

Daughter puts Campbell in a spin live on air

FORMER Labour spin doctor Alastair Campbell was left red-faced after his daughter Grace called to grill him about his behaviour towards women.

The New Labour strategist was debating feminism as he stood in for presenter Nigel Farage on LBC radio yesterday.

Writer Grace, 24, told her father, 61, he needed to "unpick" his behaviour to "truly be a feminist".

She said: "You still call women birds. I believe you don't even think about the impact that has."

"Women aren't birds, birds are birds. You call women women, you don't call them birds." Mr Campbell said he did not remember using the term, but vowed not to do so again.

Grace also criticised him for not doing jobs in the house. She said: "Instead of saying you can't, just learn how to." Mr Campbell replied: "All right Grace, stop nagging me."

Starved to death...whale with

By Michael Pickard

A PILOT whale died with more than 80 plastic bags crammed into its stomach.

The sheer amount of plastic in its stomach had stopped it eating.

The emaciated whale was found in a canal near Thailand's border with Malaysia.

Vet Dr Watchara Sakornwimon, who carried out a post-mortem examination on the mammal said: "We found a lot of plastic bags in the stomach, I think around 85."

It was "the worst case I have ever seen," he added.

The veterinary surgeon said the rubbish was not just from Thailand but also from other countries.

"As it is the ocean and he is a whale, he can travel around the world," she said.

"So he ate plastic bags wherever he was that day before he became stranded."

The whale had vomited five plastic bags as rescuers spent five days attempting to save its life last week, using buoys to keep it afloat,



Cruel fate...the dying emaciated pilot whale was found stranded in a canal near Thailand's border with Malaysia

and an umbrella to protect it from the sun. It died on Friday.

Dr Sakornwimon said she had once found "a kilogram of plastic bags" in the stomach of another

whale discovered near the Thai island of Phuket.

The amount of plastic found in this latest case is said to have been around 17lb. Marine biologist Thon

Thamrongnawasawat, a lecturer at Kasetsart University, in Thailand, said: "If you have 80 plastic bags in your stomach, you die."

He added that at least 300 marine

80 plastic bags in its stomach



Helpers attempting to stabilise the stricken pilot whale – but it later died

animals, including pilot whales, turtles and dolphins, die in waters around Thailand each year after swallowing plastic.

The United Nations environment

programme, which is backing the Beat Plastic Pollution campaign, posted on Twitter: "Sad news as a whale that ingested dozens of plastic bags has died in Thailand."



Pictures: REUTERS, EPA, AFP

Heart attack kills man, 43, in triathlon

A 43-YEAR-OLD man has died while taking part in a triathlon. He is believed to have suffered a heart attack at the Sleep When You're Dead event on Barry Island, South Wales.

Police were called to Whitmore Beach just before 7.30am yesterday. Despite attempts to resuscitate him, he was declared dead at the scene.

Next of kin have been informed. Last year researchers in Minnesota, USA, suggested triathlon competitors may be more likely to die suddenly and suffer a fatal trauma or cardiac arrest than previously thought.

A study of more than nine million participants over three decades found that deaths and cardiac arrests struck about two out of every 100,000 competitors.

Swimming was the most lethal event.

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Sky Watch chairman Archie Liggat said waste was at 'industrial levels' in areas

By Julia Horton

"INDUSTRIAL" quantities of plastic litter have been found around Scotland's coastline in an aerial survey by volunteer pilots.

Using their own aircraft, they found and photographed thousands of plastic barrels, crates and other debris piled on public beaches and remote rocky coves.

Sky Watch Civil Air Patrol Scotland, a charity that helps the emergency services and local communities with searches and surveys, said some looked more like landfill sites.

However, the pilots say the true scale of the problem is likely to be much worse, with smaller pieces of plastic waste hidden from view from the sky beneath seaweed.

The pictures are being used by the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) to plan beach clean-ups so that communities can target their efforts where they are needed most.

Seabirds and marine creatures, from plankton upwards, face a growing threat of being injured or killed through eating or becoming entangled in plastic.

Archie Liggat, chairman of Sky Watch, said: "In the worst areas it is absolutely at indus-

'Parts of the Scots coast look more like landfill than beach'

trial levels, with plastic blasted up the hills from the coast by onshore winds.

"There are thousands and thousands of large plastic barrels all over the place, and plastic crates, and when there is any large plastic litter visible at all there's usually a significant amount of smaller stuff too under the seaweed."

Urging people to donate to help fund fuel for surveys, he warned that, without swift action, the plastic would break up into tiny fragments which would "probably enter the ecosystem for good".

Scotland's coastline

is around 6,000 miles long and the habitat it provides for wildlife can be hard to access.

MCS Scotland beach clean up co-ordinator Catherine Gemmell said: "I've been across the length and breadth of the country and the litter that some communities are already dealing with is absolutely horrific."

"These new aerial surveys of stretches which people can't easily see or reach show places which are not being cleaned up yet so the plastic is still building up in the oceans.

"Any type of marine litter can have a huge impact on our wildlife

at every level of the food chain. Animals ingest plastic, get tangled up in it and can feed it to their young."

The Government provided around £25,000 for camera equipment for the surveys, which were set up after the Moray Firth Partnership, a regional environmental charity, sought help to create a waste map of their area to help combat litter.

So far around 16 surveys of about 90 that are planned have been carried out, costing about £2,000, which pilots donated themselves.

To support the scheme visit the Scottish Coastal Rubbish Aerial Photography website at <https://scrapbook.org.uk>



The waste is deadly to wildlife, with animals and birds either ingesting or getting tangled in it



Grouse moor praised over biodiversity

INTERNATIONAL conservationists have hailed a grouse moor for its land management which has led to 98 different bird species being found present on the estate.

Glenogil Estate, between Glen Clova and Glen Lethnot in the Angus Glens, has been visited three times by German scientists.

Led by Dr Daniel Hoffman of Game Conservancy Deutschland, the team found an increase of 35 bird species from their first visit in 2015 and are crediting heather burning and predator control for the abundance of wildlife.

Among the birds found were red-listed species including curlew, lapwing, black grouse and merlin.

An abundance of non-bird species were also found, such as mountain hares and lizards.

Dr Hoffman said: "We wanted to show other estates, other countries in Britain and Europe, that you can have this biodiversity only when you have the ecologically correct form of management in an area."