

MEMORIES



■ Stewart Campbell from Milngavie, left, with Isabel Brims, from Callander, and her bother Alastair take pictures of the statue of Lobey Dosser and his horse El Fideldo in Woodlands Road in 2003



Tide of people see great ship off

THE big day is edging closer as Prince William and Kate Middleton get set to tie the knot on Friday.

The world will be watching – with all eyes on Kate’s wedding gown as she walks down the aisle at Westminster Abbey.

Back in September 1967, a royal visit led to huge crowds in Clydebank as 100,000 people besieged John Brown’s

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shipyard on the day the QE2 was launched.

Spectators gathered as the royal party made their way

into the launch site. In the foreground, a mounted policeman salutes the royal visitors.

On the right, an old shop front can be seen complete with its ‘Evening Times’ signage.

The QE2’s maiden voyage, from Southampton to New York, began on May 2, 1969, taking four days, 16 hours and 35 minutes.



■ April 26, 2008: GLASGOW University student Laura Speirs, 21, was recovering after she suffered a stroke which doctors said could have been brought on by laughing too hard.

ON THIS DAY... NEWS

1962: The first American rocket landed on the moon, but the Ranger IV failed to send back any pictures due to a technical fault.

1986: The world’s worst nuclear accident happened when there was an explosion at the Chernobyl power plant in the Soviet Union.

1999: TV presenter Jill Dando, below, was shot dead on the doorstep of her London home.



SPORT

1969: Celtic completed the treble by beating Rangers 4-0 in the Scottish Cup Final.

1991: Footballer Diego Maradona, below, was suspended from the game after being arrested in Argentina for possession and distribution of cocaine.



SHOWBIZ

1928: Madame Tussaud’s waxwork exhibition opened in London.

1977: New York’s famed Studio 54 disco opened.

1982: Rod Stewart was mugged at gunpoint while in Los Angeles and robbed of his \$50,000 Porsche.

1986: Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger married TV journalist Maria Shriver.

SPT steps in to help OAPs get on buses

Free service is a travel lifeline

By VIVIENNE NICOLL

ELDERLY people who feared they would be left stranded when their Glasgow bus service was scrapped have been thrown a lifeline.

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport has stepped in to fund a new service in the Townhead/Drygate area after a commercial operator pulling out.

The new service, which started today, will be provided by local community transport group North Area Transport Association.

SPT came to the rescue after concerns that elderly people were finding it difficult to access alternative buses.

The route will allow access to local shops and post offices and link Kennedy street, St Mungo Avenue, Glasgow Royal infirmary, Drygate, Duke Street, High Street, Glasgow Cross, Trongate, Glassford Street, George Square, Killermont Street and Cowcaddens Road.

Low floor minibuses are being provided free. They will run 9.30am-2.30pm on weekdays.



■ Jonathan Findlay is delighted at the link-up

SPT chairman Jonathan Findlay said: “I am delighted we have been able to make sure those members of the local community who are not always able to access alternative mainstream transport can still lead independent lives.

“This link-up will provide an immediate

This link-up will provide an immediate solution to problem

solution to a local transport problem and SPT will strive to put in place a longer term bus service for the area.”

Glasgow council leader Gordon Matheson said: “I am delighted this service is helping to improve the access residents have to the city centre and other parts of Glasgow. It is vital communities stay connected.”

Facebook fight to save historic halls

By CAROLINE WILSON

THOUSANDS of people have backed an online campaign to save one of Glasgow’s architectural treasures.

The 138-year-old, A-listed Egyptian Halls in Union Street is at risk of demolition if the owners fail to secure funding to restore it.

More than 2000 people have joined a Facebook campaign to save the Alexander “Greek” Thomson designed building.

Owner Derek Souter wants to restore it to its former glory by creating a 250 bedroom hotel.

His Union Street

Properties and sister company Union Street Investments have so far spent £5 million on the project and Mr Souter says they are willing to invest a further £12m.

The city council agreed a £1m grant and Historic Scotland a grant of around £1.65m but Mr Souter says he needs the Scottish Government to provide an extra £2.35m to allow work to start.

But Historic Scotland insists it cannot provide more cash and a planning application has now been lodged to demolish the building.

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