Our volunteers range in

age from third year at CGS to people in their 70s, and we have volunteers as well as clients from Woodlands Resource Centre.'

Joan highlighted the social benefits that volunteering brings, saying: 'If you are new to the area, it is a great way of making friends.'

Sarah said: 'It's not just the clients who benefit, the volunteers do too.'

Joan added: 'We call it the Shopper-Aide family, because we are there for each other, working together for the good of the area.'

Running the charity is expensive, as 90 per cent of those attending clubs require transport to and from venues.

Shopper-Aide has four vehicles - the original car, Cherryaide, funded by the Big Lottery; Blueberry, also funded by the Big Lottery; Sapphire, an in-demand wheel-chair accessible vehicle, funded by the community; and Snowball, a delivery van purchased with generated income.

'We always need more money as we don't run on water unfortunately,' Joan said. 'As well as fuel, each vehicle requires upkeep and maintenance.'

People can donate money to the charity by visiting Shopper-Aide's website, or by sponsoring one of the vehicles for £55 a week, with the choice to have their name displayed in the window.

Sarah said: 'One of the worst things is when people can no longer drive, especially for those who live in rural areas. That's why we offer transport to all of our groups, making sure those who want to attend are able to.'

'But we really need people to help us do that,' Joan added.

To find out more about how to help Shopper-Aide, visit the website at www.shopper-aide.org.uk, or search for @shopperaidcampbeltown on Facebook.



The exercise classes at Elderberries can be a lot of fun.



Snowball is a delivery van purchased with generated income.

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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN CAMPBELTOWN AND KINTYRE



Author Shannon Ellis.

Poet Shannon home for book signing

Talented young word-smith Shannon Ellis from Campbeltown will be at The Old Bookshelf next month to sign copies of her new book of poetry.

Shannon, who is studying English literature at university, has just released *Elements of an Adored Mind*, published by Riza Press and illustrated by Ruben Ramires, a Portugese-born artist based in Houston, Texas.

Shannon, who previously enjoyed work experience at the Campbeltown Courier, said: 'My work explores the changing seasons of a love story, as told through the metaphorical language of elements.'

The book's promotional literature adds: 'Shannon Ellis's words will break your heart, then sew the pieces back up again with hope.

Her stunning imagery and razor-sharp lines will cut you right where it hurts – whether it be on the topics of love, loss, jealousy, self-realisation or forgiveness – and will stay with you long after you've read them.'

Gemma Laing, author of *The Anatomy of Wanting*, said: 'From the moment I picked up *Elements of an Adored Mind* I was hooked. Split into six chapters, this collection takes the reader on a journey through love lost and found, heartbreak and sorrow and, finally, acceptance and the joys that can be found in forgiving.'

'A powerful collection of thought-provoking poetry and prose from a talented and promising debut author.'

Faren Rajkumar, author of *Paper Flowers*, said: '*Elements of an Adored Mind* is both a

bold confession and gentle reassurance in poetry form. In this elegant collection, Shannon speaks to a lover, to figures from the past, to the reader and, most poignantly, to herself in carefully painted stories and memories.'

'Her words are thoughtful, meaningful and proud of the enduring feminine spirit that soars on each page. Shannon is a powerful voice in poetry that should not be missed.'

Hinnah Mian, author of *To Build a Home*, added: 'This book of poetry exemplifies all the highs and lows of falling in love: the beautiful melodic beginning and the harsh, bitter end.'

'Shannon takes us through every step of falling in love, writing with such ease and poignance that we are there with her, holding onto her words the way a child does

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Syrian guitarist comes to Campbeltown



Ayman Jarjour.

High Institute of Music in Damascus, Syria, and has lived and taught in the UK, Spain, Sudan, Belgium and the US.

His work includes performing, teaching, recording and fundraising for charities.

Ayman's repertoire includes works with Spanish, Latin American, classical, Middle Eastern and modern flavours. He plays an instrument made by Egyptian luthier Jean-Paul Hagggar.

Ayman Jarjour's concert is being held next Friday, January 24, at 7.30pm in Lorne and Lowland Church hall.

Tickets for the concert are £10, payable at the door, with free entry for students and children.

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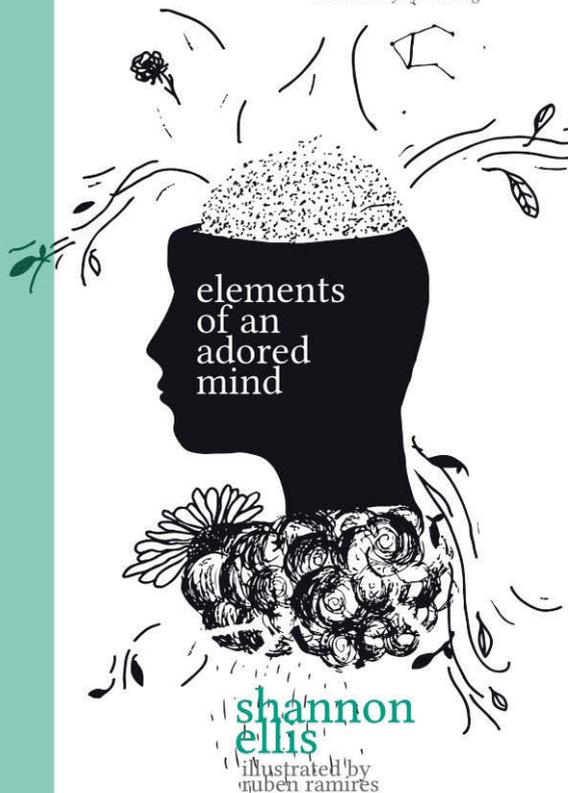
He gave the world premiere of Olympus (concerto for guitar and orchestra) by Evis Sammoutis and the Syrian premiere of Rodrigo's two masterpieces Concierto de Aranjuez with the Syrian National Symphony Orchestra and Concierto Andaluz with the Syrian Philharmonic Orchestra.

Ayman's international performances include concerts in London, Edinburgh, Brussels, Beirut, Amman, Madrid, Manchester, Bonn, Tunis, Khartoum, Valletta, Basel, Cairo, Alexandria, Istanbul, Prague, Budapest, Berlin, Los Angeles and Taipei, the last attended by the Taiwanese president. He has appeared on many TV channels in interviews and concert broadcasts.

In New York, he gave a concert to a standing ovation at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as winner of Artists International's Special Presentation Award. His highly acclaimed studio recording of the programme is available on CD.

Ayman holds a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School in New York and a Bachelor's degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Madrid. He served on the faculty of the

"...a stunning, unputdownable read."
- Gemma Laing, author of
The Anatomy of Wanting



their mother's leg; tight and unrelenting. Elements of an Adored Mind is a gorgeous journey.

It's a perfect book for those who have ever felt the com-

plicated, beautiful, tangled voyage that is love.'

The book signing is expected to take place on Saturday February 8 at The Old Bookshelf.

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Tarbert seniors know how



Elma McGougan and Jean Johnston.



Brenda Galbraith presents Sheena Ramsay with a selection box.

Words and photographs
by Joan Crooks
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

The wet and windy weather last Friday evening failed to dampen the spirits of Tarbert's seniors as they gathered in the village hall for the Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner.

A large number of willing volunteers had organised a sumptuous meal and decked the hall with an array of multi-coloured fairy lights and balloons to provide a warm welcome for their guests.

The familiar venue quickly came alive with smiles, hugs and the happy chatter of friends gathering for this much-loved annual event which has now been going for more than 40 years.

Elma McGougan and Jean Johnston, who had served on the original organising committee, reminisced about their experiences, explaining that they ran fund-raising events and that many in the village donated money and goods so that the dinner could be provided free of charge.

The event is still organised by a committee and continues to be generously supported by businesses and individuals in the village and surrounding area.

Elma said: 'In the 1970s, the women on the committee all made soup and brought it along. We did not have the new kitchen then. The hotel has always cooked the turkeys for us but cooking big pots of potatoes and vegetables was quite a job with just the gas rings. Back then we had ice-cream and jelly for dessert.'

Jean added: 'It was all good fun and we had loads of laughs.'

Elma continued: 'We used

to have sales to raise money for the dinner. Santa was on the stage and Jean's children were his elves. They were only little then.

'We modelled the clothes, and the older women loved the bargains. We thought they were old, but they were probably the age we are now,' Elma said laughing. 'We would shout "Roll up, roll up" to get them to come and see what we had on offer.'

After a warm welcome from compère Martin Jefferies and a prayer of thanks for the food, the five-course meal was swiftly and expertly served by members of the organising committee and their youthful helpers.

A raffle, again free of charge, saw a very large number of guests receive prizes and no-one was left disappointed as the remainder of the guests received selection boxes.

Tarbert's seniors showed that they know how to party, as dancers left their seats and enthusiastically took to the floor as soon as the musical entertainment began.

A stunned Margaret Henderson was named Citizen of the Year and confessed that she never expected to win the award.

For more than 20 years Margaret has collected money to support the Tarbert Sea Food Festival and Music Festival. Later Margaret dressed up as Mrs Brown from Mrs Brown's Boys to entertain the audience; something for which she is well known.

Martin Jefferies thanked all who had helped make the evening such a success and the ensuing loud applause expressed the agreement of the happy gathering.

In the old familiar words, 'a good time was had by all'.



Dancers take to the floor.



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to party



Margaret Henderson as Mrs Brown.



Citizen of the Year Margaret Henderson and compère Martin Jefferies.



A small group of the volunteers who staffed the event, back row, from left: Hazel Galbraith, Amanda Hutton, Mia Hutton, Richard Scott, Shaun Johnson and Janeann Reppke. Front: Fiona Johnstone, Eden MacDonald, Brenda Galbraith, Barbara Johnson and Rowan Seddon.



Willie and Pat Ward.



Senior citizens await their meal in the beautifully decorated hall.

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Friday 24th January at
7.30pm in the Lorne and
Lowland Church Hall.
Guitarist Ayman Jarjour
Tickets 10.00 (students
and children free)

CONTACTUS
email us at editor@campbeltowncourer.co.uk
telephone 01586 554646

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1917 (15)
Daily 2.00pm, 5.00pm & 7.30pm

Jojo Rabbit (12A)
Friday & Tuesday 5.30pm
Sunday & Wednesday 3.00pm

Little Women (U)
Monday 5.15pm
Thursday 2.30pm

Spies In Disguise (PG)
Saturday 3.00pm

Campbeltown Picture House Big Sale!
Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th January 2pm - 9pm

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk

Welcome to the big, wide world of learning!

**Doesn't time fly!
It seems like only
yesterday you brought
them home from
hospital – and now
they are getting ready
for nursery school**

Kilmartin Early Learning and Childcare



Kilmartin Primary School ELC

Our opening hours are: Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays 9am to 3pm
www.kilmartin.argyll-bute.sch.uk
Tel: 01546 510293
Head Teacher: Mrs Namaste Bevan



In our ELC there is a strong emphasis on learning through play with an investigative approach. Children are encouraged to explore and experiment, and be creative and challenged, through a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. We are very lucky to have lovely school grounds and a great local environment

to explore!
We have teacher input for Early Level learning which helps with transition to Primary 1. For further information please contact the Head Teacher Mrs Namaste Bevan.
Tel: 01546 510293 or Namaste.Bevan@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Here in Scotland, early learning and childcare is free to parents funded via the Scottish Government.

Children three to four years old can get up to 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare a year; around 16 hours a week in term time.

Children born between March 1, 2017, and February 28, 2018, are eligible for free early learning and childcare (ELC) from August this year.

Registration week in Argyll and Bute will take place between Monday January 27 and Friday January 31. During this week you should go along to your preferred ELC provider, pick up a registration pack and fill in an application form but remember to bring your child's birth certificate when registering.



REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE WHEN REGISTERING!

Did you know?

Traditionally in Scotland all children between four-and-a-half and five years old at the start of the autumn term enrol in primary school.

But parents of children still aged four at the start of the school year on the commencement date have a legal right to be deferred.

Children whose fifth birthday falls in January or February have the right to start school at four-and-a-half.

They also have the right to defer entry and to have a free early learning and childcare place for an extra year.

Those children whose fifth birthday falls after the school commencement date and the end of December also have the right to start school.

They also have the right to defer entry to school but a free early learning and childcare place is not automatic for these children; it is at the discretion of the local authority.



Campbeltown Nursery Centre

REGISTRATION WEEK

Children born between 1 st March 2017 and 28th February 2018 are invited to register for 1140 hours FREE Early Learning and Childcare at Campbeltown Nursery Centre.

Between our two settings, Campbeltown Nursery Centre offer the following Term-Time and Full Year attendance options.

DAYS	TIMES	PATTERN
Monday to Friday	8:45am -2:45pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	9am-3pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	8:30am – 1:30pm	Full Year
Monday to Friday	12noon-5pm	Full Year
Any 3 Days	8:45am-5:15pm	Full Year

Children attending all patterns will be offered a FREE, 2 course lunch on a daily basis.

To secure a place, please pop along to either our Campbeltown Nursery Centre or Aqualibrium setting between 9am and 4pm any day Monday 27 th January to Friday 31 st January.

For further information please contact Miss Fiona Armour, Head of Centre at either CNC, Ralston Road on 552397 or Aqualibrium ELC, Kinloch Road, 559057.

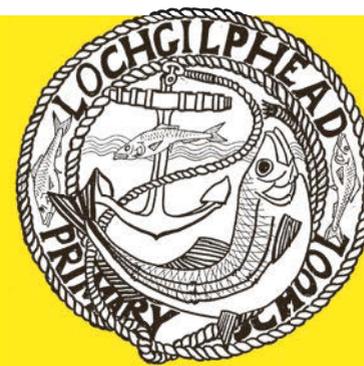




Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit

Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit provides a happy, caring and stimulating environment. We benefit from custom-built facilities that provide extensive opportunities for both indoor and outdoor play. All staff are qualified and very experienced in the delivery of the early years' curriculum, providing

children with well-planned and exciting experiences. Children regularly visit Kilmory Woods for Forest School activities enabling them to learn about the environment and develop a range of skills. The Pre-5 Unit has close links with Primary 1 thus offering an enhanced transition process into primary education.



**Lochgilphead Primary School
Pre-5 Unit**

Open Days

Tuesday 28th January,
2pm – 3pm

Friday 31st January,
10am – 11am

Parents and children are very
welcome to come and visit us.

Please Telephone: **01546 602747**



Dalintober ELC

Dalintober ELC is situated within Dalintober Primary School, Campbeltown, and caters for pre-school children from aged three to five years.

Hours are from 8.45am – 2.45pm Monday to Friday with flexible patterns feasible. At Dalintober, we provide a happy, rich and safe environment, meeting the needs of every child within our care. Our experienced and qualified practitioners provide enriching learning experiences within our setting and we also make extensive use of outdoor learning opportunities and community partnerships. Our base within



Dalintober PS guarantees an extended transition into school life and the reassurance that the school staff team know your children well in preparation for moving 'forward together' for future learning.



Dalintober ELC
Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown
PA28 6HG

Please contact Mrs S Martin on
01586 552053

Badden Farm Nursery



As can be seen from our lovely photograph, Badden Farm Nursery are strong advocates for all outdoor activities. The nursery is now a 50/50 indoor/outdoor nursery offering the children the full Forest Schools experience within our lovely wooded area where the children love to explore and develop their own independency skills and learn first-hand to assess safe risk taking and consideration for others. Fully commissioned for ELC education, our trained and highly professional staff team have created a warm, welcoming and safe environment for the children to enjoy stimulating learning experiences through their play. We feel we have admirably risen to the challenge of the increased ELC hours for the children in our care,

with carefully planning our day to day activities to ensure all the children's needs and the needs of our families being met in full. The nursery also has four lovely donkeys on site which are hugely popular with children and parents alike. We also have chickens and one of the activities the ELC room enjoys every year is having an incubator in their playroom and watching the hen eggs hatch. The children particularly enjoyed having four orphaned lambs to raise at the nursery last spring and two calves. The children were very involved in the feeding routines and when the lambs/sheep were returned to the local farm the children had a lovely visit to check on their progress. We pride ourselves on having excellent

relationships with our parents and grandparents, and we are always delighted with the support our families offer us with all our events and endeavours.

From being finalists in the Scotland-wide 'Nursery of the Year Competition' to working hand in hand with all, the nursery offers parents a very special and highly individual learning environment of which we are very proud.

We would be delighted to welcome parents and families to come and see for themselves our very special and unique setting. Please call Jennifer or Jean on 01546 600072 Or email baddenfarm@btconnect.com



BADDEN FARM NURSERY

Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SF

PARENTS!

Come along and visit us

Registration week - Monday 27th Jan to
Friday 31st Jan. 2020

**GOVERNMENT FUNDED PRE SCHOOL
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All very welcome

Please contact Jennifer Campbell on
01546 600 072

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PRESS RELEASE

10 tips to keep your heating costs down this winter

As winter sets in, it's the time of year when we start to crank up the heating. With the cost of energy bills a big concern for UK households, there are lots of simple things you can do to keep cosy and reduce your fuel bills. Here are some top tips from NHBC, the UK's leading warranty and insurance provider for new build homes, to help you save on your winter bills:

- Reduce draughts – an important job as winter approaches is to make sure that your house does not have any unintended draughts. Floorboards and skirtings usually go ignored but cold air can easily filter through, so check for gaps and fill them in. Check to see if your letterbox is draughty, which can lead to cold hallways – installing a letterbox draught excluder that fits onto the inside of your front door is an inexpensive easy DIY job. Remember that openings for ventilation should not be blocked.
- Bleed your radiators – trapped air or gas prevents hot water from heating your radiators fully so, if you have a radiator that is warm at the bottom but cool at the top, this could mean there is air in the system, which may require bleeding to ensure maximum efficiency of the heating system.
- Loft insulation – insulating your loft is a simple, inexpensive and effective way to reduce energy waste and lower your heating bills. All new houses are fitted with loft insulation that meets the latest building regulations but, if you are in an older property, you may want to think about a top-up.
- Thick curtains – can help to protect your home from losing heat through windows. It's important to try to get as much sunlight into your home during the day as possible but, as soon as dusk

falls, remember to close curtains to reduce the need for additional heating.

- Keep radiators free – a common mistake we often make is to place our sofas in front of the radiators which can absorb the heat!
- Cavity wall insulation – around a third of all the heat lost in an un-insulated home escapes through walls so, if you live in an older property, considering thermal insulation of cavity walls could save you some money.
- Loft hatches – energy loss through the loft hatch is often overlooked. Insulating the hatch and ensuring that an effective draught seal is in place will help to keep heat energy in and your home warm.
- Windows – energy-efficient glazing keeps your home warmer, al-

lowing less heat to be lost. Double glazing is fitted as standard to new-build homes but, if your house is older, replacing windows could be a good investment as they help to keep warmth in and reduce external noise.

- Service your heating system – all central heating boilers should be serviced and safety checked at least once a year by a Gas Safe Registered engineer. If your boiler is old, then consider an upgrade. According to the Energy Saving Trust, a new A-rated condensing boiler can save up to £315 a year on heating bills – most new homes have this type of boiler.
- Room temperature controls – your thermostat should typically be set between 18°C and 21°C, but by installing thermostatic radiator valves you can set different temperatures in different rooms,

according to individual preference. These will be standard in new homes, but are easily fitted to existing radiators.

Richard Smith, Head of Standards, Innovation & Research at NHBC, said: 'People living in new homes typically benefit from lower energy bills because their properties are built in line with the latest government regulations for energy efficiency. However, whether you live in a newly-built home or an older property, there are plenty of opportunities to take a look around your house and find ways that could save money on utility bills during the coldest part of the year.'

For more information, please visit NHBC



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SCOTTISH FIELD

February issue



Ayrshire & Arran Area feature

Ayrshire & Arran...
Outlander author Diana Gabaldon...
Scotland's wild goats... Scotland's top independent schools... Stunning wedding photography... Comedian Sanjeev Kohli...
Top tattie recipes

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XTR Model pictured (inc. optional special paint finish) from £399.25 a month +VAT plus Initial Rental in advance of £3,593.25 +VAT.

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Vehicle shown is an XV 2.0i SE e-BOXER Lineartronic, OTR price of £31,545.00. Model shown price includes optional special paint finish at £550.

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Optional Final Payment (including £10 purchase fee)	£13,321.00
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S & S SERVICES

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SUBARU

ALL-NEW FORESTER E-BOXER. 4X4 MAGAZINE'S BEST SMALL SUV OF THE YEAR



Subaru UK is pleased to announce the all-new Forester e-BOXER – the first self-charging hybrid from Subaru – has been awarded 4x4 Magazine's Best Small SUV of the Year 2020, a testimony to Subaru's on-going commitment to build cars that are incredibly safe,

extremely capable and unfalteringly reliable, too. Beating off strong competition, Forester impressed the judging panel at 4x4 Magazine across the board thanks to its wide range of safety technologies, on-road drivability and genuine off-road skills. Alan Kidd, Editor of 4x4

Magazine, said: "Subaru's new Global Platform is the gift that keeps on giving. It means the all-new Forester has a roomier cabin than ever, as well as being almost unbelievably entertaining to drive – and one of the safest family vehicles in the world. That's a hat-trick to be proud of!"

Subaru UK Managing Director Chris Graham commented: "We're delighted that the all-new Forester e-BOXER has won 4x4 Magazine's Best Small SUV of the Year 2020. Subaru are committed to building the safest vehicles on the road, with all-new Forester out-per-

forming all other vehicles assessed by Euro NCAP last year. These accolades are testimony to a great product and our vision to produce cars that truly are better where it matters." The safety credentials and suitability of Forester as a family wagon have also been confirmed by

Euro NCAP, with the all-new model achieving Best in Class 2019 in the Small Off-Road / MPV class*1 – and the best score across all new cars tested by Euro NCAP in 2019. To find out more please call your local Subaru dealer S&S Services, 01292 880080

Supporting the people of Argyll for over 30 years

ALL-NEW FORESTER SELF-CHARGING HYBRID.

Subaru Forester 2.0i XE e-BOXER
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Vehicle shown is a Forester 2.0i XE e-BOXER Lineartronic, OTR price of £36,545.00. Model shown price includes optional special paint finish at £550.

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Stalwart accolade for Kintyre's Donnie and Kate



NFUS honour for McKerral family

Donnie and Kate McKerral of the family firm Peter McKerral and Co Ltd have been honoured by the farming community in Argyll.

The couple were presented with the Argyll and the Islands region's coveted NFU Scotland Stalwart Award to mark their family haulage firm's long service to the agricultural community.

The award is made every year in memory of Mull farmers Bert Leitch and Lachlan MacLean to mark outstanding support for the farming industry in Argyll and the isles.

Outgoing

The presentation was made by outgoing Argyll and



Kate and Donnie with outgoing NFUS regional chairman John Dickson, left, and new chairman Duncan Macalister on the right.

Islands NFUS chairman Jim Dickson at the AGM held in Tarbert Bowling Club.

Peter McKerral and Co Ltd developed its haulage business from the mid-1970s with one lorry, to a fleet of more than 60 lorries

and employing 80 people. Speaking after the award, Mr McKerral said: 'Kate and I are quite shocked. It was totally unexpected, but we are delighted to receive the award on behalf of the family. 'I want to extend my sincere

thanks to NFUS. We have been long time members and we have always received an excellent service and support from the union.'

Newly appointed regional chairman Duncan Macalister said: 'It is an honour to pres-



Donnie and Kate McKerral with the stalwart trophy.

ent Donnie and Kate with the Argyll and the Islands NFU Stalwart Award for 2020.

'Donnie and his family provide a personal, first-class service to the farmers of

Argyll, delivering our livestock to markets whenever we require. Of equal importance is the list of essential goods they bring back into the region.'

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North Argyll YFC Annual Stock Judging

Saturday 18th January
Oban livestock centre

The stockjudging will commence from 7pm with a raffle, bar and food run by the club and all are welcome to watch or join in!

Grazing

Homestone Farm, near Campbeltown. Approximately 36 hectares available now till end of September.
Contact Reid 07802 176569

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Successful candidates must be able to work on their own initiative to a high standard and have good communication skills to deal with client's requirements.

A rent free, 3 bedroom modern bungalow could be made available with occupants responsible for utility bills. An attractive salary will be offered commensurate with experience. This is a full time post.

Apply in writing to: **Aberchalder & Glengarry Estates Ltd, Aberchalder Lodge, Invergarry, PH 354 HN**

The Rockfield Centre Are looking to recruit for the exciting new role of **Heritage Officer**

28 hour post based in Oban.
Full details website.

<https://www.therockfieldcentre.org.uk/work-with-us>
SC045503

Career opportunities



CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGER – OBAN

We are looking for an experienced Site Manager to join our team in Dunbeg Development in Oban. The successful candidate will be responsible for organising & monitoring progress, meeting deadlines and ensuring a safe working environment. This a full time/permanent position 8am-5.30pm (Mon-Fri).

Please send CV to
jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk or call
01546 602989 for further information.



North Argyll House

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Morag A Telfer. 01631 562168
Email info@northargyllhouse.org

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Ghillie / House keeper

**Benmore Estate on the Island of Mull
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This opportunity would ideally suit a young couple who are looking for seasonal employment. Successful applicants need to be enthusiastic, hard working and totally reliable.

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Interested parties should email a CV to
julian@benmoreestate.co.uk

Further details of the estate are available on the estate website.

www.benmoreestate.co.uk www.hookedonmull.co.uk

Career opportunities



CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATIVE

We are looking for a Construction Site Operative to join our busy team in Oban. The position is based at Dunbeg Development, Kirk Road. Forklift experience desired but not essential.

Please send CV to
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01546 602989 for further information.



FIXED PLANT MAINTENANCE FITTER



A Position has become available for a maintenance fitter within our maintenance team. Ideally we would be looking for a suitable candidate with experience within quarrying/mining.

Aggregate Industries is a leading manufacturer and supplier of concrete products to the construction industry and part of the global Holcim Group. With nearly 4,000 employees and operations across the UK and Northern Europe, we are committed to helping create a better built environment. As a Fitter to our Maintenance Team Leader you will be responsible for safely and efficiently carrying out planned maintenance and repairs to site equipment to maintain our asset capacity and value.

Responsibilities:

- Carry out planned maintenance and repairs to the site equipment.
- Carry out planned repairs to equipment to maintain asset capacity and value
- Contribute to the preparation and development of Safe Systems of Work for repair procedures.
- Respond to unplanned repairs and other requirements.
- Respond to plant breakdowns – ensuring it is returned to production in a timely manner, and temporary fixes are followed up with a permanent solution.
- Maintaining a high standard of housekeeping, keeping areas clean, tidy and hazard free.
- Deal with all daily issues professionally and liaise with site management on a regular basis
- Support and train operatives to complete minor maintenance tasks
- To carry out all inspections; complete the forms and where a problem exists notify line management immediately.
- Enter maintenance and work data on the site Computerised Maintenance Management System.
- Be responsible for the plant assets in your area of responsibility and as required in all other work areas.
- To react promptly and effectively to site breakdowns by liaising with operatives and assisting where needed.
- To monitor and ensure that all plant stoppages, breakdowns and logs are documented correctly.
- Complete and adhere to all Safety related documentation for all maintenance activities.
- To carry out other reasonable tasks within the scope of your operation and abilities as and when required.
- Strong communication with site team.
- Support other area teams when required.
- Support the site reliability program for planned change out of equipment and recording of CM data
- Use maintenance access equipment and lifting equipment

Personal Specification:

- A highly motivated individual with drive and enthusiasm.
- Ability to work as part of a 24 hour, 7 day a week operation as required.
- Experienced fitter who is also skilled in welding, cutting and fabricating techniques with tech qualification, NVQ3 or equivalent.
- Excellent communication and team working skills.
- Ability to plan and implement maintenance schedules and good working knowledge of engineering drawings.
- Good understanding of health and safety.
- Good organising skills
- IT literacy and ability to work to deadlines.
- Ability to work flexibly.

Please submit your CV and covering letter to Paul Kersley, Engineering Manager (Mechanical) e.mail paul.kersley@aggregate.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 31st January 2020.

Glensanda Quarry Operations, Rhugh Garbh Depot, Barcaldine, Oban.

Telephone +44 (0) 1631 568140

www.aggregate.com

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Supporting People & Communities

INVERARAY CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF 1st April – 31st October GUIDES/TEAROOM ASSISTANT

Inveraray Castle has a Recruitment Open Day on Thursday 6th February - 11.30-13.30 and 14.30-16.30.

If you have a passion for delivering the highest quality customer service, we have both F/T and P/T positions as a Castle Tour Guide or Tearoom Assistant - **1st April – 31st October**. Guide positions an interest in Scottish History and one or more foreign languages are desirable but not essential.

Please email our Castle Manager, **Jane Young** - manager@inveraray-castle.com with an up to-date CV and covering letter highlighting your relevant experience. Alternatively attend our Open Day.

**Closing Date for applications
10th February 2020**

INVERARAY CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF REQUIRED (MARCH – MID NOVEMBER) TEAROOM MANAGER/ INVERARAY CASTLE TEAROOM

We are looking to recruit an experienced, enthusiastic and extremely organised Tearoom/Café Manager.

Our ideal candidate should have at least 3 years' experience in a similar environment. They must be able to manage a small team and have excellent communication and customer service skills.

Competitive salary for the right candidate.

Position:- Seasonal – 5 days out of 7 March – Middle of November

Please send your current CV to:-

Mrs J Young, Castle Manager

Email: manager@inveraray-castle.com

**Closing Date for applications
10th February 2020**

**campbeltown
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Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

Trainee Reporter

Here at the Campbeltown Courier, we pride ourselves on producing quality grassroots journalism.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a bright, passionate and hard-working trainee to join our small, busy team.

The person we are looking for will ideally have passed their NCTJ prelims, including shorthand, be multi-media literate and unafraid of hard work.

We are passionate about good local journalism and like our reporters to get out into the local community, meeting people face-to-face, sourcing the best stories.

You should be bursting with ideas and have an eye for a good story, understand the importance of fostering great contacts and knowing your patch, and be capable of working on your own initiative as well as part of a team.

You should also hold a full driving licence.

As well as writing for the newspaper, you will be expected to take photographs on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels and podcasts.

In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training, as well as an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: Alison Arden - all@obantimes.co.uk



ACHA Community Support Assistant

Lochgair Place, Tarbert

£6200 - £7294 pro rata per annum Monday – Friday, 9am – 11:30am

The association is seeking to recruit a highly motivated individual to assist with delivering housing support within the Association's sheltered housing complex in Tarbert.

This post requires;

- Protection of Vulnerable Adult Group (PVG) membership in relation to working with Vulnerable Adults
- Registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)
- Full UK Driving Licence
- Access to a vehicle insured for business use
- A minimum of 3 standard grades or equivalent
- To hold or be prepared to obtain an SVQ Level 2 in Health and Social Care

To apply visit the recruitment section of our website at www.acha.co.uk Or contact the recruitment team:

01546 605817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

For more information, please contact Sarah Campbell on 01546

605881 or email sarah.campbell@acha.co.uk

Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th January 2020.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 19th February 2020.

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REQUIRED

Cook/Chef or Couple & Baker

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Reply: ariundle@aol.com

**HIJOBS HIJOBS
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RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT**

Roadworkers

BEAR Scotland is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Trunk Roads in the North West & North East of Scotland.

Opportunities have arisen in Inveraray and Killin for road maintenance operatives.

Preferably you should be an experienced roadworker with the necessary skills to carry out various road maintenance operations, training can be provided if necessary. Ideally you should have, as a minimum, an LGV Class 2 Licence (HGV2), and be prepared to participate in our winter and emergency response service on a standby rota basis.

For more information or to apply online visit www.bearsco.com

The closing date for applications is 31st January.

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The Tayvallich Inn
We are recruiting
for 2020!



We are looking for a Chef to join our team for the summer season (March - November 2020). We serve a range of bar and restaurant standard dishes, focusing on local seafood and fresh ingredients.

We are looking for someone who can work as part of a team, enjoys working in a busy kitchen and can support our existing experienced kitchen team.

Get in touch to tell us about yourself and to find out more.

40 hours/week, 2 days off per week, £20,000 per annum (pro rata), on duty meals, off duty meal discount, pension scheme available, tips.

Tel: 01546 870282

Email: info@tayvallichinn.com

Meikle Electrical are looking for a fully qualified Electrician

Experienced in all aspects of Electrical Work & able to work on own initiative.

Full driving Licence essential

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Apprentice applications

CV to ianmeikle62@gmail.com

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Graduate Tourism and Events Co-ordinator

Salary: £20,000 to £22,000

Start Date: May 2020

Location: Torrisdale, Carradale,
Campbeltown, PA28 6QT

There is now an exciting opportunity for a 12-month graduate placement to support the development of a new Gin School and an adjoining café, by creating and implementing a series of associated courses and events.

Applicants must be Minimum Degree Level, preferably related to Marketing, Communications, Tourism/Events Management. Other subjects accepted provided the candidate has the required skills.

This position is part funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the European Regional Development Fund.

For further details and to apply please contact Niall Macalister Hall by emailing info@kintyregin.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF DECISION
SSE GENERATION LIMITED
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS
(ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

As directed by regulation 23(4) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) 2017, notice is hereby given that SSE Generation Limited ("the Company") has been granted consent by Scottish Ministers to construct and operate a 16 turbine wind farm known as Tangy IV Wind Farm, (with a ground to blade tip height of up to 149.9 metres), in lands North of Kilchenzie, Kintyre, in the relevant Planning Authority area of Argyll & Bute Council. Scottish Ministers have also directed, under Section 57 (2) of the Town & Country Planning Act (Scotland) 1997, that planning permission is deemed to be granted.

Copies of the decision statement and related documentation can be obtained on the Energy Consents website: www.energyconsents.scot Copies of the decision statement and related documentation have been made available to Argyll & Bute Council to be made available for public inspection by being placed on the planning register.

**EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING OF THE MACHRIHANISH
GOLF CLUB WILL BE HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN
ON SATURDAY 18th JANUARY
2020 AT 7:00PM**

The committee want to establish the will of the membership for the following quo i.e.: -
A Professional on a membership or
If they want a change
Club run the shop.
All members are respectfully invited to attend.
M Wylie, Secretary



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. They can also be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and at your Local Customer Service Point (check opening times).

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
19/02603/LIB	Internal and external alterations including installation of flue (retrospective)	Claonaig Old Church, Claonaig, Skipness, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6YG

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 & Bute visit us at:
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Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



KILMARTIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lady Anne McArthur Knudsen Trust

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Your application should be made in writing to:

Namaste Bevan, Head Teacher
c/o Kilmartin Primary School
Kilmartin Lochgilphead PA31 8QF
Closing date 7th February 2020



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GRADUATIONS



CLARE ANDERSON

Clare Anderson graduated with an HND in Professional Cookery from the City of Glasgow College. Clare is the daughter of James Anderson, Campbeltown and the late Carol Anderson, Carradale.



MAIRI JANET BARBOUR

Recently graduated from Glasgow University with an MA in Primary Teaching with First Class Honours is Mairi Janet Barbour. Mairi is the daughter of Graham and Shona Babour, Southend and is currently studying for a Masters in Psychology.

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CAST IRON SPADE, 9" LONG - Old cast iron ornamental spade, with thermometer, approx 9" long, can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON BRACKET AND DOORBELL - Vintage cast iron, wrought iron bracket, approx 8" X 8" with doorbell and clapper, wall mountable, needs assembling, can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON WEIGHTS - 3 cast iron weights for old scales, various weight. Old and maybe rusty, in shed. Can email photo. Campbeltown, £10.00 Telephone 01586 554537

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Vintage ornamental doorknocker, cast iron, approx 7" long, D shape handle and blade. Good condition. Paint black? Can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

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ISLAY



Councillor Robin Currie is urging people to have their say.

Views on Islay bus service sought

Islay residents, businesses and visitors are being asked for their views on their current and potential use of school and public transport on the island.

The current contract for the provision of School and Public Transport on Islay (service nos 450 and 451) is due to end in October 2020.

Before re-tendering for this contract, Argyll and Bute Council is asking people living and working on, as well as visiting, Islay and Jura how they use the service and how they would like to see it used in the future.

Councillor Robin Currie, policy lead for housing, roads and infrastructure services, said: "This is your chance to tell us about your journeys, what works well and what you would like improved. Your feedback can help the council to improve the scheduling and coverage of school and public transport services on Islay.

"I would urge you to go online and fill in the form, or get in touch

SOUTHEND

SWI kicks off new year in style

Southend SWI celebrated the first session of 2020 in style by welcoming Kerry Dickson and her daughter Louise Mitchell from long-established hair salon Numero Dix.

Kerry spoke about the salon from its inception, dropping in conversations about how hair was treated in days gone by at the well-attended meeting.

She spoke about hair in general, giving hints and tips about washing, drying and colouring, as well as modern dryers and showed, with the aid of table tennis balls, their differences, which members found very interesting.

As a fun task, Kerry organised a game, giving 12 pictures of hair styles and asking groups to put them in order of decades.

From the early 1900s to modern day, the members guessed the decades and found it really interesting to see what people thought. Most groups got many correct with the modern day styles



Kerry Dickson, at a previous demonstration, attended the group's first meeting of 2020. 25_c47employers07

causing the most trouble.

A spokesperson described the night as 'a lot of fun and extremely entertaining'.

Afterwards, Kerry and Louise helped group member Mary Cameron judge the competition entries.

Results: Pin cushion (any medium): MJ Paterson, gold; Alison Eynon, gold; Fiona Rowland, red. Photograph of a winter scene: Fiona Rowland, gold; Margaret Bakes, silver; MJ Paterson, silver; Jean Ives, red. Slice of Christmas

cake: Kathleen Martin, gold; Fiona Rowland, silver; Alison Eynon, silver; Margaret Bakes, silver; MJ Paterson, red; Eve Taylor, red.

The next meeting will be held on Monday February 3 in Dunaverty Hall where the speaker will be Joan Stewart from Shopper-Aide.

The competitions will be a hand-made St Valentine's card, three heart-shaped shortbread biscuits, and three pieces of nougat.

with the council if you would prefer to fill in a paper copy. If you use the transport, or it affects your business, we really need to hear from you.'

The short survey opened on Friday January 10 and will run

for four weeks until Friday February 7.

All responses are voluntary and anonymous and the council encourages participation from anyone of school age and above.

Anyone can take part in the sur-

vey by visiting: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/consultations/islay-school-and-public-transport-survey

Paper copies are available on request by emailing procurement@argyll-bute.gov.uk or calling the council on 01546 604239.

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden

The wind screamed across the ocean, there was little sand and what there was came flying across the beach blinding us in its path.

The beach at A'Chleit became a foaming mass as the mountainous waves pounded it relentlessly.

We could not hear ourselves speak as the wind roared and the sea crashed onto the shore.

Our colliers looked as if they would go into orbit as they tried to walk through the tracks across the top of the beach.

For the sake of safety, we had to give up and head back to the car.

It was then that we decided we might be better on the north side of the church and with heads down into the wind and hoods drawn tight, we headed for the church.

Battling the elements, we went round the back of the church, and with great relief we found shelter.

As we stood there with the rain dripping from us and feeling a little respite from the biting cold of the wind, I thought about being in the shelter of the church - round the back.

I reflected on the Christmas just past when Jesus and his family found shelter 'round the back' of the inn.

It was good to find shelter 'round the back' and it seemed to have such significance.

Jesus' life was a life spent with those who lived 'round the back' - the humble ones, the poor ones, the unassuming ones, the ones who were there for each other.

What a good place to shelter.

We watched the storm clouds gather and wondered at these storm-tossed birds which could actually fly in such conditions.

And then we saw a rainbow.

CONTACTUS

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

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

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

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

DEATHS

GORRIE - Suddenly at his home, 5B Wilson Road, Lochgilphead, on January 7, 2020, Angus (John) Gorrie, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Catherine, cherished father of Charles, Gavin and Kathleen, dearly loved grandfather of eight and a much respected father-in-law. Dear brother, uncle and cousin to all the family, and a good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held at South Knapdale Parish Church, Achahoish, on Thursday, January 16, 2020, followed by interment at Ormsary Cemetery. Sadly missed.

MCPHEE - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 14, 2020, Catherine McMillan Houston, in her 89th year, 94 Millknowe, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Donald McPhee, much loved mum of John, Marie and the late Moira, mother-in-law of Pat and Bill and a loving granny of John and Callum. Funeral service in Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown, on Saturday, January 18, 2020, 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 the Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital.

ROBERTSON - Suddenly, but peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 13, 2020, Roberta Robertson, in her 75th year, 12 Smith Drive, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late Ruth Young, much loved sister of the late Elma McLean and loving aunt of Johnnie and John. Funeral service will take place in Cardross Crematorium, on Monday, January 20, 2020, at 11.15am, to which all friends are respectfully invited. A remembrance service will be held at a later date.

SMALL - (Ormsary Estate). Suddenly, on Saturday, January 4, 2020, Carol Alice, aged 60 years, daughter of the late James and Alice, much loved sister of Colin, Lorna and Evelyn, beloved auntie, and great friend to many. Sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral service to be held at W G Catto Funeral Home, Linkwood Road, Elgin. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired, to Macmillan Cancer Support. Please telephone W G Catto Funeral Directors on 01343 547371 for details.

STANKEY - Peacefully at home, 20 Dun Mor Avenue, Lochgilphead, with her family by her side, on January 12, 2020, Sally Anne Stankey, aged 66 years, beloved wife of Alastair, much loved mother of Shona, Stuart and Calum, cherished granny of Abigail, Aila, Cali, Jack and Harry, and dear sister of Maureen and Sheila. A good neighbour and dear friend to many, and a much respected teacher and former work colleague. Funeral service will be held at Cardross Crematorium, today, Friday, January 17, 2020 at 11.15am, followed by a memorial service at Lochgilphead Parish Church, at 3.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Macmillan Nurses and The Beatson. Forever in our thoughts.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of Kenneth, died January 14, 2006. We think about you every day, With so much love and pride, We miss you so much, And wish that you were still by our side.
- Love, Mum and Dad xx.

HENDRIE - In loving memory of our dear mum, gran and great gran, Jess, who passed away January 14, 2019.
- Marlyn, Linda and Myra and families.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of my dear husband, Duncan, who was tragically taken from me, on January 18, 2018. To me he was someone special, Someone set apart, His memory will live forever, Engraved within my heart.
- Love you, always and forever, Dawn.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of our dad, Duncan, who was tragically taken from us, on January 18, 2018. We wish that we could see you, Dad, For just a little while, We wish that we could hug you, And see your lovely smile, But wishing gets us nowhere, And longing is in vain, So we will hold you in our hearts, Until we meet again.
- Lots of love, your boys, John and Campbell.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of our dearly loved son, Duncan, tragically taken from us, on January 18, 2018. Always in our thoughts, each and every day. A golden heart stopped beating, Two smiling eyes at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.
- Mum and Dad.

MACDOUGALL - In memory of Duncan, a much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who tragically lost his life aboard the Nancy Glen, on January 18, 2018. Sad are the hearts that love you, Sad are the tears that fall, But living our lives without you, Is the saddest part of all.
- Alison, Stephen, Ella and Jack.

MACDOUGALL - Duncan. In loving memory of a much loved nephew and cousin, taken too soon, on January 18, 2018. Your presence we miss, Your memory we treasure, Loving you always, Forgetting you never.
- The McIntyre family.

MACDOUGALL - Treasured memories of our son-in-law, Duncan, taken from us, as the result of a tragic accident, on January 18, 2018. Sad are the hearts that loved you, Sad are the tears that fall, But living our lives without you, Is the saddest part of all. Loved and remembered always.
- Lachie and Moira.

MACVEAN - In loving memory of Betty, died January 21, 2017. Always in our thoughts.
- Alasdair, Eric, John, Angus, Peter and Elizabeth.

MARTIN - Sentimental memories of Ronnie, died January 19, 2019. Dad, you are sorely missed and loved always.
- Nichola, John, Kyra and Mathew xxxx.

CHURCH NOTICES

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Sunday 19th January
Creche, Triple C, Gen 1 11.15am Morning Worship
Rev W Crossan
Monday 20th January
Guild
New Hall 2.00pm
Tuesday 21st January
Tiny Tots 9.45am
New Hall
BB Anchor Boys 6.00pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Church Hall
Thursday 23rd January
Choir Practice 7.00pm
Friday 24th January
Lunch Club 12.00 noon
New Hall

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Friday 17th January
SKY Youth Group 7.00 - 9.00pm
Sunday 19th January
Family Communion Service 11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies
All welcome
Joint Evening Service 6.30pm
Held at the SKDT Hall
Speaker Rev Rodger Crooks
Wednesday 22nd January
Bible Study 7.30pm
Pastor Steve Davies
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
SCO14646

ST KIARAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
Epiphany 2
Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH
St. John Street, Campbeltown
01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
stkieransrc.org
Vigil Mass Saturday 6.00pm
(except 1st Saturday of the month)
Sundays, Holy Mass 10.00am
All welcome
(SC002876)

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Service
Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Service
Wednesday
Lunch Club 12.15pm
CAMEO 1.30pm
Make 'n' Munch Craft Group 7.00pm
Major Ruth Russell
All welcome
Scottish Charity Number SCO09359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
6.30pm Joint Service in Campbeltown Community Church
Speaker: Rev Rodger Crooks
Monday 20th January
4.00pm Road to Recovery
Wednesday 22nd January
12 noon Prayer & Bible Study
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
11.00am Family Service
Speaker - Pastor Mark Jasper
with Sunday school Refreshments after the service
Joint Service 6.30 pm
at SKDT Hall
Playgroup
Every Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am
(Term-time only)
Pastor Mark Jasper
pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322
We meet at the SKDT Hall, Kirk Street PA28 6BL

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11.00am and Achahoish at 12.30pm
All welcome

CHRIST CHURCH SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sunday 19th January
11.00am Service of Healing
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

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilphead
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr Ronald Campbell
01546 602380
All Welcome
(SC0002876)

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

Kilmartin
Sunday 19th January
10.00am
Rev Robert MacLeod
All very welcome
(SC0 02121)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity number SC001002
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sunday 19th January
Tayvallich Church
10.30am Choir Practise
11.30am Morning Worship

Saturday 18th January

10.30am - 12.30pm
Café Connect
Achnamara Hall
Friday 24th January
7.00pm Achnamara Hall
Alpha 'taster'
All welcome
www.northknapdale.org

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 19th January
Skipness Service 10.00am
Tarbert Service 11.30am
both Mr Jim Malcolm
All welcome
Tarbert and Kilberry
Charity No: SC002622
Skipness Charity No: SC004280

For all church enquiries and pastoral care contact CFulcher@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Church of Scotland
Sunday 19th January
Cumlodden Church 10.00am
Inveraray Church 11.30am
Westlochfyneside
Charity No SC016665
All welcome

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February issue
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Scotland's wild goats... Outlander author Diana Gabaldon... Ayrshire & Arran... Scotland's top independent schools... Stunning wedding photography... Comedian Sanjeev Kohli... Top tattie recipes

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COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pupils make hosts pay the penalty

St Convals	3
Campbeltown Pupils	3
Jimmy Marshall Cup	

Pupils win 5-4 on penalties

Campbeltown Pupils progressed to round two of the Jimmy Marshall Cup with a penalty shootout win over St Convals.

Drawn away to the Linwood side in the SAFL's league cup competition, the match was played at Renfrew Sports Centre, with the 3G synthetic pitch having thankfully thawed out since Pupils' November visit there on league duty.

The McFadyen-sponsored Pupils, playing a 4-4-2 formation from the start, were almost ahead in the opening 90 seconds, but striker John McCallum sent a low shot wide of target with the goal gaping after being found by a dangerous low cross from left midfielder Gregor McFadyen.

But within 10 minutes, McCallum had the chance to open the scoring from the penalty spot, after Ryan Deans was brought down by a St Convals defender.

McCallum sent the keeper the wrong way to score his 50th Pupils goal and put the McFadyens-sponsored side a deserved goal in front.

After threatening further when Ryan Deans crashed a 25-yard shot off the underside of the crossbar, the Pupils doubled their lead when right-back Michael McKinlay's looping high ball was pounced on by McCallum, who outjumped the defender to guide a header over the hosts' onrushing keeper.

St Convals, plying their

trade a division below the Pupils in SAFL Premier Division Two, halved their deficit after 40 minutes, when a rasping low strike from the edge of the box evaded the grasp of Alasdair Ferguson in the Pupils goal.

McCallum could have had a first-half hat-trick, but was denied by the post after hitting a close-range shot on the stretch, after fine build-up play by left-back Keith Mitchell and McFadyen.

Into the second half, the Pupils were frustrated when the hosts made it 2-2 from a corner, after an attacking header on the six-yard line from a floated delivery went unchallenged in the Pupils ranks, giving Ferguson no chance.

The rest of the second half was largely dominated by the Feathers Inn-sponsored Pupils, with the impressive McFadyen seeing his powerful header hit the base of the home keeper's right-hand post. But keeper Ferguson was also on form when called upon to touch a low shot round the post at a crucial time in the match.

Donald McCallum, introduced at half time, had two chances to score after bearing down on goal, but the St Convals keeper produced two fine saves to deny him.

In another well-crafted move, D McCallum helped turn provider, prodding a low pass through for fellow sub Ross Brown, who showed great composure to thread a ball low across goal and leave Scott Souden with the simple task of scoring into an unguarded net.

And while not under huge pressure defensively, the Pupils contrived to

concede a third goal, when a free-kick was conceded at the edge of the box and the resulting low effort evaded Ferguson's grasp. With the full-time score 3-3, the tie went straight to penalties and when Ellis Robertson, Deans and D McCallum scored, J McCallum missed the fourth kick, only for the Pupils to be rescued by Ferguson's save on the hosts' final penalty, and a goal from Ross Souden sent the shootout to sudden death at 4-4. Ferguson pulled off a wonder save to deny St Convals again and McFadyen calmly slotted home to send the Pupils through to the last 16 of the competition.

Tomorrow (Saturday) the Pupils travel to Mid Argyll to face county rivals Lochgilphead Red Star on league duty, with the match at either the Ropework Park or at Lochgilphead Joint Campus 3G. See Campbeltown Football on Facebook or @PupilsAFC on Twitter.

Pupils squad v St Convals: A Ferguson, K Mitchell, L Allen, R Souden, M McKinlay, S Souden, R Deans, F Wylie, G McFadyen, E Robertson and J McCallum. Subs: D McCallum, R Brown, R Gilchrist, F Scott and F MacBrayne.



Ryan Deans, in action last year, scored a penalty.

25_c48pupils10_Ryan Deans

Defeat for young Pupils against in-form Knightswood

A depleted Campbeltown Pupils Youth 2005s suffered a heavy defeat losing 9-0 away to an excellent Knightswood 2005s at Scotstoun Stadium last Sunday.

Signs of a lengthy festive break were evident as the young Kintyre side struggled with the pace of the game and the Glasgow side showed no mercy in reaching the half-way point of the Glasgow and District Youth Football League

Division A with a 100 per cent record of nine wins out of nine. This Saturday, the Under 15s are on their travels again as they visit Greenock to play Morton Community Football Club in the second round of the West Region Cup – the first time the two sides have met.

The youngsters will be looking to put last weekend's result behind them and hopefully progress to the next round.



Runners up Stewart and Pat McMillan, left, and winners Stuart Currie and John McCallum, right, with the shield.

50_c03tayinloanbowls01



Finalist Stewart McMillan in action.

Father and son competitors Stuart and Robert Currie had to get down on the floor for a closer look at one point.

50_c03tayinloanbowls02



Stuart Currie, who won the competition with his cousin, gets ready to take his shot.

50_c03tayinloanbowls07



Elizabeth Graham looks on as Duncan Johnstone bowls during a quarter-final.

50_c03tayinloanbowls08



Semi-finalist Robert Currie took part in the competition.

50_c03tayinloanbowls09



Above: The spectators were glued to the action in Tayinloan Village Hall.

50_c03tayinloanbowls03



John McCallum, one half of the winning team, rolls a bowl.

50_c03tayinloanbowls06

Right: Jane McCorkindale travelled from Southend to take part in the competition.

50_c03tayinloanbowls10

Two in a row for west Kintyre cousins

Words and photographs by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

West Kintyre cousins Stuart Currie and John McCallum made it two victories in a row when they won Tayinloan Village Hall's annual indoor bowls competition.

The hall fundraiser, from Wednesday to Friday last week, attracted people from the length and breadth of Kintyre, from Tarbert to Southend, with 16 pairs taking part.

It all came down to Friday's games which saw Stuart and John up against Duncan Johnstone and Stuart's dad Robert Currie in one semi-final and husband and wife team Pat and Stewart McMillan against Moira MacDougall and Jane McCorkindale in the other.

With youth on their side, Stuart and John overcame the older pair with relative

ease, while the other match was more even, coming down to the final end, with Pat and Stewart finally emerging as winners.

A break before the final gave players a chance to regain their energy as they enjoyed the tea, coffee and home-baking on offer, after which the raffle was drawn.

As usual, the final was a tense affair, with silence descending on the sometimes rowdy hall.

It was a close affair but, despite their best efforts, Pat and Stewart failed to stop Stuart and John from clinching their second victory in a row.

Hall treasurer Kate McKinlay thanked Stuart and Robert for their help with organising the competition and presented the prizes, including the winners' shield on which Stuart and John's names will be inscribed.



Competitor John Graham. 50_c03tayinloanbowls09

new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

Win!
THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT
£2150

We have removed the shinty ball 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 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 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.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 2pm Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into any of our offices - The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban; The Lochaber Times, High Street, Fort William; The Campbeltown Courier, Main Street, Campbeltown; The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead or the Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran 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.

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 home towns 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 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, 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. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB or hand in to any of our offices as detailed above.

Name

Address

Tel No.....

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

RECENT WINNERS:

- T Campbell** Sept '18 **£2500**
- S Campbell** Sept '18 **£2550**
- L Currie** Nov '18 **£800**
- L Nicolson** Dec '18 **£3900**
- D MacLellan** Jan '20 **£2000**

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



Congratulations to
D MacLellan
Machrihanish

Who has won our special prize of
£2000 for being nearest to the ball

INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Pupils make hosts pay the penalty

Two in a row for west Kintyre cousins



The Cambuslang Colts Yellows, left, and the Campbeltown Pupils Youth, right, ahead of Sunday's match. KC_03pupils01

Pupils U13s teach Colts a lesson in 10-goal thriller



Goalkeeper Imogen Todd in action. KC_03pupils06

Campbeltown Pupils	10
Cambuslang Colts	0
GADYFL Under 13s - Div C	

Despite an even start to last Sunday's match between Campbeltown Pupils Youth and Cambuslang Colts FC Yellow at Kinloch Park's all-weather pitch, it was a landslide victory for the home side.

The Pupils opened the scoring within 15 minutes of the 2pm kick-off and by half time, the young Kintyre players had made it 2-0.

It looked as if the Colts took longer to settle in, but they began the second half by pressing the home side.

Ten minutes later, fatigue after the Colts' long journey from the Central Belt seemed

to be setting in, and the home side stepped it up not one gear but three, giving a final score of 10-0 to the Pupils.

A Pupils spokesperson said: 'It was a fantastic performance from both teams but the home side played absolutely fantastically and all starting 11, and the four subs who went on at half time, played out their skin.'

'They should all be proud of themselves. The hard training and determination is definitely paying off.'

'Good luck to both sides in the rest of their league games.'

John McTaggart battles for possession.
KC_03pupils05



The Courier Centre

Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AE
Tel: 01586 554646

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POP IN AND GRAB A BARGAIN, WHILE STOCKS LAST!

50% OFF MARKED PRICE ON ALL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PAPER, GIFT BAGS & BOXES, BOWS & TREE DECORATIONS

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