Big Issue Scotland 7-13 June 2010 Page:

Gael force

When public services are being slashed across the country and worse is to come, why is Alex Salmond persisting with his idiot plan to translate all our road signs into Gaelic? Driving through Argyll & Bute – which as the ancient home of the Gaels is the only part of mainland Scotland where this would be

'I TRULY BELIEVE INDECIPHERABLE GAELIC SIGNS ARE TO BLAME FOR SERIOUS ROAD ACCIDENTS IN ARGYLL & BUTE'

appropriate - I was driven to distraction by unnecessary Gaelic translations littering the roadsides.

By the time you have waded through the Gaelic, which supersedes the English place-names, you're already past the sign, and I found myself braking and slowing down before several signs in order to try and fathom them.

There were several serious accidents, including fatalities, when I spent my holiday in Argyll and I truly believe these indecipherable road signs are to blame. Place names that have no Gaelic origin or links whatsoever are also translated. What's the point? Are there

really so many Gaels who struggle to read English that we have to translate absolutely everything for them up and down the country?

I'd rather my elderly parents were able to get decent care in their twilight years and my daughter's school was better equipped than money being squandered on these fripperies to indulge the SNP's Brigadoon-inspired fantasies. INIA BATHCATE, Cumbernould