

## FACES IN THE NEWS

### Jay-Z finally tops charts



HIP-HOP icon Jay-Z achieved his first UK No. 1 album with Magna Carta Holy Grail.

The record ousted Mumford & Sons' Babel which enjoyed surging sales because of the folk-rock band's appearance at Glastonbury.

Despite seven top 40 albums as a solo artist, Jay-Z had never reached the summit before.

### Kelly reveals she is to wed



KELLY Osbourne has got engaged to the boyfriend she met at Kate Moss's

wedding and said: "We want to be together all the time."

She accepted a proposal from Matthew Mosshart as they enjoyed a holiday in Anguilla. Osbourne said her ring is intended to look like one of her father Ozzy's items of jewellery.

### Domingo home after lung scare



OPERA singer Placido Domingo has left hospital in Madrid after spending five days there

recovering from a lung artery blockage.

His son Alvaro has said he expected his father to spend three weeks recuperating in the city, and that the 72-year-old singer wasn't contemplating retirement.

### Halle marries French fiance



ACTRESS Halle Berry has married her fiance, French actor Olivier Martinez, in a church near a

chateau in Burgundy. The wedding, at the Chateau de Vallery, where the couple stayed with their 60 guests, ended with dinner and fireworks.

Berry, 46 and pregnant, and her husband, 47 were said to be "very happy".

Scottish Government's withdrawal of a grant of just £7000 is

# MISCARRIAGE GROUP IN CASH PLEA



## EXCLUSIVE

By EWAN FERGUS

**A** GLASGOW-based charity which helps women through the emotional agony of miscarriage is facing the axe.

The hammer-blow came when the Scottish Government pulled its funding from Scottish Care and Information on Miscarriage (SCIM).

The organisation, which is based in Glasgow's High Street, offers counselling and support to more than 500 women a year.

But now they face closure – and there is even the prospect that some women currently going through a course of counselling for bereavement after losing a baby will see their sessions end abruptly.

The Scottish Government grant was worth £7000 a year and SCIM, who have been

## There's very little help given after your miscarriage from the GP or the hospital. You're just a number

running for almost 20 years, say it could mean the end of all the services they provide.

Maureen Sharkey, a senior counsellor with SCIM, who is also a Labour councillor in Renfrewshire, said: "The abrupt effect of this cut will have a devastating effect on the very vulnerable Scottish women with whom we are currently working.

"It means that women at risk in the future will lose out on the specialised sup-

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

AS Scottish Care and Information on Miscarriage faces the axe, the charity is calling for public support. They are looking for 7000 people to make a £1 text donation by texting SCIM28 £1 to 70070

port that we provide. This brutal decision not only leaves women and families without a specialised counselling service for miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal loss, but the speed of the decision leaves the charity no time to wind down the service in an ethical and considerate way for women they are currently working with."

Charity chairman Colin Patrick added: "The letters and texts have been flooding in from women who have previously used our counselling service asking what they can do to help keep the service open.

"We are asking them to support our campaign and write to their MSP to appeal to them to rethink this brutal decision.

"SCIM are asking ministers to reconsider their decision and allow them, as the only organisation of their kind in Scotland, to carry on providing this crucial service to women.

"Closure will mean an end to a service which is not provided anywhere else in Scotland as well as the death of the knowledge and experience that the charity have built up for over 19 years of their existence."

Shirley Bradley, 33, from Shawlands, is one of the hundreds of women who seek help from SCIM each year.

She had two miscarriages in 2011 and they supported her with counselling and

support. They also helped her through a successful pregnancy, when her son Daniel, now 10 months-old was born.

Shirley said: "They made a massive difference. I came across them by chance after my first miscarriage in 2011, through Google.

"I was feeling quite low and feeling as if I probably would never have a successful pregnancy. They definitely helped me, gave me confidence and made me feel a lot happier.

"There's very little help given after your miscarriage

from the GP or the hospital. You're just a number.

"After two miscarriages, there's a lot of doubt in your mind. I was about nine or ten weeks when I had an appointment with Maureen. I was a nervous wreck.

"She helped me through talking about it, and helped me with their fertility management programme.

"That's contributed to the fact that I sustained a pregnancy. And there was a lot of emotional support.

"It is really shocking that they're having their funding cut, because they are the

only service in Glasgow like this, the only of its kind.

A Scottish Government spokeswoman said: "We are committing nearly £2million of funding to third sector organisations through this grant scheme in 2013/14.

"There are a large number of third sector organisations who have applied for funding. However, due to the limited funds available, we are unable to approve every funding application.

"Although Scottish Care and Information on Miscarriage (SCIM) has not been successful in applying for funding, we will, as part of the feedback on their application, be exploring possible alternative funding options with them about how they can continue to provide their service."

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enough to threaten the future of SCIM



**W**omen at risk in the future will lose out on the specialised support that we provide

Maureen Sharkey, a senior counsellor with SCIM. Picture: Bill Fleming

## CASE STUDY

### Lee Campbell, 35, lost three babies in miscarriages

LEE CAMPBELL still misses the three babies she lost to miscarriage.

Lee, 35, from Maryhill, had two unsuccessful pregnancies in 2011. The first was twins who died in the womb in June that year. Just six months later she suffered the same tragedy. She is now 30 weeks pregnant with a baby boy, and is past the point of greatest risk of another miscarriage.

She and husband John, 36, are now looking forward to the new arrival, but Lee says she would have found it hard to get to this stage without the vital support provided by SCIM.

She said: "In 2011 I found out I was pregnant and I was due my first scan in June that

year. I was between 12 and 14 weeks pregnant.

"My first scan said I was carrying twins, but there was no heartbeat and they had died maybe a few weeks before. I had to wait another week to get that confirmed.

"I had to go in for an operation to have them removed, but nature intervened and I started haemorrhaging. It was traumatic.

"During that process I was given leaflets and SCIM's details were there."

The charity offered her counselling and support, through a service which she still uses.

Bank worker Lee added: "The main thing was when

you're pregnant, particularly when you go for that first scan, the future is the biggest thing.

"You start visualising how the baby will impact your life and what you're going to do. To find out that there wasn't going to be a wee prize at the end of the pregnancy, that was a shock. It was really hard to cope with. Everybody was excited for me, but having to tell everyone the bad news added to the stress.

"SCIM helped. I met Maureen and we discussed how I was feeling. I had regular meetings to deal with the emotions I was going through.

"One of the biggest hurdles was getting back to work and facing people. I didn't know how I was going to do that.

"Everybody was excited for me but going back and coping, and handling people and coping with my own loss was hard. Maureen was able to give me techniques to cope. I was able to talk to my husband and my family about what was happening and what I was going through. There's no doubt that SCIM were vital.

"In December I found out I was pregnant again and, on the date that the twins had been due, I lost that baby as well, so I had to deal with it all again.

"After the second pregnancy I felt myself going into a dark hole, not wanting to go out. But SCIM was there to help me through that the second time.

"I'm 30 weeks pregnant now

with a little boy. At the very early stages of me getting pregnant with this little guy I don't think I'd have coped very well without that support. Maureen's been on hand when I've been worried. They're always there if I need them."

Lee is one of hundreds of women who are appalled that the service is under threat.

She added: "I know the Government have to take tough decisions, but when you see the amount of money spent on things like George Square, the Edinburgh trams, a lot of charities like SCIM who need support are really being put to the side by these projects where needless amounts of money are spent."

Flights 'as normal' from city



The new Dreamliners have had difficulties

# Troubled aircraft is 'on duty'

By FIONA MCKAY

THE new Dreamliner flight from Glasgow to Mexico will depart as normal this morning despite a week of problems surrounding the Boeing 787 aircraft.

It comes after a fire extensively damaged one of the new planes at Heathrow Airport on Friday.

The aircraft was withdrawn earlier this year for modifications following a scare over battery fires.

Operator Thomson confirmed that all 787 flights from all airports continue as planned, including today's Glasgow flight to the resort of Cancun, taking off at 9.15am.

Yesterday the Dreamliner flight to Sanford, Orlando left Glasgow Airport at 12.45, after a 25 minute delay.

A Thomson spokeswoman said: "The safety of our customers and crew is of paramount importance to us.

"We want to reassure our customers that we have every confidence in this aircraft and would never operate it if we weren't 100% sure of its safety."

No passengers were on board when the fire broke out on the Ethiopian Airlines craft, which was parked at a remote stand.

Air accident experts have said there was "no evidence" of a link be-

**W**e would never operate it if we weren't 100% sure of its safety

tween the blaze at Heathrow and the plane's batteries.

Later on Friday, a 787 was forced to return to Manchester Airport after it developed a mid-flight technical issue.

A small number of components were replaced on the aircraft.

Passengers who left Glasgow on the first Dreamliner flight last week are due to fly back to the city on Wednesday.

## Crash pair 'critical'

TWO people are fighting for their lives after a car crashed into a road bridge's concrete pillar.

They were airlifted to hospital with severe injuries as an ambulance took a third person to hospital.

The incident occurred on the A74 northbound at Johnstonebridge, near Lockerbie on Saturday.

One person was taken to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary the two others

to hospital in Dumfries. A police spokeswoman said only one vehicle was involved and that it had hit a bridge support.

The northbound carriageway closed for several hours while those heading south were restricted to one lane as police investigated the incident.

Police are appealing for witnesses to the accident which involved a black Range Rover.