

Biggest Coffee Morning that last year raised £8million across the UK and £40,000 in the Highlands.

For the first time the charity will be awarding a challenge cup to the school that brings in the most money.

To find a local coffee morning or register to host one visit www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee or call 01224 701505.

Tourism award for wildlife park

The Highland Wildlife Park at Kingussie has gained Green Tourism silver award.

Visitor services officer Helen Armour said the locally-sourced food on offer at the park had been a big hit at their recent green tourism assessment, and the gift shop features local crafts including tweed handbags. The park has also taken steps to ensure gifts from further afield are ethically sourced.

Others steps such as recycling cardboard, plastic and cans, installing energy-saving lightbulbs and replacing hand towels with hand dryers also helped win the park win silver.

Focus on Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust

The work of the Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust will be the focus of a meeting at Boat of Garten next month.

Representatives will give short presentations on their achievements and future plans and will also take questions from the audience.

The meeting is at Boat of Garten Community Hall on Thursday, September 15, at 7pm.

Lochaber Historical Society meeting

Members of the Lochaber Historical Society will gather tomorrow for the final talk in a long-awaited trilogy by local historian Hector MacLean.

Mr Maclean's past presentations, including the story of free electricity at Campbelltown and heavy water at Arisaig, began in 2009.

The final talk in the Lochaber Once More series will include the tale of a local Robin Hood figure who restored power across the River Spean. The event will be held in the Alexandra Hotel at 8pm and all are welcome.



UNCONVINCED: Bob Wynd at the Caulfield Road North junction with Old Perth Road

Traffic fears stall UHI go-ahead

BUSINESS LEADER BRANDS DELAY 'COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
proposals for a crossroads at the junction of Culloden Road and the road off the A9 at the Inshes Vet Practice.

But a minute of a planning meeting which gave outline consent in May last year shows that when members challenged the crossroads plan, they were reassured by chairman Jimmy Gray that details - such as roads and routes - would be confirmed at a later meeting.

Yesterday, however, area planning manager Alan Todd told members that all planning in principle applications required to state where the access points would be.

In the case of Beechwood, they will be at the B9006 Culloden Road and at Caulfield Road North.

Culloden councillor Bob Wynd was among members seeking a deferral to get more details, and said the B9006 already has queues.

He said: "Nobody is convinced on what they are hearing, which is why communities are up in arms."

Badenoch and Strathspey

member Dave Fallow said he was "confused" by the plans and did not feel he had enough information.

Inverness Ness-side councillor David Henderson said: "This is one of the most important matters to come before the committee. The university is on a very tight timescale.

"There are some dangers that funding streams will be lost if there is protracted debate. That is not a reason to ignore local concerns, but it is a material fact that we have got to keep in mind."

The council's head of transport and infrastructure, Sam MacNaughton, said that a roundabout would not ease traffic in the long term.

He said the local authority was considering plans for "sophisticated" traffic signals on all junctions between The Fluke bar to Caulfield Road North, including Inshes roundabout, with signals synchronised to reduce delays.

Westhill Community Council chairman Brian McGregor, who has led the calls for a roundabout, said that he was

pleased with the councillors decision to defer the issue.

HIE's Inverness Campus project director Ruairaidh MacNeil said: "Inverness Campus is a major project which will have a massive positive impact on the city and the region.

"Safe and smooth traffic flow is a vital part of HIE's plans, and we fully recognise the public interest in this particular aspect.

"Naturally, we had been hoping for a positive outcome from today's meeting, but the deferral is only for a few weeks and should not have a material effect on the overall timescale. In the meantime, we will continue to consult and listen to the views of local communities."

Inverness College UHI principal John Spencer said the business case for the campus had been approved by the Scottish Funding Council and now the Scottish Government was evaluating it.

Inverness College is due to be open by summer 2014.

COMMENT, PAGE 13

Festival tips on reducing food waste

BY NICHOLA RUTHERFORD

COOKERY lessons at a Highland food festival will demonstrate how to reduce food waste and save money.

Scottish families throw away £430 on average of wasted food every year, according to Zero Waste Scotland, and two-thirds of it is still suitable to be eaten.

Organisers of Living Food at Cawdor Castle next month hopes to reverse that trend.

The event, on September

24, which is sponsored by the Press and Journal, aims to celebrate local, organic and artisan food and to promote sustainable living.

Visitors can pick up tips about reducing food waste, storing food to make it last longer and recipes to turn leftovers into delicious meals.

Betsy Reed, head of campaigns for Zero Waste Scotland, said: "The Love Food Hate Waste campaign offers practical hints, tips and

advice to help Scottish consumers reduce their food waste, saving them money and reducing their carbon footprint.

"Simple steps like planning meals and making a shopping list are easy ways to do something about it.

"By reducing their food waste, people in Scotland can save themselves some money, help the environment and help Scotland work toward its targets to become a zero waste society."