

HISTORY HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGY

• 2017 •

THE ARRAN
BANNER

#HHA2017





MORRISON

The Magical Light of Knapdale

The Archway Gallery , Lochgilphead
5th - 19th August 2017

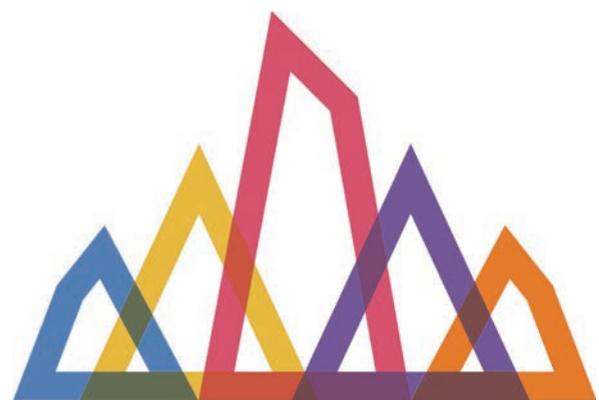


www.jolomo.com



Sculptured grave stones in Kilmory Knap Chapel
Photo: Dennis Hardley

Oban Pipe Band at Highland Games
Photo: Dennis Hardley



**HISTORY
HERITAGE &
ARCHAEOLOGY**

• **2017** •

Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology 2017

This is the year to delve into the past and discover Scotland's fascinating stories through a wide-ranging variety of activities and events across Scotland!

2017 has been designated the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, a year that celebrates our country's unique history and heritage. The Highlands and Islands are rich in history, heritage and archaeology – from World Heritage Sites to ancient monuments,

listed buildings to historic battlefields, cultural traditions to our myths, stories and legends. We are proud to shine a spotlight on some of our area's greatest assets and icons, as well as our hidden gems.

Find out more about what's on during the year via the official website for the year at visitscotland.com/HHA2017, or join the conversation with the hashtag #HHA2017 on Twitter and Instagram.

Arran, an island rich in history and heritage

Like much of Scotland, Arran celebrates a rich and vibrant culture shaped by thousands of years of, often tumultuous, history and heritage which has shaped the nation into what it is today. Rightfully proud of its accomplishments and achievements, much of Scotland's heritage and history has been preserved and celebrated over the years. Moving with the times, but still retaining the values and ethos of generations of our forefathers and their ancestors, Scotland is a country that is so rich in history and celebrating and preserving its past, that vivid reminders of it can be, literally, found beneath our feet. Arran is no exception to this and owing to its island nature it has the added benefit of having a dense concentration of millennia's worth of history crammed into a relatively small area of only 432km squared. Around every corner and across and beneath every vista there is a hidden story and a history, some dating back within living memory and others to prehistoric times, their origins and uses lost with the passing of time. On Arran, an island with evidence of being occupied since Neolithic times, and probably before, Arran can boast of a culture immersed in history, heritage and archaeology.

Machrie Moor Standing Stones

Contributing immensely to the archaeological record of Scotland and comparable to other well known prehistoric marvels such as Stonehenge and Avebury, the six sets of stone circles at Machrie Moor on the west of the island are a sight to behold. The visually striking sandstone slabs measuring up to five metres and known as Circle Two is the most impressive of the lot, giving the viewer an indelible link to the past. Boasting five further circles, some constructed from granite boulders, the entire moor is filled with prehistoric remains, including burial cairns, cists, evidence of bronze age huts and timber circles radiocarbon dated to approximately 2030 BC. Beneath the peaty landscape it is believed that further circles and



archaeology remains untouched while above ground tantalising clues provide evidence of prehistoric farming, occupation and ceremonial use. The barren landscape filled with imposing monuments and stone circles gives the entire area a surreal other worldly feel that is difficult to describe, other than the palpable feeling of being immersed in a landscape rich with history, culture and grandeur.

Brodick Castle

With its exact origins unknown, the site of Brodick Castle has been occupied since at least the 5th century when a fortress overlooked Brodick Bay. Having undergone a host of improvements, alterations and even near destruction, the present castle dates to 1844 and was the seat of the Dukes of Hamilton since 1503. In 1958 the National Trust for Scotland acquired the castle and gardens, in lieu of death duties, and the property and gardens are now open to the public.

The collections contained within the castle are recognised as being nationally significant to Scotland. It includes hundreds of items of silverware, porcelain, paintings and period furniture including the fine Beckford Collection, which once belonged to William Beckford, who was part of one of the richest families in Europe. With many features and household items still remaining the castle exudes a glimpse into a bygone era of aristocratic luxury, wealth and power.

The castle is presently closed for essential fire prevention works but the country park and gardens, which extend from the sea shore to the top of Goatfell, contains a formal walled garden, large manicured lawns and a nationally recognised collection of rhododendrons. Winding its ways through the property are more than 10 miles of well signposted walks and cycling routes that meander through breathtaking scenery and vistas, abun-



dant with wildlife. Adding to the allure for families the country park now also boasts an impressive outdoor playpark - Isle be Wild - that is sure to captivate the interest of young visitors. Wooden walkways, huts, tunnels and pathways lead over rivers and high into the treetops, offering children and adults a panoramic view over the historic estate.

Highland Clearances

Paying homage locally to the nationwide Clearances that took place across Scotland, Lamlash pays tribute to the brave 86 souls who departed the village in the first swath of voyages across the Atlantic, with a memorial in the centre of the village. The unassuming stone memorial erected by the descendants of the émigré's tells the story of the departure on the site where in 1829 Arran residents boarded the brig Caledonia, destined for Megantic County in the province of Quebec, Canada. Further groups destined for Canada, some more than 400 strong, became pioneer settlers

of Restigouche Bay, Chaleur District. The Clearances, more often associated with the Highlands but taking place across Scotland, occurred during the 18th and 19th centuries over a period of 100 years, with the most brutal and merciless evictions taking place in the 19th century. The Clearances are attributed to wealthy landowners evicting uneconomical tenants from their land to make way for sheep, deer and forests which were experiencing technological advancements which could produce far more profits for the laird. It is not known how many people were evicted during the Clearances but it was not unusual for entire villages such as at Ardnamurchan to be evicted, often involving more than three generations of the same family.

The Clearances were a brutal period of Scottish history, one that is still debated in academic circles to this day, and from which the population and landscape has never fully recovered, causing the most unequal distribution of land in Europe.

The Crofters' Holdings (Scotland) Act

mostly put an end to the Clearances by granting security of tenure to crofters in 1886.

Arran archaeology

With such a rich history buried beneath the ground Arran has been the subject of many Archaeological excavations, particularly in the Victorian era when the public's appetite for historical artefacts and exploration reached an insatiable peak. These days, with methodology much improved and structured, most excavations are overseeing building work and small scale exploratory investigations on sites - which were historically occupied - and scheduled for building work. But occasionally archaeological works are undertaken with the sole purpose of understanding a particular site with regard to its use, age and layout and then preserving and accurately recording it. One such excavation undertaken under the auspices of the National Trust for Scotland earlier this year was for that exact purpose. On the desolate and boggy Coire a' Bhradhain lying to the north west of Brodick, two Arran

Mountain Rescue Team members discovered a raised circle with two prominent doorway stones. The remains were exposed after a wild fire and after an initial investigation it was suspected to be an early bronze age roundhouse. The suspicions were confirmed earlier this year when a group of archaeologists dug down to reveal the stone walls of the roundhouse and a central hearth area. Artefacts included charcoal remnants and a fragment of charred pot which was sent away to be carbon dated. Significantly the round house is not only important in helping us understand how the land has been used in the past, but also at 384m above sea level, it is one of the highest round houses to be excavated.



ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Scottish Charity Number SC002089

Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm



THE ISLAND'S FOUR STAR FAMILY DAY OUT

Visit the 19th century cottage, 1940's schoolroom, blacksmith's shop, extensive collection of farming machinery and agricultural equipment, fascinating displays on the island's unique geology, archaeology, social history, features on Arran at War and the Clearances, and much, much more. Archives and Genealogy service each Wednesday.

There's just so much to see!

Here are some of the things happening soon at our 4 star attraction:

Spinning and Weaving demonstrations by local enthusiasts

11am to 4pm every Thursday until 10th August

Arran's Archaeology - talks by local expert David Aitchison

1.30pm and 3.30pm on Wednesdays 19th and 26th July and 9th August

Vintage Motor Cycle Rally - plus other interesting vehicles

Sunday 16th July from 12.30pm - 3.30pm

Children's Day - free entry for 12s & under (accompanied by an adult)

Sunday 30th July from 1.30pm

Classic Restored Tractor Rally - plus some modern machines

Sunday 6th August from 1.30pm

MG Owners Club Rally - Over 20 lovingly restored vehicles

Saturday 16th September 11am to 4pm

Enjoy delicious teas, snacks and meals at Café Rosaburn.

Make it a day out for all the family - there's lots for the kids to do, visit the gift shop, or relax in our riverside picnic area.

So much to see and do

On the way out of Brodick, going north, is the island's most inexpensive four star attraction. The Arran Heritage Museum, established almost 40 years ago, is a large site with seven buildings filled with displays of artefacts and information, plus a large garden with a riverside picnic area and a lovely café.

The 19th century cottage gives an authentic view of island life in a very different era, and the 1940's schoolroom will show the younger generation what rural schools were like in the not too distant past.

Farming in years gone by was the island's largest industry, and there is a wide range of machinery and equipment displayed around the grounds, and in the implement shed. The working blacksmith's shop and its adjoining shoeing shed were the first part of the museum when it opened in 1979.

Arran's unique geology attracts students of the subject from far and near, and a whole building on its own is devoted to the subject with samples of Arran rocks to handle. Similarly a large space in the Stable Block is devoted to the island's famous archaeology.

There are many more displays around this fascinating venue, and visitors of all ages will find much to intrigue them. Totally run by volunteers, this lively jewel in Arran's crown has seen enormous changes over the years as its holdings of donated items expands.

Whether you are a visitor to the island, or have lived here for many years, you will find the Arran Heritage Museum's regularly changing displays a memorable experience.



Arran Heritage Museum during a recent craft day.

Arran Whisky - The spirit of a unique and magical island since 1995



After the construction of brand new Rowan House building and refurbishment of CASKS Cafe in 2016, the Distillery has had a complete refurbishment of the downstairs area of their Visitor Centre in the first part of 2017. They have created a brand new tasting room for larger groups, complete with bar and kitchen.

The Arran Distillery & Visitor Centre is a focal point for many visitors coming to Arran. They are the top rated visitor attraction on the Isle of Arran and welcomed over 104,000 visitors through their doors over the course of 2016 – a 93% increase since 2012. 1 in 4 visitors to Arran visit the Visitor Centre and of the 1.5m people estimated to visit distilleries in Scotland, 6% make the crossing to Arran despite it being only one of 115 distilleries in the country.

As Lochranza reaches capacity, both in terms of production and welcoming visitors, the Distillery has now turned our attention to the south of the island.

Construction of the £10m second distillery and Visitor Centre at Lagg is now well underway. Focusing on peated single malts, the Lagg centre overlooks the southern fields and cliffs of the island offering a striking contrast to Lochranza in the mountainous north. It is expected to open in 2019.

It is projected that by 2020 Lochran-

za and Lagg will welcome a combined total of more than 200,000 visitors – amazing when presently 1.5 million people visit all 115 distilleries across Scotland.

Visitor Centre Manager Faye Waterlow has worked for the Company for nearly 20 years and many of our guides and staff on the island have been with the Company for many years. The friendly atmosphere of the team inspires loyalty and passion, and this feeling is transmitted through to their visitors, many of whom visit them several times a year from overseas. This is never more evident than at their annual Arran Malt & Music Festival which takes place the last weekend in June every year. This year's even was a roaring success which saw visitors from all over the world flock to enjoy

good, food, whisky and music in the company of like-minded friends. This boost to island businesses can not be overlooked.

Euan Mitchell, Managing Director of Isle of Arran Distillers says "We are a proudly independent Scottish company, and great care and attention is given to making sure that our Single malt remains true to its roots. We are one of the few remaining independent distilleries in Scotland, free of corporate chains, and this authenticity and desire to stay in close touch with our consumers makes us stand out from the crowd. Our whiskies are full

of personality – we are not just independently owned, we are also independently minded. We have an online community of Arran friends known as The White Stags and we would encourage anyone who is interested in or supports our Arran Whisky to join in with this online community for regular updates on everything that is happening with our Distillery.

The White Stag Gazette newsletter is sent out regularly to keep everyone up to date with Arran news and new releases and you can sign up for this on the Arran web site at www.arranwhisky.com

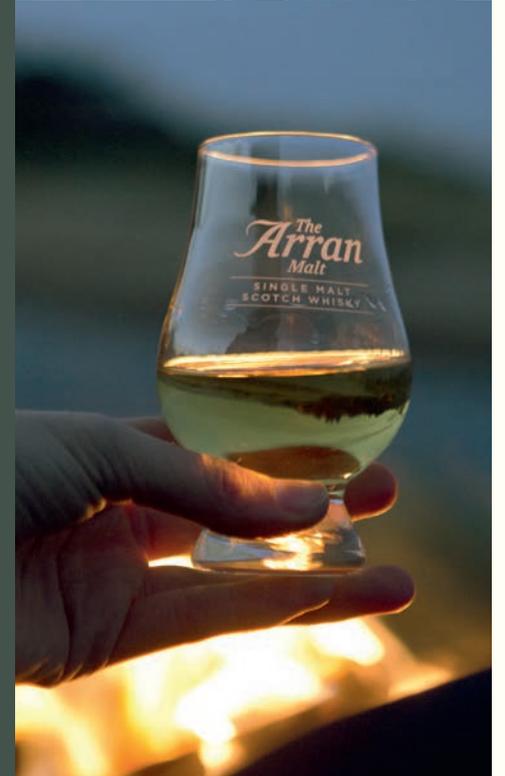
In May 2017 the Company was awarded 'Best Contribution to Wine & Spirits Tourism' at The Drinks Business Awards, held at the London Wine Fair.





VISIT THE AWARD WINNING VISITOR CENTRE AT THE ISLE OF ARRAN DISTILLERY

DISTILLERY TOURS • SHOP • CASKS CAFÉ BAR



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NOV - FEB 10.00 - 16.00

**FOR TOUR TIMES AND INFORMATION
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THE ISLE OF ARRAN DISTILLERY
AND VISITOR CENTRE, LOCHRANZA, KA27 8HJ

TEL: 01770 830 264

EMAIL: VISITORCENTRE@ARRANWHISKY.COM

www.arranwhisky.com





Get Wild About Argyll in the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology



Photo Credits : Kieran J Duncan, AITC, MT Photography

ARGYLL & THE ISLES – MUCH CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.

Argyll & The Isles and the City of Glasgow are right on each other's doorstep. You can easily be out of the city and enjoying your adventure of choice in less than an hour.

When you feel the call of the wild just jump in the car, catch a train or book a flight and let your adventure begin. Argyll & The Isles is very well connected with regular ferry services to our 23 inhabited islands, bus services connecting the key towns and villages and an amazing network of cycle tracks and long distance walking trails.

So whether that's a week-long adventure, a weekend away or a day out having fun, it's just a stone's throw away.

And adventures aren't limited to the countryside. Glasgow has some fantastic urban adventure activities and cultural experiences on offer to contrast with Scotland's Adventure Coast.

WILD OR MILD?

Argyll & The Isles has adventures for everyone, from the ultra endurance athlete, to the beginner picking up a new hobby, to those who simply love a scenic drive, a short walk or a wildlife-watching boat trip.

So whether you're looking for the adventure of a lifetime or time out to relax with the family, and perhaps learn something new, Argyll & The Isles has it all. Plus you'll find lots of friendly locals to guide you and show you the ropes.

Plan your own wild or mild adventure at Wildaboutargyll.co.uk

@ExploreArgyll
ExploreArgyll
@explore_argyll

wild@exploreargyll.co.uk

Photo credits Kieran J Duncan

Argyll and the Isles is steeped in Highland heritage – and you don't have to delve too deep to discover our rich and colourful past – from Dunadd Fort, the birthplace of the nation, to Mount Stuart, the neo-gothic mansion which was one of the most technologically advanced houses of the 19th century. You can explore more than 60 medieval castles in impossibly romantic locations, visit 14 world class distilleries, marvel at Gaelic traditions and gaze in wonder at Bronze Age standing stones. The landscape of Argyll and the Isles is dotted with signs of the past, including chambered cairns and Europe's densest concentration of ancient rock art and cup-and-ring marked stones. Whether you want to take a week-long tour, a kayaking or walking adventure, or a day's boat trip, guided tours are a great way to experience a place and immerse yourself in its history, culture and landscape. If you're an independent explorer, you can follow your

nose, or enjoy our self-guided trails. Kayak in turquoise waters, sail to mysterious islands, cycle through the sea breeze of coastal roads, or simply explore from the comfort of your car. Argyll and the Isles Tourism Cooperative (AITC) has compiled a map (pictured) of the incredible network of walking, cycling and kayaking trails that criss-cross the region. We have suggested journeys online tailored towards every interest imaginable, and provide an interactive map which allows you to devise your own itinerary, and blog features that will help you explore like a local. 2017 really is the year to explore the remarkable history, heritage and archaeology of Argyll and the Isles. Pick up our daily features on Facebook and Twitter @exploreargyll. To delve deeper and plan your own heritage inspired Wild About Argyll adventure, simply visit www.exploreargyll.co.uk and www.wildaboutargyll.co.uk.





Inveraray at sunset

Inveraray - The Royal Burgh

Perched on a hilltop high above Loch Fyne, and visible from most directions, the beguiling silhouette of the Dun na Cuaiche watchtower is an early clue to the eclectic and engaging nature of the Royal Burgh of Inveraray.

The 18th-century viewpoint may appear mysterious and inaccessible from below, but, in fact, it is a relatively short, though steep, walk from Inveraray Castle car park, and once reached provides an aerial outline of the highlights of the Fyne Valley – town, castle, bell tower and loch can all be seen from the shelter.

Nowadays, Inveraray is vibrant little town, with cheerful white-harled buildings, sparkling waterfront and cosy cafés – though in 1787, Scotland’s national poet Robbie Burns was less than impressed when he visited, writing : ‘There’s naething here but Highland pride, and Highland scab and hunger.’

Echoes of Inveraray’s murkier past have become part of its attraction. In the 1800s, Inveraray jail housed the undesirables of Argyll society, from convicted killers to the insane, to children caught stealing apples, in damp, cramped cells bleakly positioned on the edge of Loch Fyne.

Today, the jail is a living museum where actors tell stories of former inmates and visitors can try out punishments like the crank machine and whipping table. If that gets too much, you can take a nap on a ‘guard bed’, a plank mattress with a hard wooden pillow, which was introduced after complaints that life for prisoners was too comfortable.

Inveraray Castle may resemble a Disney attraction, but the home of Clan Campbell and the current Duke of Argyll has seen its fair share of drama, including two devastating fires and a royal battle. Today, its armoury hall houses an

“
**Echoes of
Inveraray’s
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attraction**
”

impressive collection of weapons (including the handle of the outlaw Rob Roy’s dagger), many of which have been used in combat. Inveraray’s coat of arms features the motto ‘may there always be a herring in your net,’ a sentiment that might seem wasted today, when bulging catches of ‘silver darlings’ are no longer landed in the harbour. But the industry the town was founded on is well remembered at its pier, and the sea-faring

spirit is preserved at Inveraray Maritime Museum (on board the Arctic Penguin schooner) and the Vital Spark, a puffer named after the boat in the Para Handy stories and used in the filming of the series.

Did you know?

Inveraray is one of the first planned towns and has survived remarkably well in its original 18th-century street plan. It has many attractive and architecturally important buildings, many of which are A-listed. Inveraray jail has a reputation as one of Scotland’s most haunted locations. Staff and visitors alike have reported feeling icy drafts, hearing eerie footsteps and experiencing strange sensations.

Inveraray Castle
Photo: Dennis Hardley



INVERARAY JAIL & COUNTY COURT

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● "We had a great time at the jail. Dead interesting"

● "This was one of the highlights of our short visit to Scotland"

● "The history and how it was put across was top notch"

Bring the Jail's story to life with our **FREE** interactive multi-media guides



www.inverarayjail.co.uk



Inveraray Jail

Inveraray Jail is one of the finest and best-preserved historic jail and courtroom complexes in the world. From the atmospheric buildings to the costumed characters, a visit to Inveraray Jail is a unique and unforgettable experience. Step through the doors and step back in time to a 19th-century prison. Experience what life was like for the prisoners locked up here. There's so much to see and do, from the gruesome Torture, Death and Damnation exhibition to courtroom drama. Learn about prison life, from jail work to daring escapes, and try out some of the

punishments – if you dare! There's free wifi throughout the jail, so you can share the experience as you go along. Audio guides bring the jail's history to life with real-life tales from staff and prisoners of the past and immersive sounds. The guides are free with entry and add another layer of drama to the fascinating story of the jail. They're available in English, German, French, Dutch, Italian and Spanish. Visitors can also use our interactive touch-screen kiosk to search the prison records, which hold details of more than 4,000 prisoners.



Inveraray Castle

CASTLE AND GARDENS OPENING TIMES 2017
1st APRIL – 31st OCTOBER
 Open 7 Days - 1000hrs- 1745hrs
 Last Admission- 1700hrs

BEST OF THE WEST 8th, 9th 10th September 2017 www.bowfest.co.uk

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ENQUIRIES Tel: 01499 302203 email: enquiries@inveraray-castle.com website www.inveraray-castle.com

Clan Campbell – the Earls and Dukes of Argyll

Clan Campbell began with one man and his strange quirk. In time, they would compete with the MacDonalds to be the Highlands' largest clan.

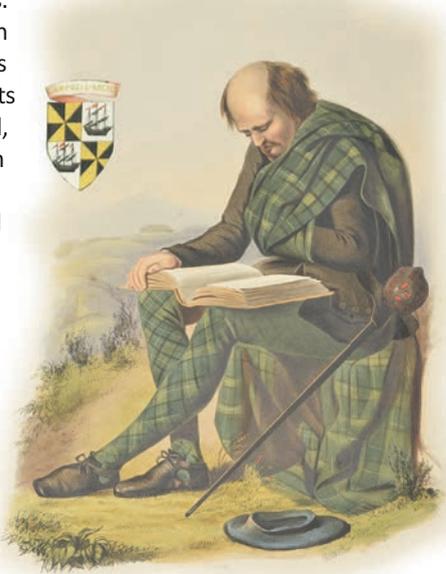
The name comes from 'Cam Beul', Gaelic for 'crooked mouth'. It was a nickname given to one Dugald of Lochawe, who had the habit of moving only the corner of his mouth when he spoke. Dugald's kin thought so highly of him that they welcomed his epithet as their family name, becoming Cambels ('Campbells' by the fourteenth-century).

In 1457, with the appointment of Colin Campbell to the Scottish chancellery, the clan became Earls of Argyll. From this day forward, until the 1900s, they would serve as highly active politicians. Their sway in Scotland was matched by few. What they

could not win by diplomacy, they took easily by force. The army of the 5th Earl of Argyll was larger than the armies of the rulers of his time, Elizabeth I and Mary Queen of Scots.

Around 1400, Sir Colin Campbell moved to Inveraray on Loch Fyne and gave the clan direct access to important coastal travel and trade routes. From their Argyll seat at glorious Inveraray Castle – still the ducal residence today – they once controlled territory from Inverness-shire to Ayrshire and played a historically important role in Scottish, British and international affairs from the 14th to early 20th centuries. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Dukes turned their interests towards agricultural, industrial and urban development. Almost all Campbell dukes of centuries past rest in the family mausoleum at Kilmun Church, and many of the area's castles are associated with them.

Inveraray Castle is the current seat of the Chief of Clan Campbell, Dukes of Argyll. The beautiful white walled castle is situated in a Royal Burgh and the blue-green granite it was built from, together with the slated towers that have weathered to a deep green give the castle an unreal fairy-tale look.



Ardchnonell Castle is a ruin located on the island of Innis Chonnell in Loch Awe. Its exact beginnings are misted in time but certainly from 1308 it was the Campbell clan seat for 200 years until the seat was transferred to Inveraray.

“Inveraray Castle is the current seat of the Chief of Clan Campbell, Dukes of Argyll”

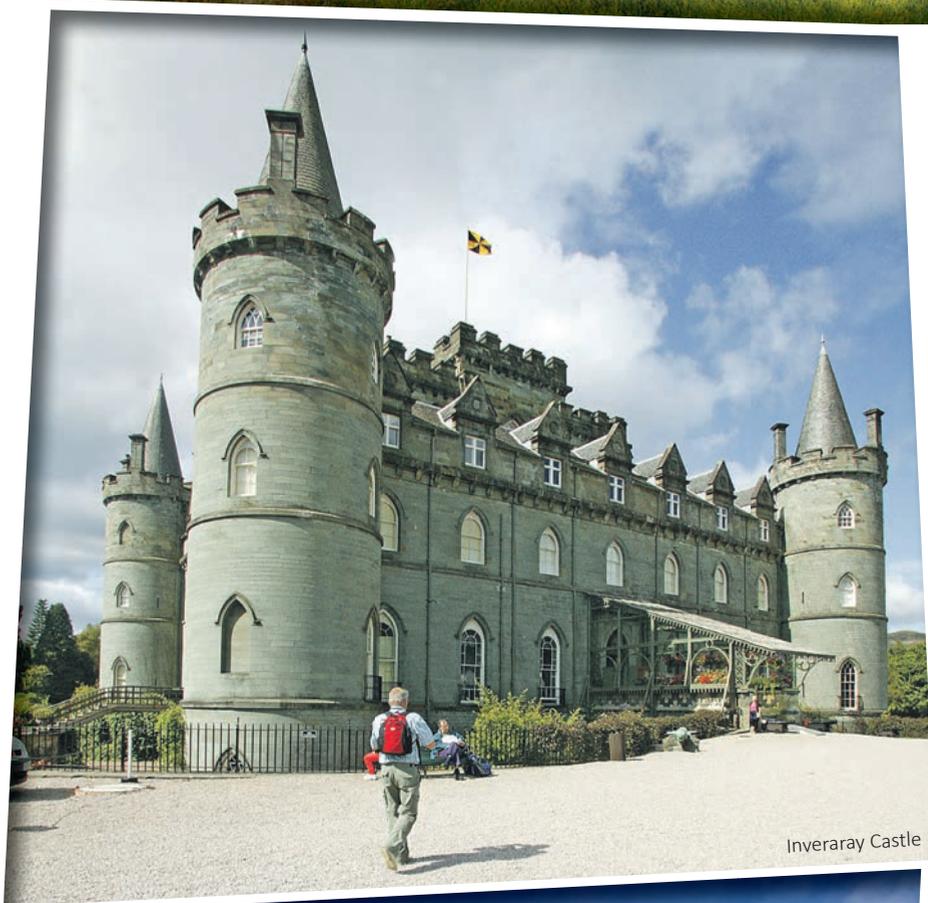
Carnasserie Castle, two miles north-west of Kilmartin, was built in 1565 by the local minister, later to be known as Bishop of the Isles John Carswell. On his death in 1572, the castle passed to the landlord the Earl of Argyll. In

1643 it was sold to Sir Dugald Campbell Baron of Auchinbreck.

Dunstaffnage Castle near Oban was originally a MacDougall castle that Robert the Bruce seized in 1308 when he took his revenge on the clan. Bruce made it a royal castle and put it in the care of the Campbells. Flora MacDonald was kept prisoner here in 1746 for her part in helping Charles escape.

Kilchurn Castle is at the north-east end of Loch Awe. The castle was built in 1440 by Sir Colin Campbell of Glenorchy the first Earl of Breadalbane. The Campbells being anti-Jacobite offered the castle as garrison for Hanoverian troops in 1746.

Castle Sween on Loch Sween in Knapdale was probably built around the 12th century and is one of the earliest stone castles in Scotland built in the Norman style with large angled buttresses. The castle was improved through the years keeping up with changes in technology but in 1647 it was destroyed by Sir Alexander MacDonald, one of Montrose's commanders.



Iona Abbey

Isle of Iona

Known as the cradle of Christianity in Scotland, Iona is a magical isle. From the final resting place of kings to its current reputation as a leader in fair trade and ecotourism, this tiny emerald island off the western shore of Mull captures the hearts and spirits of those who make the pilgrimage.

Upon leaving Fionnphort on the short ferry crossing, a feeling of tranquillity comes over visitors as they approach the idyllic wee island. While many visitors go to Iona for a day trip, there are a range of accommodations, as well as quaint shops, cafés and restaurants. On Iona, the everyday world seems to melt away as the gentle lapping of turquoise waters lulls one into a relaxed state.

A lay person will lead the Iona Community for the first time from this summer, following the election of Dr Michael Marten to the role, *Life and Work* magazine reports.

Dr Marten, who identifies himself as a Presbyterian-Quaker, has been a member of the community for more than 20 years. He is currently employed by the community as support services manager, before which he taught in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Stirling. He is married to Sigrid, a Church of Scotland minister. He said: 'We face a radically different landscape to when I joined the community a quarter of a century ago, never mind compared to when George MacLeod founded it in 1938. We now live in a post-Christendom and even post-church context: churches are no longer the default



for engaging with Christian spirituality. 'While many members are still very involved in churches, others are just holding on by their fingertips, have left altogether, or have adopted multiple identities – and I'd include myself in these latter groups. These apparent contradictions are to be embraced, not shunned, for they offer us new insights into what Christian life in the 21st century could be.

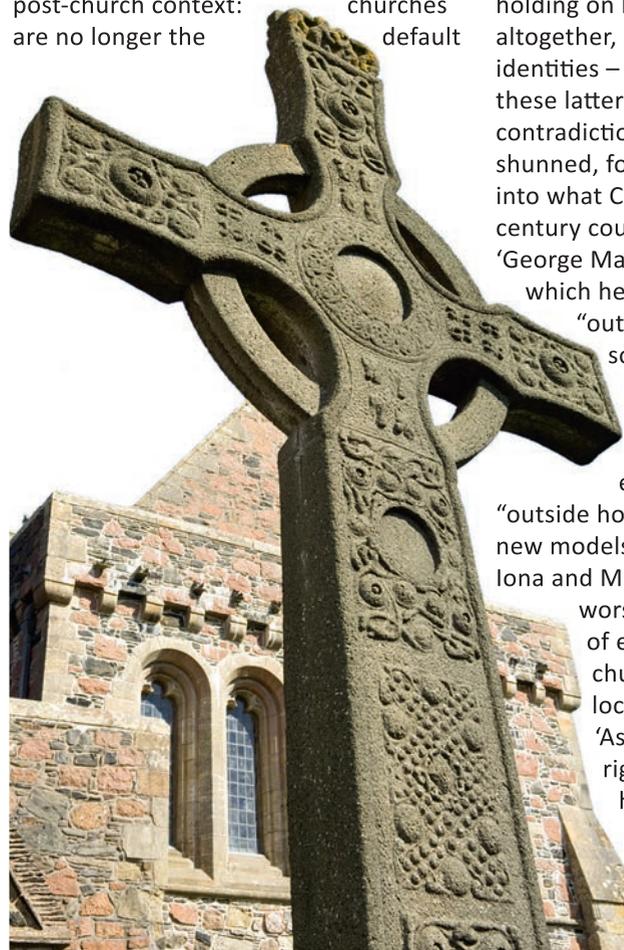
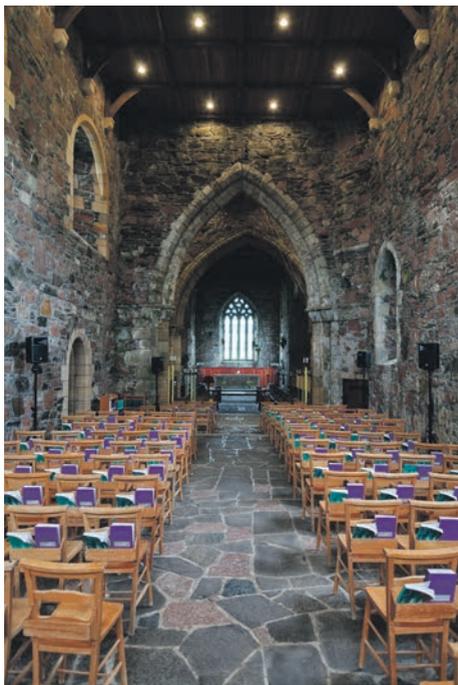
'George MacLeod wrote a prayer in which he urged that we be taken "outside holiness, out to where soldiers curse and nations clash at the crossroads of the world". The community has always encouraged exploration of what being "outside holiness" means, including new models of community living on Iona and Mull, the creation of new worship resources, new ways of engagement with the global church, and experiments in local activism.

'As we face a resurgent populist right and the increasingly hostile impacts of individualised neo-liberalism, the Iona Community can offer an alternative model of human interaction,

centred on meaningful relationships where all are welcomed, all are valued, and the crossroads of the world becomes a meeting place, rather than a place of conflict. That, I am convinced, is where we need to be, in Scotland and the UK, in a wider European context, and globally.'

Dr Marten grew up in the UK and Germany, studying theology in both countries. He first worked for the community on Iona in 1990-1, joining in 1993. He has also worked in Jerusalem for a Palestinian development project. He replaces the Rev Peter Macdonald, whose term as leader comes to an end this summer. Leaders are elected from the Community's membership of just over 280.

Marlene Finlayson, Convener of the Iona Community Council, said: 'Members of the Iona Community can look forward to a dynamic and energetic leadership. Michael brings to the Leadership, not only wide experience of a variety of roles within the Community, but an active commitment to justice, peace and environmental issues, and ongoing involvement in development and campaigning issues, especially related to the wider Middle East and Christian-Jewish-Muslim relations.'



2017/18 Programme Autumn Encounters

21st October - 11th November '17

The Iona Community are delighted to be working with the St. Columba Hotel on Iona this autumn. There will be three weeks of engaging programme available to guests.

For further information:
email: info@stcolumba-hotel.co.uk
phone: 01681 700304

For details of the Spring/Summer 2018 programme on Iona
email: Enquiries1@iona.org.uk



Iona Abbey Library Project *Saving Scotland's Heritage*

Conservation workshops, book-making, working with schools and local communities. Exhibition planned on Iona summer 2018 and new Heritage Collection opening September 2018. For open days, information, and workshops visit facebook.com/abbeylibrary or email ionaabbeylibrary@gmail.com

Iona Cathedral Trust Scottish Charity No SC017989



Le taic bhon
Chrannchur Nàiseanta
tro Mhaoin-Dualchais a' Chrannchuir

Gaelic: Speaking from past experience

Gaelic is the traditional language of the Scotti or Gaels, and the historical language of the majority of Scotland. It is not clear how long Gaelic has been spoken in what is now Scotland; it has lately been proposed that it was spoken in Argyll before the Roman period, but no consensus has been reached on this question. However, the consolidation of the kingdom of Dál Riata around the fourth century, linking the ancient province of Ulster in the north of Ireland and western Scotland, accelerated the expansion of Gaelic, as did the success of the Gaelic-speaking church establishment. Place-name evidence shows that Gaelic was spoken in the Rhinns of Galloway by the fifth or sixth century. The Gaelic language eventually displaced Pictish north of the Forth, and until the late 15th century it was known in Inglis as Scottis. Gaelic began to decline in Scotland by the beginning of the 13th century, and with this went a decline in its status

as a national language. By the beginning of the 15th century, the highland-lowland line was beginning to emerge. By the early 16th century, the Gaelic language had acquired the name Erse, meaning Irish, and thereafter it was invariably the collection of Middle English dialects spoken within the Kingdom of the Scots that came to be referred to as Scottis (whence Scots). Nevertheless, Gaelic still occupies a special place in Scottish culture, has never been entirely displaced of national language status, and is still recognised by many Scots, whether or not they speak Gaelic, as being a crucial part of the nation's culture. Of course, others may view it primarily as a regional language of the Highlands and Islands.

Language of poets

Gaelic has a rich oral (beul aithris) and written tradition, having been the language of the bardic culture of the

Highland clans for several centuries, and the survival of Gaelic has been therefore a very important factor in Scottish politics. The language preserved knowledge of and adherence to pre-feudal (tribal) laws and customs (as represented, for example, by the expressions tuatha and dùthchas). Where the language survived, therefore, people were stubbornly resistant to the rule of a lowland-centred and English-speaking Scottish state. This stubbornness was not seriously overcome until after the Scottish state had become allied with England.

The language suffered especially as Highlanders and their traditions were persecuted after the Battle of Culloden in 1746, and during the Highland Clearances, but pre-feudal attitudes were still evident in the complaints and claims of the Highland Land League of the late 19th century: this political movement was successful in getting members elected to the Parliament of the United Kingdom. The Land League was dissipated as a parliamentary force by the 1886 Crofters' Act and by the way the Liberal Party

Gaelic has a rich oral and written tradition, having been the language of clans

was seen to become supportive of Land League objectives.

A living language

Today, it is estimated there are 57,375 Gaelic speakers in Scotland. By far the highest percentage of Gaelic speakers within the local population are located in the Outer Hebrides, followed by Skye and Lochalsh, the offshore islands of Argyll and Bute. The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 was passed by the Scottish Parliament with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland, commanding equal respect to the English language. Gaelic continues to be an integral part of Scotland's heritage and national identity.



AN CÙRSA COMAIS GAELIC IMMERSION YEAR

What are your plans after the summer? Why not take a year out to immerse yourself in Gaelic! An Cùrsa Comais is an intensive language learning course designed for intermediate level learners whose aim is fluency in the language. The major focus is on language skills, both speaking and writing, but other subjects will be introduced as the course progresses. Students on An Cùrsa Comais undertake a three week work placement within a Gaelic setting as part of the Greis-gnìomhachais module.

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Pipers in the MSR contests, left to right, Stuart Campbell, Emma Hill, Kate MacPherson, Tierney Dornan

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Argyll
& Bute
COUNCIL

Fairy tales come alive in west coast castles

When people think of Scotland, they probably think of castles. With more than 50, including some of the oldest and most famous (or infamous!) in the world, Argyll, Lochaber and the Islands are bursting with romance, mystery and legend.

Each castle tells a tale woven of both myth and fact, from important clans such as the Campbells, to famous historical figures, such as Robert Bruce. Some are brooding ruins, others are remarkably restored, and some stand as museums celebrating Scotland's long and storied past. Castles such as Inveraray and Mount Stuart Castle and Gardens on Bute offer tours where period furnishings and artefacts are on display. But, equally as compelling are ruins such as Carnasserie Castle in Kilmartin and Kilchurn, where sightseers will feel as if they have been transported back in time. For those who have always dreamed of living like a real king or queen, several castles and estates in the area offer lodging, such as Barcaldine Castle, Castle Lachlan and Stonefield Castle.

These and other castles also host weddings or other special events, providing the

perfect backdrop to a fairy tale day. Dating from the Middle Ages to the 18th century, in various gorgeous settings, castles, gardens and estates are a highlight of a visit to the Highlands and Islands. Each is utterly magnificent in its own way.

Some of our favourite West Coast castles: With its backdrop of mountain peaks, its terraced lawns and magnificent gardens, Brodick Castle is the epitome of a Victorian 'Highland' estate. There has been a stronghold on the castle site since the 5th century, when an ancient Irish tribe came over and founded the kingdom of Dalriada. It has probably been destroyed and rebuilt many times during its turbulent history. Parts of the present castle date from 1588 when the 2nd Earl of Arran, guardian and regent of Mary, Queen of Scots, owned it. Inside are paintings, ceramics and furniture from the various owners.

Castle hunters won't want to miss Carnasserie Castle, north of Kilmartin Glen, a ruined 16th-century tower house built by reformation Bishop John Carswell. In summer the site is open and free for

visitors, who can explore the keep and the mansion, including a climb to the upper floors and on up to the top via a narrow spiral staircase, and be rewarded with a sweeping view of the glen. Best known as Castle Aarrgh in Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Castle Stalker, a 15th-century brooding ruin near Appin it is one of the best-preserved medieval tower-houses surviving in western Scotland. It can be viewed from the nearby café

“ Each castle tells a tale woven of both myth and fact, from ruins to restorations ”

for a great photo op, and limited tours are run March to October.

Dunstaffnage Castle near Oban is one of Scotland's oldest stone castles, built by the powerful Clan MacDougall, Lords of Lorn and held since the 15th century by Clan Campbell. There is an exhibition and gift shop on site, and wonderful views over the Firth of Lorn.

An imposing sight over Oban Bay, Dunollie Castle has been the centre of royalty since the Iron Age, when it was the most important home of the kings of Dal Riata. In the 12th century, Dunollie became the seat of the powerful Clan MacDougall. The

existing castle ruins date to the 15th century. Today, visitors can discover what life was like in the 18th century at the former home of the Laird, now the 1745 House Museum.

Called Caisteal Dhubhairt in Scottish Gaelic, Duart Castle on Mull dates to the 13th century and is the seat of Clan MacLean. Looming on a peninsula over the Sound of Mull, one can view the neighbouring castles of Dunstaffnage, Dunollie, Aros and Ardtornish, part of a chain of castles up the Sound of Mull to Mingary Castle. Three floors have been beautifully restored and you can tour them, immersing yourself in clan history.

Inveraray Castle is the living home of the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, and is one of the most beautiful castles in the west of Scotland. It boasts fairy tale turrets and a magical setting at the heart of the historic Argyll Estates. Used as a location for the filming of Downton Abbey, the castle and gardens are open for tours, where visitors can see a huge collection of historic weaponry and artefacts related to the duchy.

The splendid Mount Stuart, still home to the Stuarts of Bute, is a must-see. Built by the architect Sir Robert Rowand Anderson at the instruction of the 3rd Marquis of Bute, this imaginative sandstone palace fuses the extravagant interests

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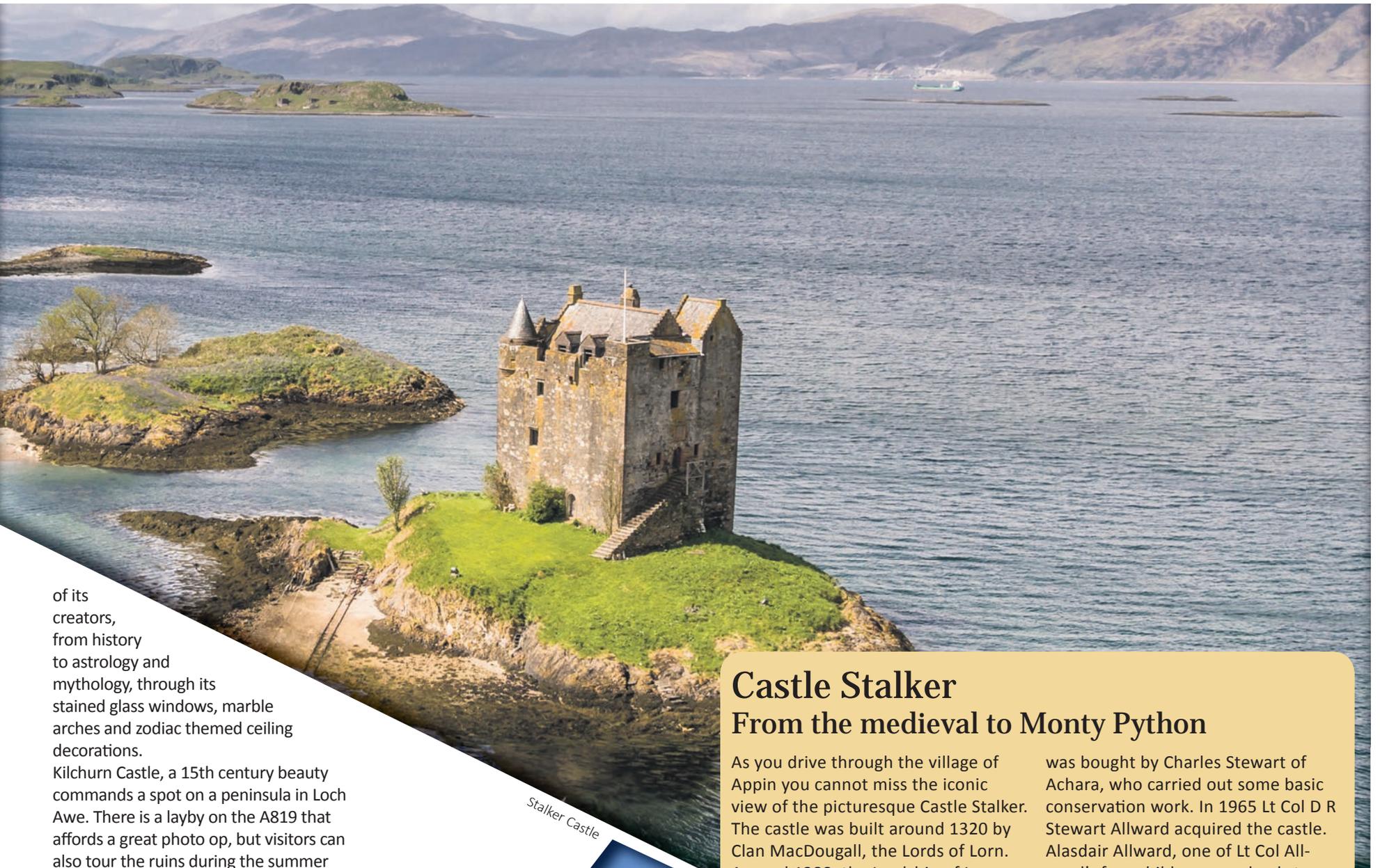
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of its creators, from history to astrology and mythology, through its stained glass windows, marble arches and zodiac themed ceiling decorations.

Kilchurn Castle, a 15th century beauty commands a spot on a peninsula in Loch Awe. There is a layby on the A819 that affords a great photo op, but visitors can also tour the ruins during the summer months.

Tarbert Castle. Historically, Tarbert Castle's sheltered situation ensured that Tarbert was seen as of strategic, as well as industrial value. Of significance to both Robert the Bruce and James IV, it was once protected by three castles, though the medieval Tarbert Castle is the only one which remains a presence. The recently restored, community-owned castle is open to the public during the day, and continues to dominate the skyline after dark thanks to night-time floodlights.

Stalker Castle



Eilean Donan Castle

Mount Stewart House
Photo: Dennis Hardley

Castle Stalker From the medieval to Monty Python

As you drive through the village of Appin you cannot miss the iconic view of the picturesque Castle Stalker. The castle was built around 1320 by Clan MacDougall, the Lords of Lorn. Around 1388, the Lordship of Lorn passed to the Stewarts, who built the present form of the castle in the mid 1440s.

Many a battle was fought by the Stewarts and Campbells over the following 400 years and ownership exchanged hands several times. The Campbells finally abandoned the castle in around 1840, when the roof either fell in or was possibly removed to avoid roof tax. In 1908 the castle

was bought by Charles Stewart of Achara, who carried out some basic conservation work. In 1965 Lt Col D R Stewart Allward acquired the castle. Alasdair Allward, one of Lt Col Allward's four children, now leads tours of the castle, with fascinating tales of its history from medieval times to the filming of the iconic Monty Python 'Castle Aaargh' scene.

You can hear Alasdair's wonderful stories of the filming and visit the real-life setting of The Castle of Aaargh – tours are available from March to November by contacting him at www.castlestalker.com or 01631 730354.



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Why not make a day of it and enjoy a delicious snack, meal or drink at the Castle Stalker View Café or take in the authenticity of an 18th century Inn with superb food, drink and welcoming open fire at the Old Inn, Appin.

Castle Stalker is in Appin, 25 miles north of Oban (PA38 4BL)

We look forward to seeing you

Archaeology is for everyone!

Dig It! 2017 is the year-long celebration of Scottish archaeology with a packed programme of events from organisations across the country. It's all about discovering Scotland's past, present and future stories. Whether you're getting muddy at a dig or strolling through a festival, now is the perfect time to let archaeology move you, surprise you and inspire you. If you have ever dreamed of being Indiana Jones, now is the time to make it happen. There are several archaeology projects going on in Argyll that you can get attend, and with our guide, you can make your own dreams of hunting fortune and glory a reality.

Carnassarie Castle: Beyond the Bishop

Carnassarie Castle is an iconic building that dominates the northern approach into Kilmartin Glen, an internationally important archaeological landscape. The castle was the lordly late Renaissance residence of Bishop John Carswell the author of the first printed book in the Gaelic language. Kilmartin Museum through survey and a community excavation will examine the origins of Carnassarie Castle particularly what appears to be an earlier structure, possibly a dun, which lies close to the castle. The excavation is taking place now, and goes until June 30. Find details about volunteering on the Kilmartin Museum website.

Pillage and plunder

July 6-9 the Loch Fyne Viking Festival celebrates the historic Magnus Barefot 1093 portage of a Viking longship in his successful bid to claim Kintyre as part of his Kingdom. There will be longships, Viking music and battle re-enactments, archery demonstrations and the erection of an authentic Viking settlement. Get in touch with your inner freebooter!

Lismore nave dig

Clare Ellis of Argyll Archaeology will lead a dig at the nave at St Moluag's Cathedral



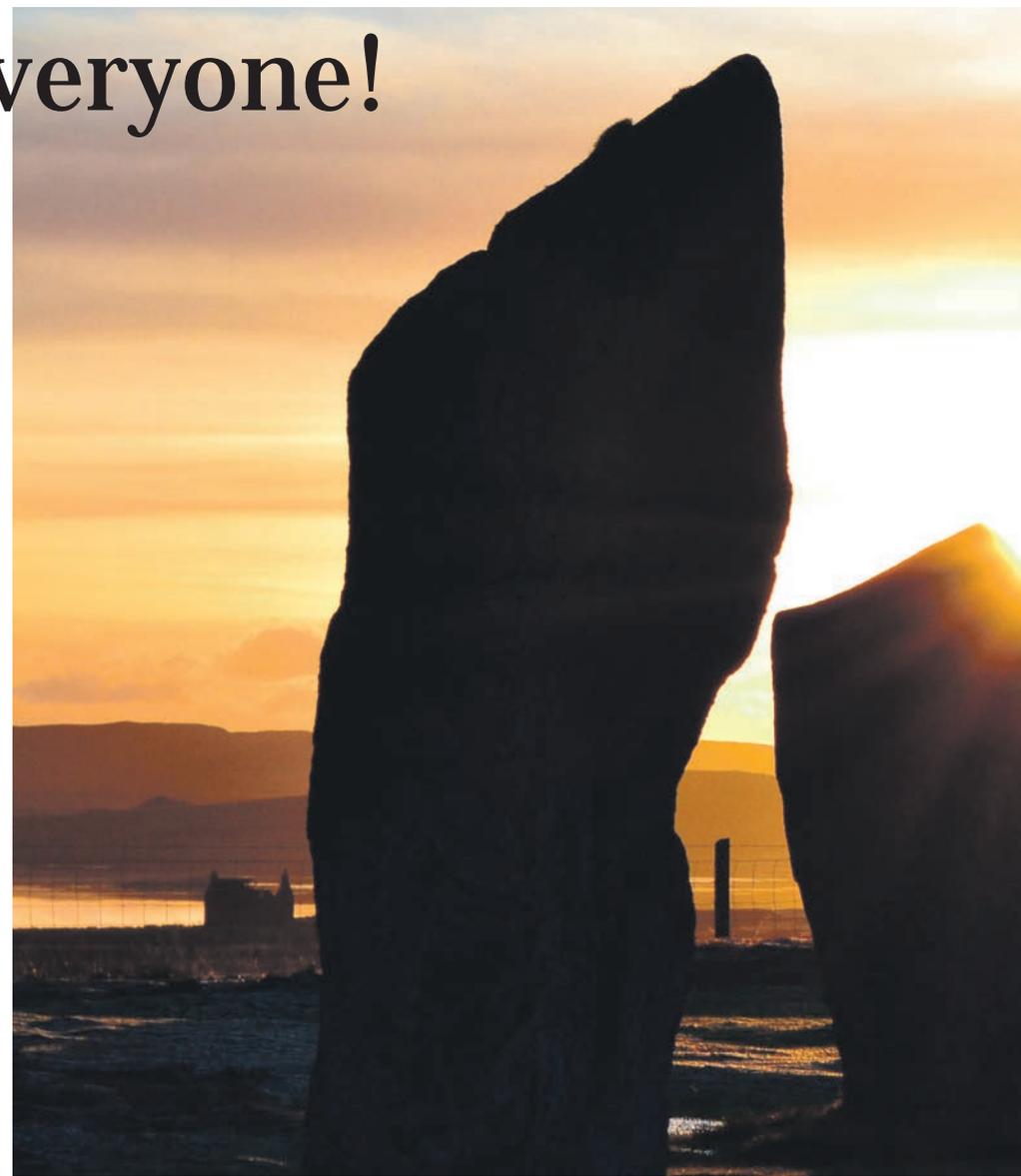
Photo courtesy of ARCHAS Ltd

on Lismore from July 15-22. The aim of the dig is to expose more of the walls of the nave, to establish the state of the masonry and to take mortar samples to determine its age. Dr Ellis will be paying particular attention to the supposed west tower, and to the entrance to the nave. The ultimate aim of the project, if the masonry is sufficiently sound, is to present the exposed outline of the nave for public access, with interpretation. For information about volunteering, contact Bob Hay at dot.bob@btopenworld.com or 01631 760 393.

Digging deep on Islay

A community project unearthing Islay's deep human history over the past 12 millennia is encouraging volunteers to get involved this summer.

The Islay Heritage Project, which launched at last year's Islay Show, is devoted to furthering knowledge about Islay's past, and the many ways in which it can be explored and enjoyed by everyone. 'Islay has a rich heritage,' explains the project's website www.islayheritage.org, 'beginning with the evidence of Ice Age pi-



oneers who visited the island 12,000 years ago, and continuing until the present. There are a huge number of archaeological sites and monuments, ranging from the sparse remains of hunter-gatherer campsites, to the deserted townships of the 19th century. Discovering more about these sites helps reveal the story of the island.'

Volunteers are welcome to join the excavation of a Neolithic burial tomb, known as the Giant's Grave, at Nereabolls between July 29 and August 19, and a community-excavation next year to explore the history of Dunyvaig Castle. Apply via email info@islayheritage.org.

The future of archaeology

This summer Islay Heritage is undertaking a digital reconstruction of Kildalton Chapel

to recreate its 14th century exterior and interior, using laser scanning, geophysics and flying a drone for aerial photographs. The season culminates in Islay Archaeology Week from August 10-16, where you can 'experience the Stone Age' at an Islay Show display on Thursday August 10, followed by guided walks to the Giant's Grave chambered cairn from Friday to Sunday starting at 2pm at Nereabolls Cemetery.

The week finishes with three public lectures by project archaeologist Professor Steven Mithen: first Imagining Kildalton Chapel with a digital reconstruction in Port Ellen's Ramsay Hall on Monday August 14 at 7pm, followed by the findings of the dig at Rubha Port an t-Seilich, titled First Footsteps on Islay 12,000 years ago, at the



Nave and Tower, Lismore Archaeology



Photo courtesy of ARCHAS Ltd



Photo courtesy of ARCHAS Ltd

Islay Natural History Trust in Port Charlotte at 7pm on Tuesday August 15. Finally, Prof. Mithen reveals the Forgotten Lives of the Ileach, and the archaeology of Iron Age Dun Fhinn and later settlements on SE Islay, at 7pm on Wednesday August 16 at Ionad Chaluum Chille Ile, Bowmore. Islay Heritage's website carries news items, reports and information about the charity's activities, with film clips and images from its excavations and projects, and you can also send your own contributions about Islay's heritage.

Campbeltown Picture House – a hidden gem

Dig It! 2017 is inviting the public to crown Scotland's six most spectacular hidden gems. Entries include a hill fort

with rumoured links to Arthurian legend, Viking-age monuments tucked away in Govan and a mausoleum with "Whispering Wa's" and a record-breaking echo. Voting runs on the Dig It! 2017 Facebook page from now until the end of July, and the Campbeltown Picture House had made the cut.

It is one of the earliest surviving purpose-built cinemas in the UK and was in use right up to 2014. The building was designed in 1913 in an art nouveau style and hasn't changed much since the restoration by the original architect. The Centenary Project has rallied behind this magnificent building with the aim of creating a modern cinema destination. To vote for the Campbeltown Picture House, visit www.facebook.com/Digit2017.



Dunollie dig

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Going back in time

A Look Into Dunollie's Archives

By Jennifer Shaw

I have been volunteering at the Dunollie Museum now for about five years. The few hours a week that I have done over the last four years have been spent mainly in the archive.

It is the sense and evidence of history that attracts me. The caring letters from Iain Ciar, the 21st Chief to his wife, during his exile in France; the tiny sampler of the MacDougall tartan done by Sophie, wife of Admiral, John MacDougall; the lack of standardised spelling until printing became more widely used; Dunollie could be Dunolly or Dounoly or various other variations. It might just be the date on an envelope that tells me that someone at Dunollie received a reply to a letter they sent to Edinburgh just the day before!

It is also the possibility in any session of finding something particularly interesting, however insignificant, for example, a small bundle of documents about the building of a house on Kerrera called Ardmore. At the time of coming across this bundle I knew the person living in the house. The

specifications stated that there must be 'proper foundations', 'to be built with dry rubble stones' 'the side walls must be eight feet high by two feet thick', 'there must be a chimney in each gable and it is to be pointed with well-prepared lime' and 'there is to be one window to each of the two apartments'. The builder's estimate stated he would build the house, excluding the thatching, for twelve pounds sterling. The builder was John MacDonald and this was 1852.

A recent transcription of an undated document had an interesting post-script:- 'I have sent home a[n]e [one] sugar loaf and Two pecks of flower [flour] and seven limons [lemons]

And twa [two] quar [quire] of paper, anewnce [ounce] of wax
Ane stamp and ane pound of pyp [pipe] tubucca [tobacco]

And five nutmegs and the little stone bound siver [silver]'

This document was part of a recent discovery in a locked drawer in a muniments chest in the main house. There are about forty very old documents, with one dating back to 1450.

Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre

The Island of Lismore is an emerald gem, rich in historical sites, set at the entrance to Loch Linnhe. Halfway between the two ferries, three miles from Point and two and a half from Achnacroish, on the main road lies the Gaelic Heritage Centre. It's a stunning, ecologically friendly building with a restored cottar's cottage alongside. Comprehensive information about the island and islanders, both past and present, is beautifully presented in the museum room. There is also a newly refurbished shop selling unique and interesting items – all made in Scotland – and the bright and lively community café offers home cooking and baking. Musical events are held in the Centre regularly.

Auchindrain

Auchindrain lets visitors step back in time to discover Scotland's rural history. Auchindrain Township near Inveraray is the most complete and well-preserved example of a Scottish Highland farm township. You can imagine life in the

old Highlands as you walk through the settlement and see how ordinary people lived and worked. In the restored longhouses, you can see the objects of everyday life and learn about the past inhabitants, and in the byres, stables and fields, you can see how groups of families worked the land in common. At the visitor's centre, you can explore the museum and enjoy a snack at the Tearoom.

West Highland Museum, Fort William

Founded in 1922, this is one of the Highland's oldest and greatest museums. Begun without a single item in its collection, today it has one of Scotland's finest exhibits on the Jacobite cause. Look out for the Secret Portait of Bonnie Prince Charlie, only visible in the reflection of a metal cup placed in just the right spot. Their are further collections for the historic Fort, Highland military, and Victorian fashion. Each artifact has a unique story. A dark firearm on display in the museum may be the gun used by the Appin Murderer!

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The Story of an Island...



There is always something magical about an island and Eriska is no exception.

From the surge of Norse invasions, notably under Erik the Red, which swept the west coast of Scotland in the 10th century, the name of the island is derived.

This probable recognition of Eriska as a sanctuary continues in the earliest written title deeds as it was held in the ownership of the church in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Big House was built in 1884 by a branch of the Stewarts of Appin. The architect Hippolyte Blanc, was highly acclaimed not only for his meticulous attention to detail at the height of the Scottish Baronial Style, but also for a very degree of specification

in materials which was a mark of his work. Amongst the major buildings in Scotland for which he was responsible are included St Cuthbert's Church and the Argyll Tower at the Castle, both in Edinburgh. Eriska is now owned by the family behind 'Creation Gem' of Hong Kong, and is committed to preserving the history and heritage of the island.

Recently adding to the estate with a fourth self catering lodge and maintaining the traditions of the hotel's two restaurants: the Michelin-starred restaurant and the relaxed Deck restaurant with fine local cuisine.

For more information on the range of facilities available at the Isle of Eriska, call 01631 720 371 or email at office@eriska-hotel.co.uk



Past inspires the future at Kilmartin Museum

For two decades Kilmartin Museum has been celebrating, conserving and displaying the archaeological heritage of Mid Argyll and beyond.

The museum's mission is not simply to conserve ancient landscapes, sites and artefacts, but to inspire and educate people from near and far.

Kilmartin Glen is one of Scotland's most important archaeological landscapes.

The museum holds prehistoric artefacts of international importance, both from the Glen and other parts of Argyll.

This is no stuffy, academic establishment. There is a dynamism about Kilmartin Museum that does genuinely inspire. The museum is a great source of pride and identity within the community and over the 20 years it has been operating.

Uniquely situated at the heart of Kilmartin Glen, the museum opened in 1997 with a very limited budget and a largely unpaid workforce. These days the museum is run by professional staff supported by valued volunteers. It remains, however, a community organisation with strong local representation on the charitable board which runs the museum.

Action in archaeology

Carnassarie dig

There is always something of interest going on around Kilmartin Museum. In May and June, the museum's field archaeologist Roddy Regan led a dig close to 16th century Carnassarie Castle - once home to John Carswell, Bishop of Argyll between 1530 and 1572.

Supported by Historic Environment Scotland and the Infinis A' Chruach Community Fund, the excavation took place in an area suspected to contain remnants from the medieval period or before.

Helping with the dig were a number of volunteers, including local school pupils,

and Roddy outlined one of the aims of the project: 'It would be good to put people here other than the bishop and other posh people.'

Festival of Archaeology

Kilmartin Museum is taking part in the annual UK-wide Festival of Archaeology, designed to bring archaeology to life for the public.

Hundreds of events are planned across the country for the festival, which runs from July 15-30 and is co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology.

Events at Kilmartin include:

- Guided walks of prehistoric monuments in Kilmartin glen.
- A children's simulated dig
- A 'create your own rock art' clay tile workshop
- A 'create your own standing stone landscape' workshop

To find out more visit www.kilmartin.org.

Museum looks to the future

Kilmartin Museum is also in the middle of an exciting £6.7 million project to transform the museum with a new extension.

This redevelopment will allow for a much larger museum gallery where unique artefacts can be properly displayed, as well as improving the education and storage facilities and allowing Kilmartin Museum to continue caring for, celebrating and telling the story of Kilmartin Glen and the surrounding areas.

The museum's redevelopment project officer, Meg Haig, explained: 'This is a really exciting time for Kilmartin. There really is too much history to be contained in the museum as it currently is. The new facility will allow us to showcase and conserve artefacts in a facility that matches the importance of Kilmartin Glen and the wider area.'

Dr Sharon Webb MBE, director and curator at Kilmartin Museum, added: 'The redevelopment project is a very



Ardrishaig Primary School pupils help out at the Carnassarie dig on June 14.



An architect's impression of how the redeveloped museum might look, with the Glebe Cairn in the foreground.



Children get stuck into a Bronze Age pottery workshop during last year's Festival of Archaeology.

exciting opportunity to showcase these treasures and set them and the stories they tell in the context of the landscape in which they were found. 'We still have some way to go to achieve the funding target before we can actually start building the new museum, but we are making good progress, and I'm tremendously proud of all the team at the museum has achieved so far. It's really important for the local area and its economy, as well as the security of the artefact collections that this project happens and we'll do everything we can to ensure that it does.'

The Kilmartin Museum redevelopment project is supported by Heritage Lottery Fund, Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Argyll and Bute Council.

and excavated with help from the Treasure Trove Unit and the RSPB. Through the Treasure Trove process they were allocated to Kilmartin Museum, the nearest museum to the island, which launched the ambitious £10,000 crowdfunding campaign in April 2017. Will Murray from the Scottish Conservation Studio outlined the conservation process. 'Once the objects have been treated they can be displayed in normal museum conditions and don't have to have a special environment to prevent corrosion,' he explained. 'We then move on to consolidation with an acrylic resin and this penetrates the powdery, soft corrosion products and strengthens them so that we can handle the objects safely.'

Only once this is complete can the objects be displayed for everyone to enjoy and learn from.

Festival of Archaeology 2017; For more details and booking, contact 01546 510278, education@kilmartin.org or visit www.kilmartin.org.

The Coll Hoard preserved

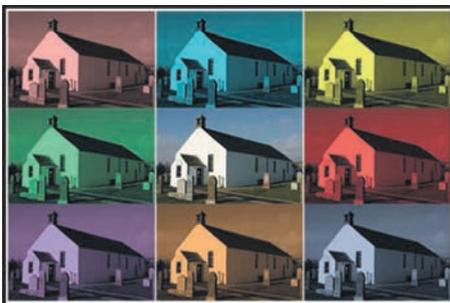
Ancient Bronze Age weapons found on the Isle of Coll have been saved from decay thanks to a successful public fundraising campaign by Kilmartin Museum. The 13 fragments were discovered on the south of the island by a local metal detecting enthusiast, Kenny Macintyre,



A guided walk in 2016 to the magical and beautiful ruins of the Arichonan deserted settlement. Kilmartin museum will be running similar walks during July and August this year.



School pupils learn all about the archaeological dig at Carnassarie Castle.



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We are located on the Ross of Mull, which is a large peninsula extending south west from the centre of Mull almost touching the isle of Iona. Our visitor centre is at Millbrae Cottage in Bunessan, next to the ruins of the old corn mill.



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Email: enquiries@romhc.org.uk
Web: www.romhc.org.uk



CLAN CAMERON
MUSEUM

Achnacarry, Spean
Bridge PH34 4EJ

*Clan and Jacobite History
*Site of the WWII Commando
Training Centre
*Highlights - Bonnie Prince
Charlie's waistcoat -
Secret picture ring - Princess
Diana's bridesmaid's dress
Dinner set from the
Titanic Movie

*Gift shop *Ice cream
*Tea and coffee *Walks
Adults £4 Concessions £3
Children free
Open 11am - 4.30pm

Website: www.clanameronmuseum.co.uk
Email: curator@clanameronmuseum.co.uk
Phone: 07900 217 975 / 01397 712 090

easdale island folk museum

Learn about life on the small island that helped to roof the world
Easdale Island Folk Museum is open daily from 1 April to Mid October
11.00am - 4.00pm
Open during the winter by arrangement
www.easdalemuseum.org

Easdale Island Folk Museum
Easdale Island, Nr Oban, Argyll, Scotland, PA34 4TB
Tel: 01852 300173

Ionad Naomh Moluag LISMORE GAELIC HERITAGE CENTRE

The Centre houses a nationally-accredited museum and archive, a heritage shop and a café. Situated on an island rich in Bronze Age, Iron Age, Medieval and more modern lime burning monuments, it has an extensive collection of objects, documents, images and electronic recordings.

In 2017, the Society will again be host to the continuing archaeological excavation of the medieval Cathedral of Argyll on the island. The artefacts from the excavation of Achindu Castle, granted to the museum under Treasure Trove, are on display in the museum room in preparation for a major feature on the castles and cathedral in 2018.

Genealogical assistance is available, given a few day's notice.
For transport from ferries, contact: Explore Lismore 07490 416255.
www.lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org

Your family history library...

Family history is as popular a hobby as ever, but it can be costly if you do not live near a city where you can spend a day at a family history centre.

If you are just starting, try to find out as much information from family members as possible – names, dates, occupations and significant places all help to piece together your family tree before you spend any money.

Official records for Scotland are held by the National Records of Scotland and are available on a pay-per-view site which is searchable, but did you know that if your ancestors are from Argyll you can browse

through census (1841 to 1901) and old parish records on microfilm at your local library free of charge?

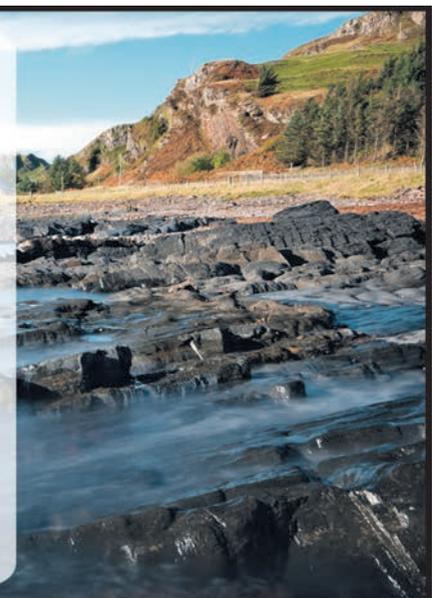
You can also get access to Ancestry.com using one of the library's People's Network computers - really useful if your research takes you further afield, or if you are looking for military records. To put the 'flesh on the bones' of your genealogical research, you can look for information in the local newspapers, local history books or try searching for images on the SCRAN website. It's all free, so pop into your local library and find out more. www.scran.ac.uk

THE SCOTTISH SLATE ISLANDS HERITAGE TRUST

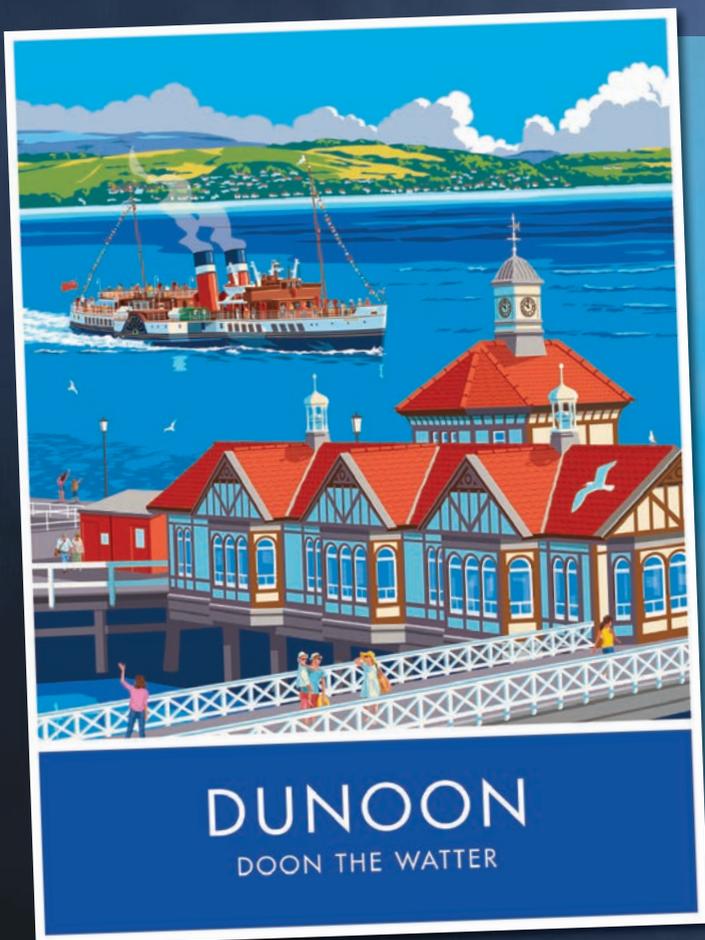
Ellenabeich, Seil Island
(over the famous bridge)

Picturesque, Historic,
seaside village
Fascinating museum
and centre

Entry free of charge
Daily 10.30 - 4.30



DOON THE WATTER



Unique gift shop featuring memories of paddle steamers, steamships, the Clyde and the West Coast's fabulous heritage.

Fantastic range of goods incorporating iconic railway poster images and specially commissioned modern versions by artist Stephen Millership



89 Argyll St, Dunoon, PA23 7DH www.doonthewater.scot



Great Days Out aboard

PADDLE STEAMER
WAVERLEY

All aboard Waverley!

The Paddle Steamer WAVERLEY is the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world and 2017 marks her 70th Anniversary. Magnificently restored with towering funnels, timber decks, gleaming varnish and brass. See and hear the mighty engines – they will provide a whiff of nostalgia for some but are sure to impress all!

Waverley has been fully restored to her 1940's glory. Passengers and visitors can eat, drink and relax in a choice of locations, including the traditional steamer dining saloon, the Caledonia Tea Room and the sun kissed promenade deck, whilst young adventurers on board can enjoy the children's 'Pirates Chest' menu. Waverley also boasts the Jeanie Deans and Malt Whisky Bars which provide a range of drinks to suit everyone's taste. There is something for all on board, with views to enjoy, and memories to be made.



Cruise Loch Fyne & Sanda Isles aboard Paddle Steamer Waverley!

Sailing from **TARBERT**

Cruise Loch Fyne EVERY WEDNESDAY until August 23 Leave 2.45pm back 4.20pm
SUNDAY July 30 Leave 3pm back 4.30pm
Fare: Cruise Loch Fyne £21 SC £19

Sailing from **CAMPBELTOWN**

Cruise Sanda Isles SUNDAY July 16 Leave 2.30pm back 5pm
Fares: Cruise Sanda Isles £23 SC £21

Book online at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or call 0845 130 4647



or book at Campbeltown & Tarbert Tourist Information

Explore Historic Kilmun

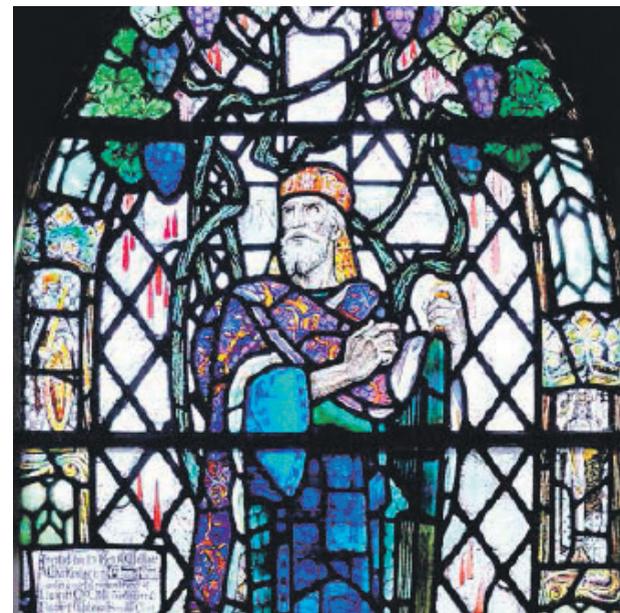
The Argyll Mausoleum is one of Scotland's undiscovered historical jewels right on the doorstep of the Cowal Community. Now open to the public, it stands connected to, but separate from, the church in Kilmun, near Dunoon and is the burial place for the Dukes and Earls of Argyll, Chiefs of the Clan Campbell, from the 14th century until 1949.

Originally owned by the Argyll family, it is now held by Argyll & Bute Council who in turn leased it to Historic Kilmun, a charity who led the ten year project for its restoration and reopening.

The tradition of burying the Chiefs of the Campbell clan at Kilmun began, so the legend goes, with the untimely death in the lowlands of Celestine, the son of the Sir Duncan Campbell - "The Black Knight of Loch Awe" - an

early leader of the Clan Campbell. In 1442, Sir Duncan, the first Lord Campbell, had endowed a collegiate church on the site. Sir Duncan apparently chose to bury his son at Kilmun. As was common in those times with burials of important people, the body would have been buried beneath the aisle of the church. Sir Duncan and his wife Marjory (great, great grand-daughter of Robert the Bruce) were subsequently also buried in the church with their effigies above the tombs.

From then on, the tradition continued that many of the Dukes of Argyll and their families were buried beneath the aisles of Kilmun church. In 1660, a separate private chapel attached to the church was built for the Argyll tombs. In 1794, the private chapel was demolished and the separate Mausoleum was constructed in its place,



with some of the more important remains and artefacts being moved from the private chapel into the Mausoleum. These included the effigies of Sir Duncan Campbell and his wife. The present larger church was built in 1841, and two of the walls of the Mausoleum now are integrated with the church. In 1890, the Mausoleum was renovated by the Marquis of Lorne, subsequently the ninth Duke of Argyll, and the original slated roof was replaced by the current cast iron dome. The ninth Duke married Princess Louise, fourth daughter of Queen Victoria. When her father-in-law (eighth Duke) died in 1900, Princess Louise crafted a stunning bronze sculpture in his memory. This, along with other interesting items, is part of the collection of artefacts that were found inside the Mausoleum and that are now on display in the site's visitors' centre.

The last burial in the Mausoleum, in 1949, was of the 10th Duke of Argyll.



Visitors Overview

Over a thousand years ago, an Irish holy man called Fintan Munnu started one of the first Christian communities in the west of Scotland at this site. The cell or chapel of Munnu gave the village its name: Kilmun. Munnu became a Saint, and his reputation made Kilmun an important sacred place. The powerful Campbell clan, who became Lords, Earls and then Dukes of Argyll, adopted it as their spiritual home. They paid priests to pray for their souls, and their dead are buried in a grand mausoleum.

Hundreds of years later, a new church was built to house the tourists who came to Kilmun for its beauty and fresh air. Rich people supported it by paying for colourful stained glass windows instead of prayers. In the churchyard, intriguing gravestones bear witness to the loves, hopes and work of the people who have lived here through the centuries.

What's On

As well as the regular opening times, the charity encourages private viewings and tours. These can be arranged by phone 07501 764059 or contact made through their website historickilmun.org

Stunning lochside mausoleum and visitors' centre, with a rich bloody highland history and the final resting place of the Inveraray Dukes of Argyll.

Stunning views and a warm welcome
– gift shop and refreshments.

Less than an hour from Inveraray and 10 minutes from the beautiful Benmore Botanic Gardens.

Open 10-4 Thurs, Fri and Sat (April to October)

www.historickilmun.org

charity SC SC041413

Weaving the story of Scotland

Tartan is one of Scotland's greatest icons and probably one of the world's leading national marks of identification. There are believed to be over 5,000 tartans in existence and the number is increasing at the rate of about 135 a year. It was in the early 19th century that the available range of tartans grew from a handful of clan tartans to many hundreds of clan, district and fashion tartans. The popularity of tartan continued to grow with Queen Victoria's romantic adoration of all things Scottish. The precise date and origination of tartan is oft debated, but originally, check cloths or plaids were loosely associated with clans. Old descriptions of tartan use words like 'mottled', 'striped', 'sundrie coloured' and 'marled'.

The word tartan itself actually derives from the French word 'tartaine' referring to a particular kind of checked cloth. The Gaelic word for tartan is 'breacan', meaning chequered, and the men of the clans wore as their everyday garment a 'breacan an philead', which means a belted plaid – about 12 yards of material worn round the waist, then passed diagonally over the breast and left shoulder and secured with a belt. The garment was also used as a blanket or as protection for the head in bad weather.

The original tartans were simple checks of one or two colours, and the dyes came from plants, roots, berries and trees found locally where the cloth was woven. People in the same area would wear the same tartan and so, in effect they became clan tartans. In the early 18th century, the tartan was divided into two halves, one of which became the philead beg, or the small kilt and the other became the plaid. This was the early stage of the modern kilt and plaid of today.

Around this time, regiments adopted tartan for their uniforms. The Royal Company of Archers adopted tartan for their livery, and in 1739 the Black Watch was the first

Highland regiment to wear tartan. The Army began to use uniform tartans as a practical means of identification. Wilson of Bannockburn was the first company to weave tartan on a commercial basis in the 18th century. After the defeat of the Jacobites at Culloden in 1746, the British Government was determined to put an end to any further trouble from the Highlands by stamping out their culture, including the tartan. An Act of Proscription was passed which banned the wearing of tartan, the playing of the bagpipes and the speaking of Gaelic. By the time the Act was repealed in 1785, those Highlanders that were left had become accustomed to wearing 'Lowland' type dress and tartan had almost become something of the past.

But in 1822, King George IV made a visit to Scotland. Sir Walter Scott orchestrated the arrangements and asked that all citizens should dress in their own tartan if they had one (or any tartan if not). Everyone responded with enormous enthusiasm and greeted the king kitted out in kilts and plaids. Even the king himself appeared in a Royal Stuart kilt! The tartan industry was reborn and from that day on, it has never looked back.

It was with the return of enthusiasm for native dress in the 19th century that the kilt ceased to be an everyday garment and became mainly a dress item. From Bonnie Prince Charlie jackets and sgan dubhs, to flashes and sporrans, all kinds of conventions sprang up about the correct dress. Tartan was updated for the 20th century with the use of chemical dyes, introducing vivid colours which are known today as 'Modern' tartan colours. Tartan colours formerly produced using vegetable dyes became known as 'Ancient' tartan colours. The use of tartan is not confined to clothing. One of the first commercial uses was for home furnishings, and this remains popular, but from china to bags to toys to umbrellas, the uses for tartan are endless.

Harris Tweed

For centuries the islanders of Lewis, Harris, Uist and Barra have hand woven the magical cloth using pure virgin wool that has been dyed and spun in the Outer Hebrides. The world knows it as Harris Tweed- Clo Mhor in the original Gaelic: 'the big cloth'.

In 1846, Lady Dunmore had the Murray tartan copied by Harris weavers in tweed. This proved so successful that Lady Dunmore devoted much time and thought to marketing the tweed to her friends and then to improving the process of production. This was the beginning of the Harris Tweed industry.

The Harris Tweed Authority was created by an Act of Parliament and established in 1993. It allows the authority to promote and maintain the authenticity, standard and reputation of

Harris Tweed.

Harris Tweed has been embraced by the fashion world, and now, this humble cloth has become a wardrobe staple for discerning fashion lovers across the globe. Harris Tweed Hebrides was formed in 2007 to ensure that Harris Tweed would continue to be available to its many devotees around the world.

A new company was formed to revive the mill at Shawbost, which had been closed for more than a year, and to introduce new ideas and enthusiasm to match the excellence of the product. People who have spent their lives in the industry now say that the tweed being produced at Shawbost is the finest they have seen. Customers old and new, from around the world have welcomed this revival and are helping to make Harris Tweed the cutting-edge fabric of today.

“The original tartans were simple checks of one or two colours”

The Islay Woollen Mill Co. Ltd



An eclectic selection of
Tweeds • Tartans • Caps • Rugs • Scarves

Open 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday
Tel: 01496 810563 www.islaywoollenmill.co.uk



Wheatear
textiles

Working studio where you can see Maxine producing her range of bags, accessories and homeware using 'Harris Tweed'.

Based in Glendale, the studio is open all year 10am – 6pm except Saturdays. A warm welcome awaits to those seeking quality 'Harris Tweed' products.

Wheatear Textiles
Makeith | 19 Fasach | Glendale | Isle of Skye | IV55 8WP
t: 01470 511307 m: 07593 785292
e: maxine@wheateartextiles.co.uk w: www.wheateartextiles.co.uk

SOUND OF IONA

Exclusive tartan from the Isle of Iona

The Sound of Iona tartan has recently been designed and woven in Scotland and was inspired by the colours of the sand, sea and rocks of Iona.

Available at the Martyrs Bay Shop or order online

www.ionatartan.com
Isle of Iona
01681 700357



Farming in Kintyre
Photo: Dennis Hardley

From oxen to oil: 10,000 years of farming

The history of food production in Scotland starts with domestication 10,000 years ago, to the arrival of settled agriculture in the late Stone Age, to the technology of the 20th century that finally removed the threat of famine.

According to Dr Geoff Squire, 'Grain crops enabled a settled society. Stability allowed people to learn the skill and enterprise to trade in the new technologies of bronze and iron that came across Europe centuries later. Waves of migration, Celts and Romans included, caused no great change to the basic type of grain and stock-farming of the region.

A neolithic farmer, teleported here for the day, would recognise our crops and farm animals, except neeps and tatties which weren't here in their day. Yet time, ignorance and oppression took their toll: centuries of misuse, the principles of soil fertility unappreciated or ignored. Soils were exhausted and yield dropped to subsistence levels. Agricultural practices were unable to cope with the run of poor weather in the late 1600s, which caused starvation and famine.

After 1700, developments such as lime, fertiliser, turnips and other tuber crops, levelling of rigs, removal of stones, drainage, new machines for cultivation, sowing and harvest and the global search for guano, allowed outputs to rise – but not yet to the point where famine was memory.

It wasn't until the technological developments of the 1900s – industrially made and mined fertiliser, pesticides and advanced

genetic types – that the threat of hunger was finally dispelled from Scotland, but these same technologies opened the way for excess and instability. They encouraged the breaking of two established links that had held cropped agriculture since it began: crops no longer relied on grazing land or grass crops for manure, and local production became separated from local consumption.

Sheep Farming

Britain was once covered in forest with the exception of the highest mountain peaks, yet already by late neolithic times extensive clearance of the landscape had taken place for agriculture and while some areas were directly cleared to make fields, other areas were gradually deforested as a result of grazing of animals, initially cattle and pigs being dominant, as the forested land was not so suitable for sheep, except for the higher altitudes where the forest soon gave way to moorland or heath.

According to a study by Simon and Gemma Bell, in Bronze Age times sheep were widespread and took a role equal to that of pigs and cattle, while later on they were the dominant animal. Wool was one of the first textile materials to be spun and woven and formed the clothing of the people,

especially when the wet and colder period of the Iron Age took place.

The original sheep breeds did not arise in Britain but were the result of selective breeding from the small, heady types brought with the Neolithic farmers. There are some breeds today, such as the Soay, which closely resemble the primitive types.

It grows a short fleece and moults annually.

Its wool contains mainly kemp or short bristly fibres and fewer longer truly woolly fibres, so is called a primitive woolly breed rather than a primitive hairy breed. Sheep continued to be similar in body size

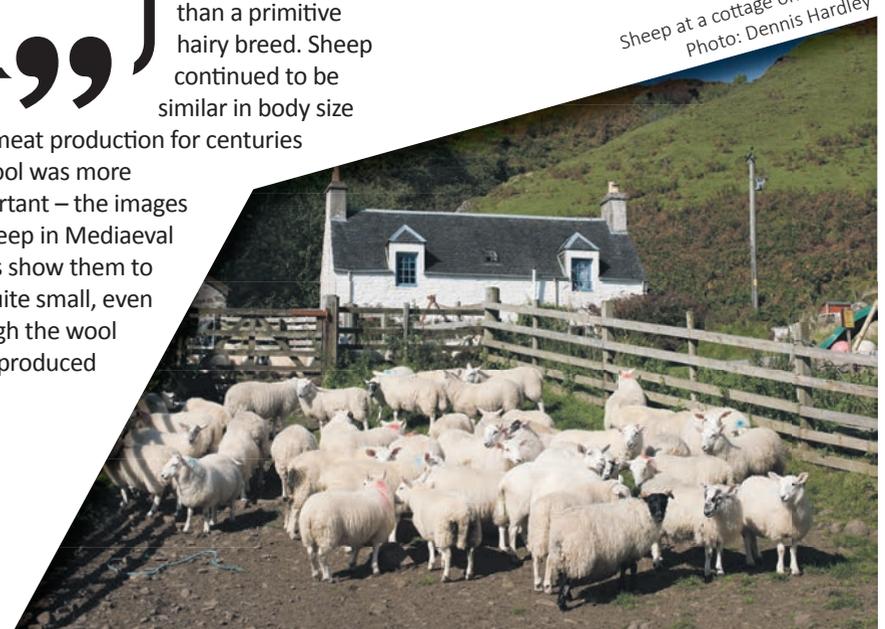
and meat production for centuries as wool was more important – the images of sheep in Mediaeval times show them to be quite small, even though the wool they produced

became better owing to its importance for industry. A large number of sheep breeds emerged which are suited to the specific climate and landscape conditions of different regions and most of these are still to be found associated with specific regions and landscapes.

A few breeds are used more widely or were introduced into other areas, often over 100 years ago. There are also some very old breeds still farmed by specialists which probably resemble the neolithic varieties. All upland breeds are very hardy and thrive on the semi-natural vegetation of the areas, which imparts a good flavour to the meat.

“
A Neolithic farmer, teleported here for the day, would recognise our crops
”

Sheep at a cottage on Kerrera
Photo: Dennis Hardley



All aboard the Kintyre Express

Kintyre Express is a scheduled passenger ferry service between the scenic town and village of Campbeltown and Ballycastle to the Isle of Islay. The island is famed for its numerous whisky distilleries and is an excellent island to discover by bike.

Established in 2011, Kintyre Express is part of West Coast Motors, a Campbeltown based transport group which owns and operates a network of bus, coach and open top tours throughout Scotland and the north of England.

Featuring central heating, a fully enclosed cabin with USB charging stations and seating for up to 12 people, the custom-built vessel is available for private charter, and increasingly popular with cyclists and golfers island hopping their way around some of the West Coast's coastal tracks and top courses. There is much room on board for luggage, bikes and golf clubs.

This summer Kintyre Express' scheduled passenger ferry service, Campbeltown – Ballycastle – Port Ellen, will operate till the end of September.

Journey time between Campbeltown

and Ballycastle is one hour and 30 minutes and approximately one hour from Ballycastle to Port Ellen. Bikes are carried for free on all journeys.

For those looking to enjoy a taste of Islay a day tour is available. Departing Ballycastle at 9.30am, visitors have the opportunity to spend five hours in Islay with a tour, tasting and lunch at Ardbeg Distillery.

For all your Kintyre Express enquiries or to book call 01586 555 896 or visit www.kintyreexpress.com
Facebook – [kintyreexpress](https://www.facebook.com/kintyreexpress)
Twitter – [@kintyreexpress](https://twitter.com/kintyreexpress)

Departure times

Campbeltown - Ballycastle 7.30am
 Ballycastle - Port Ellen 9.30am
 Port Ellen - Ballycastle 3.00pm
 Ballycastle - Campbeltown 4.30pm

Fares

Campbeltown - Ballycastle
 Single £45 • Return £80
 Ballycastle - Port Ellen
 Single £60 • Return £95
 A Taste of Islay • £95
 Whisky tour only • £35



Discover the Inner Hebrides in one day, with West Coast Tours

West Coast Tours' island coach and boat tours provides the opportunity to discover up to three beautiful and diverse Inner Hebridean Islands – Mull, Iona and Staffa – on a day trip from Oban.

The Three Isles Tour is not only great value, but takes you on an amazing journey of three stunning islands – from the rugged scenery of Mull to the tranquillity of Iona and the breath-taking beauty of Staffa to the awe-inspiring Fingal's Cave.

An early morning departure called The Three Isles Early Bird, replicates the Three

Isles Tour and allows visitors to avoid the peak season crowds later in the day.

West Coast Tours' Mull and Iona Tour incorporates a coach journey through some of the most picturesque parts of Mull and a short boat trip to spend time on Iona, visiting the famous Iona Abbey and soaking up its unique atmosphere. You can also visit the iconic and colourful harbour of Tobermory and the stunning Treshnish Isle's on a daytrip from Oban. To book your tour visit www.westcoast-tours.co.uk or call 01631 566809



Hop-on one of three open top tours in Oban

A trip to Oban isn't complete without enjoying a City Sightseeing Oban open-top bus tour. The popular tour showcases everything Oban has to offer accompanied by commentary from knowledgeable drivers.

City Sightseeing operate three tours includ-

ing Connel Bridge; Atlantic Bridge; Atlantic Bridge and Easdale. The tours operates from late May until late September and has regular departures daily throughout. To book your City Sightseeing Oban open-top tour visit www.citysightseeingoban.com or call or call 01631 566809.



City Sightseeing Oban



What's on

May- September 24

Kilmartin Glen Guided Walks take place every Wednesday at 1.30pm.
www.kilmartin.org

July 18

Inveraray Traditional Highland Games at Winteron Park.
www.inveraray-games.co.uk

July 20

Mull Highland Games at Tobermory.
www.tobermory.co.uk

July 22

Southend Highland Games in Campbeltown.
www.visitkintyre.info

June 30

Carnassarie Castle: Beyond the Bishop Volunteer archaeology dig.
www.kilmartin.org

July 6-9

Loch Fyne Viking Festival, Inveraray.

www.digit2017.com/events/loch-fyne-viking-festival-2017

July 10-July 12

Dunollie Castle Dig.
www.dunollie.org

July 15-22

Archaeology dig at the Nave at St Moluag's Cathedral on Lismore.
www.lismoregaelicheritagecentre.org

June 20-August 8

Gàidhlig aig à Chaisteal: Gaelic Coffee Mornings at Dunollie.
www.dunollie.org

July 22

Taynuilt Highland Games at the Sports Field.
www.taynuilthighlandgames.com

July 28-30

ButeFest, Rothesay on the Isle of Bute.
www.butefest.co.uk

July 29 to August 19

Excavation of a Neolithic burial tomb on Islay, known as the Giant's Grave, at Nereabolls.
islayheritage.org

August 3-5

Uist: Island Archaeology in Focus at St Peter's Church Hall in Daliburgh.
www.digit2017.com/events/uist-island-archaeology-focus-2017

August 4

Kintyre Agricultural Show, Campbeltown.
www.explorekintyre.co.uk

August 5

The Lorn Show, Benderloch.
www.argylltsi.org.uk

August 9

Bute Agricultural Society Annual Summer Show, Rothesay.
www.kilchattan-bay.co.uk

August 10

Islay Show, Bridgend.
www.islayshow.co.uk

August 12

Mid-Argyll Show, Kilmory.
www.mid-argyllshow.co.uk

It's festival

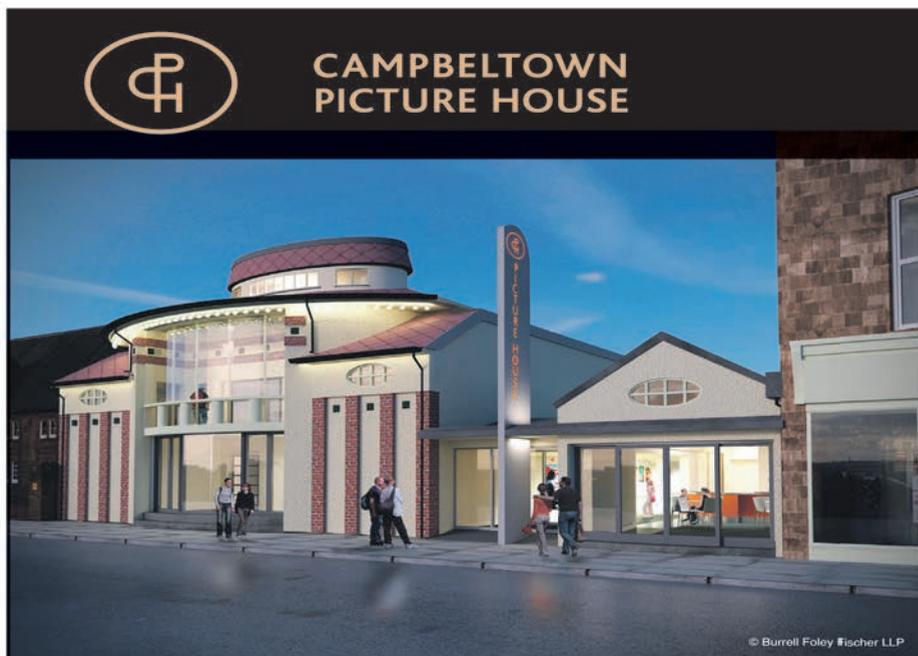
West Coast festival season showcases area's vibrant culture and

THE WEST Coast is bursting with exciting culture. From music to dance, from literature to food and drink, a thriving festival season showcases the 'best of the west.' And if the summer of 2016 is anything to go by, 2017 looks to be the best year ever for the festival scene.

Mendelssohn on Mull Festival, July 2-7, is a celebration of classical music at various venues around Mull and Iona. The Tìree Music Festival July 14-16 offers vibrant island culture and fabulous live music.

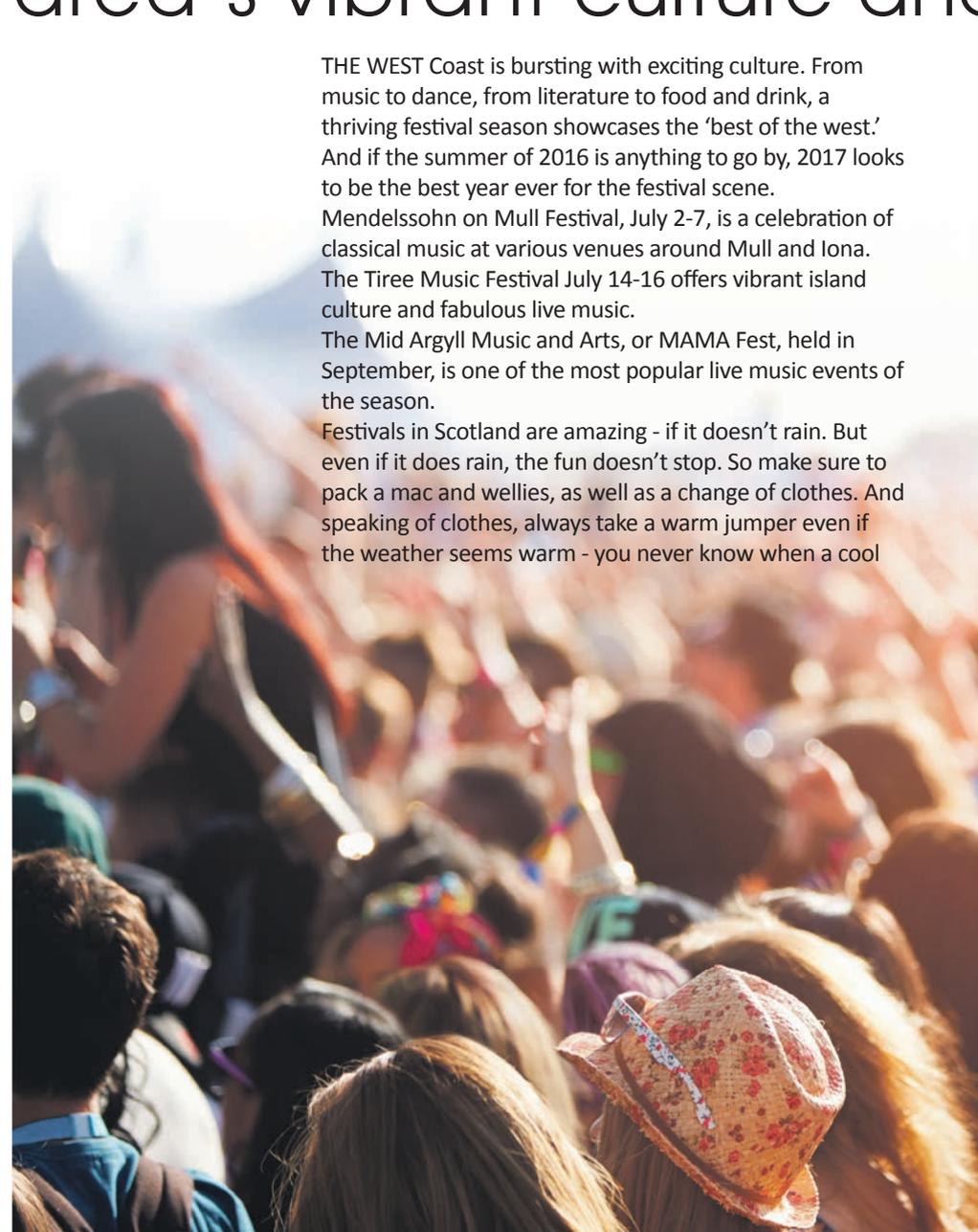
The Mid Argyll Music and Arts, or MAMA Fest, held in September, is one of the most popular live music events of the season.

Festivals in Scotland are amazing - if it doesn't rain. But even if it does rain, the fun doesn't stop. So make sure to pack a mac and wellies, as well as a change of clothes. And speaking of clothes, always take a warm jumper even if the weather seems warm - you never know when a cool



Come and experience the historic auditorium, restored to the 1935 'atmospheric' scheme. Try the new, intimate second screen which allows many more films to be shown, from new blockbusters to independent films during festivals. Drop in to the new café for a coffee or tea. Hire the new meeting room for a party or exhibition. Opening in Autumn 2017.

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk



Programme of Events 2017

August 19-20

Argyll Gathering Festival, Helensburgh.
www.facebook.com/ArgyllGathering

August 24-26

Cowal Highland Gathering.
www.cowalgathering.com

August 24

Oban Highland Games, Mossfield Stadium.

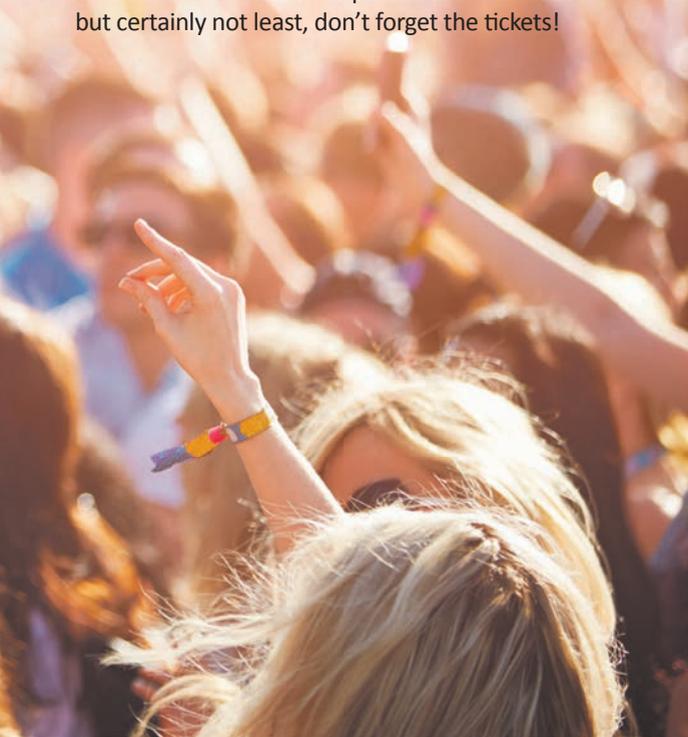
September 2

Dalmally Show.
www.dalmally-show.co.uk

Time

on showcases d music heritage

breeze or cloud may appear, plus at night the temperatures drop. Don't let clouds fool you into thinking you don't need sunscreen- rays bounce off clouds and water. A straw hat and sunglasses, alongwith maximum SPF, can prevent a miserable burn. Make sure your camera and phone are charged up, as you won't want to miss a single shot of all the great music, fabulous food and cute kid moments. Tents can be a great way to protect yourself from the elements and provide a quiet place for a rest. But keep in mind you will have to carry all your gear from the car, so don't overload. Fun items such as glow sticks, bubbles and glitter are a great way to jazz up your experience and keep the kids entertained. One of the best parts of any festival is the food, but stock up with your own water and snacks to help get you through the day. Also, it never hurts to carry a bit of toilet roll in case the portable loos run out. And last but certainly not least, don't forget the tickets!

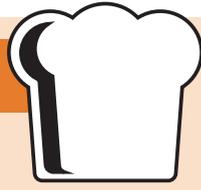


Skye Festival
www.seall.co.uk

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Mendelssohn on Mull	Isle of Mull	2 July - 7 July
Iona Music Festival	Isle of Iona	30 June - 1 July
Tarbert Seafood Festival	Tarbert	1 - 2 July
Cantilena Festival	Isle of Islay	9 - 14 July
Arran Malt & Music Festival	Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza	30 June - 1 July
Tiree Feis	Isle of Tiree	3 - 7 July
Ceolas	South Uist - various concerts	2 - 7 July
Skye Festival 2017	Sleat and south Skye - various	4 July- 28 August
Heb Celt	Stornoway, Lewis	19 - 22 July
Tarbert Traditional Boat Festival	Tarbert	14 - 16 July
Howlin' Fling	Isle of Eigg	28 - 29 July
Lomond Folk Festival	Balloch	28 - 30 July
Bute Fest	Isle of Bute	28 - 30 July
Tiree Music Festival	Isle of Tiree	14 - 16 July
Tarbert Fair	Tarbert	26 - 29 July
Belladrum	Beauly, Inverness	3 - 5 August
MOKfest	Campbeltown	16 - 20 August
Loch Lomond Food and Drink Festival	Loch Lomond	2 - 3 September
BLAS festival	Various locations	1- 9 September
MAMAFest	Lochgilphead	1 - 3 Sept
Lagavulin Jazz Festival	Isle of Islay	15 - 17 Sept
Mull Mod	Isle of Mull	8 - 9 Sept
Best Of The West Festival	Inveraray	8 - 10 Sept
Ceòl Cholasa	Isle of Colonsay	September
Tarbert Music Festival	Tarbert	15 - 17 Sept
Jura Music Festival	Isle of Jura	22 - 24 Sept
Loopallu	Ullapool	29 - 30 Sept
CowalFest	Cowal	6 - 15 October
Ullapool Guitar Festival	Ullapool	6 - 8 October
Islay Book Festival	Isle of Islay	29 Sept - 1 Oct
Callander Jazz & Blues Festival	Callander	29 Sept - 1 Oct
Feis na Mara	Mallaig	7 - 9 October
Royal National Mod	Lochaber	13 - 21 October
Tarbert Book Festival	Tarbert	27 - 29 October
Oban Winter Festival	Oban	17 - 26 November
Hogmanay in Oban	Oban	31 December

Wyvex Media believes this information to be correct at time of going to press but would recommend checking with individual festivals for latest details.

Recipes



TRADITIONAL HAGGIS WITH WHISKY GRAVY, OBAN STYLE

Serves: 8

Ingredients

3 x 500g packs Jackson Butchers or Grants of Taynuilt haggis
50g butter
1 onion, peeled and thinly sliced
200ml Oban Single Malt Whisky
2 x 500g beef stock
3 tbsps redcurrant jelly

Method

1. Cook the haggis according to package instructions.
2. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a large frying pan over a high heat. Add the onion then reduce the heat to low and cook for 15 minutes, stirring frequently until dark brown.
3. Increase the heat to high and add the whisky. Leave to bubble vigorously, stirring frequently, for 3-5 minutes until almost all has evaporated.
4. Add the stock and redcurrant jelly to the pan, bring to the boil, then leave to simmer vigorously for 30 minutes or until at least two-thirds its original volume, and the sauce is thick and glossy. Strain the gravy through a sieve. Serve the haggis at the table with the gravy alongside.

TRADITIONAL COLCANNON

675g floury potatoes, peeled and quartered
110g cabbage or kale, chopped
225g cup spring onions, roughly chopped
110g cup spring onions, finely chopped
110g 4 oz butter
Salt and pepper

Method

1. Simmer the potatoes in lightly salted water until cooked.
2. Blanch the cabbage or kale in boiling water for one minute. Drain and reserve.
3. Chop half of the spring onions roughly and the other half finely. Add the roughly chopped scallions/spring onions to the drained kale and pulse in a blender for 10 seconds.
4. Drain the potatoes and add the butter. When the butter has melted, mash the potatoes until smooth and creamy. Add the kale mixture and mix.
5. Add the finely chopped scallions/spring onions and season to taste.

SLATE ISLAND SEAWEED'S EASY STIR FRIED FRESH SEA SPAGHETTI

Cut sea spaghetti into chunks and stir fry it for 5-10 minutes on medium heat with chopped garlic- it will turn bright green. Add a splash of lemon or lime juice and pepper, or try a drizzle of sesame oil and sprinkle pine nuts to taste.

Whisky



A renowned alcoholic beverage created from the distillation of grain based products, whisky is infused in the culture of many nations, especially Scotland, its birthplace.

500 years ago, modern whisky steadily caught-on among Scottish people, brought to them by the Christian monks who guarded the secrets of fermentation and distillation.

Distilled drinks have centuries of history, but whisky's true popularity came from 15th-century Scotland. Hundreds of distilleries were present here, where harsh taxation and struggles against English government pushed even more people to homebrew whisky in illegal distilleries (so called 'moonshine' whisky, made under cover of nightfall when officials could not spot distillery smoke). After success in northern Europe, knowledge of whisky production spread across the entire world, enabling other rich grain producing countries to make their own types of whisky. Expansion halted during the 20th century Prohibition in the United States, when all alcohol - except medicinal whisky and

religious red wine - was forbidden. Once this obstacle passed, whisky continued to gain ground and today it stands among beer, wine and vodka, as one of the most popular alcoholic beverages globally.

Whisky Timeline from Whiskyfacts.com

2nd millennium BC – Art of distillation began in ancient civilizations of Babylon and Mesopotamia, mostly as a means to produce exotic variations of perfumes and aromatics.

100 AD – First written mentioning of the distilling process came from Ancient Greece. Famous philosopher Alexander of Aphrodisias described this process of making sea water into pure drinking water.

Early 1st millennium BC – Knowledge of distillation reached the Europe by the traveling Moors. Distillation managed to infuse itself into Christian religion, becoming necessary in production ingredients for several religious ceremonies and medical purposes (it was commonly used as a treatment for colic, palsy and smallpox).

1000-1200 – Distillation slowly spread from the continental Europe to the

The Whisky
Drinker's Whisky

SPRINGBANK

A proud local heritage dating back to 1828

Springbank Distillery LTD is housed in buildings that date as far back as 1828, combined with those that were used for the now distinct distilleries of Longrow, Rieclachan, Union, Springside and Argyll. As the only Scottish distillery to complete 100 per cent of the production process on site, with human involvement at each and every stage, the distillery is busy and bustling.

Light floods through the windows of the historic buildings, the distinctive aroma of malting barley fills the air and round every corner, you'll find the skilled, passionate team hard at work crafting their world renowned whisky.

Proud of their heritage and dedicated to quality, the team have retained many of the traditional processes used by their predecessors decades, even centuries, before them.

Springbank Distillers Ltd are the only dis-

tillery in Scotland to malt 100 per cent of the barley using traditional floor malting methods. Furthermore, much of the distillery equipment has been maintained and respected by their hardworking staff over decades. Combined, this helps not only to maintain the historical charm that Springbank possesses, but helps to ensure that their whisky is consistently of the highest quality.

Passion and skill are poured into every last drop during production, ensuring whisky drinkers consistently enjoy the tastes and characteristics that have become synonymous with Springbank, Hazelburn and Longrow, the three distinct single malts made at the distillery.

Visitors to Campbeltown can today enjoy learning about the rich history of the distillery during one of the many tours, held by the welcoming and knowledgeable team. The Springbank Society also

offers whisky lovers the chance to attend exclusive events and purchase special edition limited release whiskies, bottled especially for society members.

Incredibly proud of the whisky, the area and the history, they are dedicated to preserving the heritage of the distillery

so that Springbank can continue to be enjoyed across the world for centuries to come.

**Springbank Distillers Ltd / Cadenhead's Whisky Shop/The Tasting Room/
9 Bolgam St, Campbeltown, Argyll,
PA28 6HZ, tel: 01586 552009**



Irish and Scottish monasteries. Inability to access grapes for the manufacture of wine, local distilleries focused their efforts into fermenting of grain mash, creating first modern whisky.

1494 – The first written recording of the whisky in Europe. In it Scotland's Exchequer granted malt to Friar John Cor in enough quantity to make over 1500 bottles of whisky. Apparently by that time, production of whisky in Scotland was greatly developed.

1506 – King James IV of Scotland purchased large amounts of Scotch whisky from the Guild of Surgeon Barbers in town of Dundee, one of the best known whisky producers of that time.

1536-1541 – King Henry VIII of England dissolved the monasteries, transferring the production of whisky from the monks to the general population.

1608 - Irish Old Bushmills Distillery is today regarded as the first licensed whisky distillery in the world.

1707-1725 – Merger of England and Scotland under 'Acts of Union' and dramatic rise of the taxes (especially after English Malt Tax of 1725) proved to be almost fatal to the whisky production in northern Europe. Vast majority of the Scottish distilleries started operating at night, bringing the birth of the whisky's nickname 'moonshine;.

1775-1783 – During American Revolution, whisky was often used as a currency.

1791 – Scarcity of whisky and great demand for its import and production brought the rise of the severe alcohol taxes in the newly formed government of the American president George Washington. Ensuing "Whisky Rebellion" brought great unrest between corn farmers and the US government.

1820 – John Walker started production of his famous whisky. This brand of whisky today holds the record as the most popular and largest selling Scotchwhisky in the world.

1823 – United Kingdom brought end to the organized illegal production of moonshine whisky in Scotland. Distilleries were given choice to legalise their manufacture by paying a fee.

1823 – Although American distilleries made whisky for several decades before that, in **1823** producers from Old Bourbon County finally started calling their drink 'bourbon'.

1826-1831 – Irish inventors Robert Stein and Aeneas Coffey improved the technology of distillation by inventing and refining the 'continuous still' which greatly increased the quality and lowered price for whisky manufacture.

1850 – Andrew Usher began a production of first blended whisky. He mixed tradi-

tional pot still whisky with the new one created in one of the Aeneas Coffey stills.

1880s – After the worldwide production of wine became severely impacted by the spreading of the phylloxera, production and consumption of whisky greatly rose outside Northern Europe.

1920-1933 – Even though during American Prohibition production and using of alcohol by general population was strictly forbidden, government approved the prescription of medicinal whisky. Pharmacy chain Walgreens used this new environment to increase their retail stores number from 20 to near 400. This enabled them to become the largest drugstore chain in modern USA.

1964 – American Congress declared bourbon whisky as a country's official distilled spirit.

1973 – For the first time in history, vodka outsold whisky in the US. Deciding factors for the rise of vodka were popularity of James Bond and the influx of young female drinkers.

1994 – 500th anniversary of the whisky production in Scotland.



Distilling in the Kintyre Peninsula dates back to 1609 with the granting of the first licence to produce 'aqua vitae'.



When exploring Campbeltown, one new 'must do' is a visit to the Glen Scotia Distillery.

Founded in 1832, this is one of just three working distilleries in Campbeltown. Once regarded as the 'Victorian whisky capital of the world', its malt distillery is one of the smallest in Scotland, where each cask is hand selected by the master blender, before being bottled into one of the four award-winning single malt expressions. The Double Cask, 15-year-old, Victoriana and the new 25-year-old which was recently launched at the Campbeltown Whisky Festival. These four expressions each

offer something special but all deliver the history and flavour characteristics of a Campbeltown single malt.

Glen Scotia Distillery has enjoyed a period of resurgence over the past few years. Recently voted Campbeltown Distillery of the year 2017, and offering a variety of experiences from a distillery tour and tasting to an exclusive manager's tour and tasting in the dunnage warehouse, there is something for everyone.

Distillery-only bottlings and a bespoke range of clothing make Glen Scotia a special place to visit when in the 'wee toon'.



GLEN SCOTIA
SINGLE MALT SCOTCH
WHISKY

Glen Scotia Distillery Tours
Campbeltown



PATIENCE ISN'T A VIRTUE IT'S AN INGREDIENT.

TIME HONOURED

We offer a superb range of tours from our standard tour to an exclusive manager's tour and tasting.

Alternatively, visit our "Victorian" styled shop and browse our range of Glen Scotia Heritage Collection clothing and gift range.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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