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Fishing tragedy sheriff calls for stability training

Senior police officer honoured by Queen

Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie has been awarded the Queen's Police Medal.

In a New Year Honours list in which Argyll folk were conspicuous by their absence, Chief Inspector Baillie has been recognised after more than 26 years' service. She joined Strathclyde Police as a Constable working in various urban locations before being posted to Oban in 2000, marking the start of her long service to the communities of Argyll and Bute. Promoted to sergeant in 2002, she worked in various locations, gaining promotion to Dunoon section inspector in 2006, then to her current post as area commander for Oban, Lorn and the Isles, Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands in 2009.



by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

The loss of two fishermen with the Nancy Glen four years ago shocked the community – but there is hope similar future tragedies might be avoided as an inquiry concluded into the sinking.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes concluded a Fatal Accident Inquiry at Oban Sheriff Court by recommending mandatory training on vessel stability for skippers on boats of this kind.

Skipper Duncan MacDougall, 46, and Przemek Krawczyk, aged 38, were on board Tarbert prawn trawler Nancy Glen – built in 1991 and owned by the MacDougall family since 1995 – when it capsized and sank one and a half miles north-east of Barmore Island on Loch Fyne on the evening of January 18 2018.

The boat heeled over when one of her nets became embedded in seafloor mud as Mr MacDougall, an experienced

Recommendation by Nancy Glen inquiry for skippers in bid to prevent future losses

skipper, turned to starboard ready for hauling the nets at around 6pm. By 8.30pm the boat had sunk despite heroic efforts to save her and the two men inside.

A third crewman, John Miller, survived and was rescued by a passing vessel.

In his determination, Sheriff Patrick Hughes said the Nancy Glen 'lacked the stability to withstand' the 'muddying' of the nets after a number of modifications made in the years previously.

Sheriff Hughes added that had professional advice been taken before some of the vessel's concrete ballast was removed in 2002 and 2016 and further modifications were made in December 2017 – including the fitting of a larger

crane – the accident 'might' have been avoided.

Another factor in reducing the boat's stability was, said the Sheriff, the practice of storing catch in tanks on the main deck and shelter deck, raising the centre of gravity.

A critical point, however, was the fact that until recently no mandatory stability criteria were applicable to fishing vessels of the Nancy Glen's size – registered length 11.98 metres – and masters are not required to undergo stability awareness training.

The sheriff recommended stability awareness training be made mandatory for masters of fishing vessels of between seven and 16 metres in length.

Sheriff Hughes added: 'I
Continued on page 3.



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POLICE FILES

Careless driving
with expired
licence

A man in his 70s was charged after police spotted a motorist allegedly exceeding the 30mph speed limit and overtaking another vehicle on Blarbuie Road, Lochgilphead, at 12.40pm on Sunday December 19.

When the vehicle was stopped, the 75-year-old driver was also found to be driving with an expired driving licence. He was charged with careless driving and driving with an expired driving licence and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Threatening or
abusive behaviour

A man aged 35 and a 46-year-old woman are alleged to have been fighting at

6.15pm on Sunday December 26 at an address in Burns Brae, Lochgilphead. They were arrested, charged and released on an undertaking to appear at court.

Woodland
vandalism

Between Wednesday December 22 and Wednesday December 29 at Blarbuie woodland, Lochgilphead, glass panels next to a walkway were vandalised. Enquiries continue and police are appealing for anyone with information to contact 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Theft of lead

Between 4pm on Wednesday December 22 and 2.30pm on Thursday December 23 at Lochgilphead Baptist Church on Union Street, it is alleged lead sheets from the roof were stolen. Enquiries continue and police are appealing for anyone with information to contact 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

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Covid surges over the festive period

Social gatherings sparked a big festive increase in Covid-19 cases across the NHS Highland area, according to a top medic.

In a four-fold jump on the previous week's daily average, 883 new cases were reported on December 28 – more than double the region's previous highest daily figure.

Between December 22 and 28 there were 2,889 new cases, almost double the previous week's total.

Across NHS Highland, which covers Argyll and Bute, wards have been forced to close due to positive cases amongst patients and staff, while almost half of care homes are closed due to cases.

NHS Highland medical director Dr Boyd Peters stressed the Omicron variant is extremely infectious.

'Feedback from our contact tracers tells us that social



Dr Boyd Peters.

gatherings and travel are having the biggest impact on case numbers in our area,' said Dr Peters. 'We have already seen an increase in the area which we believe is linked to people travelling for Christmas.

'The threat and impact of Covid remains a significant

concern as modelling tells us a big increase in community infections now will cause serious issues in late January, both for individual patients and for the staffing of services.

'Our health and care system is fragile. The loss of staff to this variant through testing positive or the need to isolate has a huge impact on our ability to deliver the services needed across our patch and this is already a challenge.'

Protect yourselves, your loved ones and your NHS by:

■ Limiting your contact with those outside your household and follow Scottish Government guidelines on limiting inside contact with three households.

■ Making sure you are fully vaccinated. Details of vaccination clinics are available on the NHS Highland website. Vaccination is the single big-

gest form of protection we have against severe infection.

■ Regular self-testing using lateral flow devices for those without symptoms, particularly if you are meeting up with people or have spent time with more people that you normally would.

■ If you have symptoms, isolate immediately and book a PCR test.

■ Remain vigilant for symptoms. These are typically a new continuous cough, a high temperature or fever and a loss of, or change in, normal taste or smell. People with Covid-19 can, however, present with a wide range of symptoms including headache, sore muscles and joints, tiredness, sore throat, cold-like symptoms and diarrhoea and vomiting.

Anyone who becomes unwell should isolate immediately and seek a PCR test.

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Hopes mandatory training for skippers will prevent another Nancy Glen

Continued from page one.

consider that the loss of the Nancy Glen should not be seen as an isolated incident, but rather as part of a wider pattern of small fishing vessels being lost in circumstances where inadequate stability plays a prominent role.

'The evidence before this inquiry showed the MacDougall family to be good employers who took pride in their vessel and kept it well maintained. When making the various modifications described to the Nancy Glen, they did not understand themselves to be placing the vessel in danger. They considered it to be a safe boat, an assessment which was based on how it felt to them.'

He went on to pay tribute to the 'courage and resourcefulness' of those who attended the

stricken vessel; to John Miller for reliving the experience in his evidence and to the community for the compassion shown to the grieving families.

Sheriff Hughes expressed condolences to both families.

He concluded: 'To work as a fisherman in the arduous conditions of these waters requires a very great deal of both courage and fortitude, qualities possessed by both Przemek Krawczyk and Duncan MacDougall, devoted family men whose loved ones feel an enormous sense of loss.'

Chairman of the Clyde Fishermen's Association at the time of the sinking was Tarbert fisherman Kenny MacNab, who knew both men.

Mr MacNab said: 'In my eyes it was a tragic accident and more than confirms that the



A huge search effort was undertaken by many local boats in the days following the tragedy to find any sign of the two men lost in the Nancy Glen sinking. Inset above left: Duncan MacDougall. Above right: Przemek Krawczyk.

life of a fisherman is one of the most dangerous in the country. Any recommendations that come out of the inquiry will help improve safety for

fishermen. Let's hope we can all move forward in peace and harmony and show respect for the brave men who lost their lives.'

Clyde Fishermen's Association executive secretary Elaine Whyte said: 'The impact of the loss of the Nancy Glen is still keenly felt by the

local fishing community. We hope the determination can help the families in attempting to move forward from this most tragic of accidents.'

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Supporting Argyll domestic abuse victims

Domestic abuse is an all-too-common occurrence, affecting one in five women and one in six men at some point in their lives.

Abuse comes in many forms; physical, sexual, emotional, psychological and financial.

Coercive and controlling behaviour has been a crime in Scotland since 2019 and the Domestic Abuse Act passed by the Scottish Parliament in 2018 makes all forms of abuse within an intimate or former intimate partner relationship a criminal offence.

Medics Against Violence (MAV) is a Scottish charity ran by healthcare professionals with the aim of reducing injury or death caused by violence.

In a bid to help professionals deal with cases of domestic abuse, MAV developed the Ask, Support, Care (ASC) training programme, aimed at anyone who may encounter those affected by domestic abuse in the course of their day-to-day job.

These include not just doctors, but everyone from firefighters to dentists, hair-



Medics Against Violence aims to reduce injury or death caused by violence. Abuse of pets can be an indicator of deeper domestic abuse problems.

dressers – and even vets. Some may consider animal abuse and domestic violence to be separate issues but studies suggest there are links between the two. Signs of animal cruelty might be an indicator of domestic abuse.

Medics Against Violence can help everyone spot signs of domestic abuse, ask the right questions and ensure those affected get the support they need.

Dr Christine Goodall OBE,



a founding member of MAV and honorary consultant oral surgeon at the University of Glasgow and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, said: 'We are not aiming to be or to create experts in domestic abuse, we are just aiming to give a wide range of people the skills to ask about it and to signpost people towards expert help.'

'Our training has been delivered to doctors, dentists, nurses, paramedics, pharmacists, fire and rescue officers,

vets and housing officers, along with many third sector workers.'

Catriona MacIntyre, director and veterinary surgeon at Bute and Cowal Vets, said: 'Being in a rural location in Argyll and Bute can often bring its own challenges when it comes to helping to keep people safe, and I wanted my staff to have suitable training to help them identify potential victims of domestic abuse who may present due to abuse of their

household pet or farm animals.

'By receiving this training, I hope we can help recognise the different forms of abuse in humans and how they might present and be able to signpost victims of domestic abuse to support agencies to help tackle domestic abuse.'

Staff at Dalriada Vets in Lochgilphead have since received ASC training and there are plans to expand the programme to other groups in 2022.

'We are just aiming to give a wide range of people the skills to ask about it and to signpost people towards expert help.'

If you are in immediate danger or wish to report an incident of domestic abuse contact Police Scotland on 101 (non-emergency) or 999 for emergencies. If you are looking for support in relation to domestic abuse, help is available from:

- **Argyll and Bute Women's Aid: 01369 706636**
- **Scottish Domestic Abuse and Force Marriage Helpline: 0800 027 1234**
- **Shakti Women's Aid for Black and Minority Ethnic Women, children and young people: 0131 475 2399**
- **Refuse UK National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0800 2000 247**
- **Abused Men in Scotland (AMIS) Helpline: 0808 800 0024**
- **Childline for children and young people up to the age of 19: 0800 1111**

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When Santa met Huggy - send us your caption

As the festive season recedes into the distance, we couldn't resist one final light-hearted nod to Christmas.

Among many festive photographs taken by and sent to the Argyllshire Advertiser, one image in particular stood out. Stealing Santa's thunder just a wee bit, the star of the show at The Gather pre-Christmas fair in Tarbert was, for many, Huggy the festive reindeer. We thought the photograph would be a good candidate for a caption competition. So the challenge is set - just for a bit of fun, send us your witty caption for the photo and we'll announce the winner in a future edition.

■ There are various ways to send your caption:
email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
click the 'contact' button on our website www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
or direct message via the Argyllshire Advertiser Facebook page.



**Do a lateral flow test before you travel,
mix with others or visit busy places.**



**Living safely
this winter**



Heather's Treks: Winter sunsets



Heather Thomas-Smith runs Heathy Heights, an outdoor adventure and discovery company based in Lochgilhead, offering guided walking adventures, outdoor activities, training, and experiences. She has travelled and trekked throughout the world, walked across Scotland numerous times, climbed many of its peaks and now lives in Argyll amongst the scenery she loves. All her walks can be booked as bespoke guided experiences. www.heathyheights.co.uk

The old ferry route across Loch Fyne harks back to another age when the long, circuitous route around the head of Loch Fyne by horse and carriage could be shortened by crossing the one and a half mile stretch of Loch Fyne between Otter Ferry on the east shore and West Otter Ferry on the west shore.

The word 'Otter' derives

from the Gaelic word 'Oitir', meaning spit of land, rather than relating to the animal.

This is certainly logical as the long spit of land on the eastern shore is named 'Oitir' on OS maps to this day.

Used for some 200 years the route was finally abandoned in 1948.

Roads and transportation

methods would have steadily improved and the addition of the Crinan Canal and Ardrishaig Pier in the 1830s would have opened up new possibilities for maritime traffic.

The stone quay and slipway were built in the early 1700s and are in fine condition to this day. Nearby the old ferryman's cottage lies amongst the nearby ruins.

The start of the walk from the forestry car park has a useful signboard with further information and shows a map of the 'Otter Ferry Trail', as it is locally known.

The route has blue marked posts to help you stay on track. The route, however, does not include the addition

The old quay at West Otter Ferry on Loch Fyne.

given here, which leads down one of the old forestry tracks to a viewpoint which gives an excellent vantage point for mid-winter sunsets over Knapdale.

It may seem counterintuitive to choose a walk on these shores for sunsets, as one is generally facing east, but the little point lying on the east side of Port Ann gives a clear view across to Stob Odhar - Knapdale and Kintyre's highest 'Marilyn' (hill with 150m drop on all sides) - and the gap just north of Cruach a' Phubuill where the sun sets beyond.

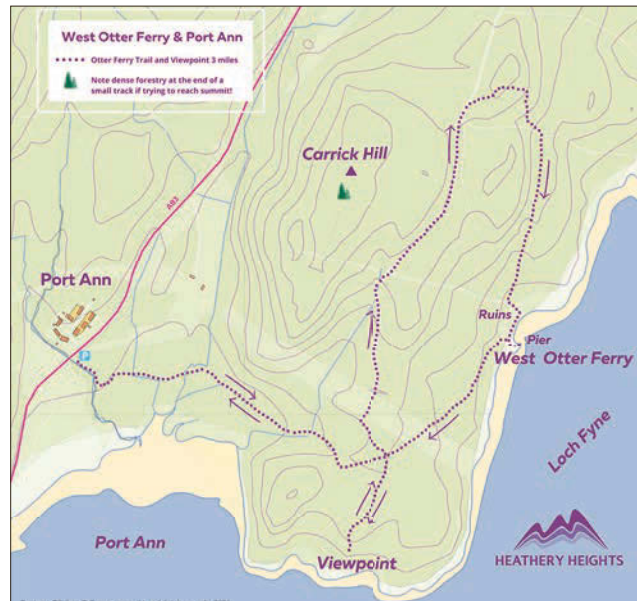
I recommend undertaking



this path clockwise if you wish to catch the sunset, just give yourself plenty of time so you can enjoy West Otter Ferry too.

Leaving the car park, take the path that heads southeast by the burn. You will follow this as it skirts round the head of Port Ann until after 600m it starts to rise.

Keep heading up the path for the next 300m until you reach a path turning left (also note



Walk Information

Route: West Otter Ferry and Port Ann
Distance: 5km (3 miles)
Ascent: 136m
Time: 1.5-2.5 hours
Terrain: A mixture of good forestry tracks and paths. Some steeper sections, which

can get slippery, especially after rain or frost.
Map/s: OS Landranger 55 (1:50 000); OS Explorer 358 (1:25 000)
Start/Finish/Parking: Small carpark at Port Ann next to bus stop
Grid reference: NR 906865
Public Transport: Bus 428
Toilets: No

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WALKS on the Otter Ferry Trail



the path on your right as this is where you will be heading later).

Turn left, the path soon opens out onto a main forestry track, and you will be following this route northwards for 1km*

Keep an eye out for the marker post that indicates the path on your right.

Turn right following the path up through the trees and then southwards to the shores of Loch Fyne. As you approach the shore you will find the ruins, now somewhat hidden in the undergrowth.

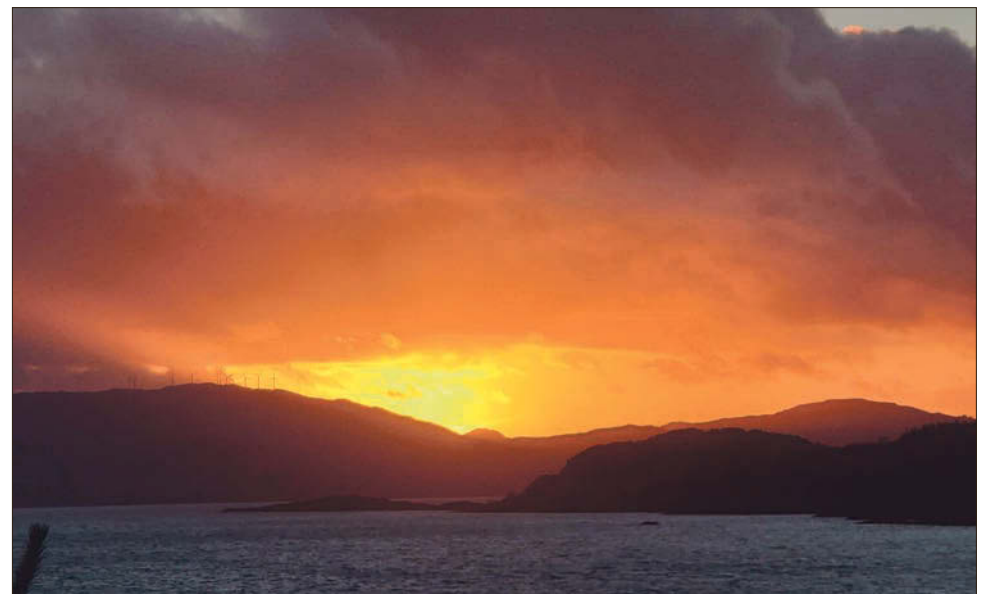
Ahead, look for the path that drops left down to the old quay

and slipway of West Otter Ferry; it is a lovely spot, and the stonework has stood well against the test of time.

Return to the main path and continue up a gentle incline heading southwest for 400m. Look for a turning left (the route you took earlier goes right).

Turn left down the grassy track in the trees, following it for nearly 300m where it will end abruptly.

This is where you can get some wonderful mid-winter sunsets looking down Loch Fyne across the small island of Glas Eilean before the sun



If you're lucky you will catch a sunset over Knapdale on this walk.

Safety in the Outdoors

The described routes and accompanying information are there as a guide and do not replace the use of map and compass and the skills required to use them. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the route is accurate at the time of going to print, please be aware track and path closures can happen at any time. All walks are undertaken at your own risk. Please continue to adhere to current guidelines as set out by the government, exercise responsibly

and use appropriate clothing and equipment for your chosen outdoor activity. Inform a contact about your route/whereabouts. Don't forget your phone, snacks, drink, any medication/first aid supplies you may need and to check weather conditions. Most walks are dog friendly but please keep your dog under close control, especially around livestock and wildlife. Please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, bylaws and laws that protect areas including National Nature Reserves (NNRs) and Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

tracks northwards on the horizon once again.

Return to the main path and turn left. You can follow this all the way back to the car park just under 1km away. Don't forget your headtorch to ensure you can see your way back.

* En route you will pass another path on the left (after 500m). Should you decide that 'Tump' bagging is your thing then Carrick Hill is a Tump - a hill with a drop of at least 30m all round.

Give yourself plenty of extra time as the path, which veers

right at an unmarked junction higher up, WILL lead you to within 150m of your goal but thereafter it is thick forestry where a compass and good navigation are required to pinpoint its summit and safely return.

A happy New Year.

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Eventful life of John Reid remembered

Many readers will remember John Reid, who was principal teacher of art in Tarbert Academy and lived locally until his death in 2000.

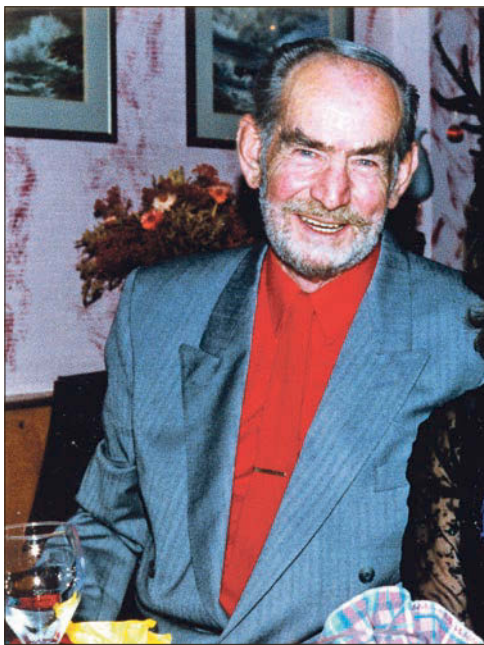
To mark the centenary of his birth in Australia, John's daughter Morag Glen Muego contacted the Argyllshire Advertiser with a fascinating account of his eventful life.

This is Morag's story:

My father, John, was born in Leeton, New South Wales at Meringle private hospital 100 years ago on January 15, 1922.

His father Alex, originally from Gourock, was an Anzac and fought on the Somme, before returning to New South Wales with his new wife Margaret, a Glaswegian.

They lived on a government experimental farm several miles outside the town and Alex worked with Clydesdale



John Reid, born on January 15, 1922.

first person I spoke to in the town had those portraits in his home. They were of his aunts.

John visited the family a couple of years later and could still remember the folk songs the girls sang while working in the fields.

After the war he spent four years at Glasgow School of Art and then began his teaching career.

In 1965, he became principal teacher of art in Tarbert Academy and made his life in Tarbert until his death in 2000. During that time, folk may remember him for his

The ranch in New South Wales where John began his life.

teaching, the school shows, art exhibitions, his part in Tarbert Choir and in the Fynesiders Barber Shop Chorus. And golf, of course.

And whisky.
Slainté John.



John's father Alex with one of the majestic Clydesdale horses he worked with.

horses. Due to the difficulties of schooling the boys, and also family illness in Scotland, they had to come back in 1925.

My dad played his part in the Second World War, was a prisoner of war in north Italy and escaped to Switzerland with the help of the Resistance.

In 1993 I was able to track down the family in Italy who sheltered my dad and organised his escape.

While he was hidden with them, he had made portraits of the two young daughters, by way of thanking them.

By some fateful accident, the

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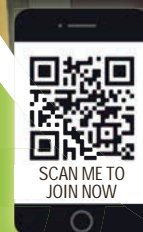
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Improvements needed to avoid another tragedy

Our hearts go out to everyone involved with the Nancy Glen tragedy.

For the grieving families, the many people who valiantly tried to save the boat, everyone involved in the search for and recovery of the trawler and many more besides, the ordeal of reliving the events of four years ago cannot have been easy.

The ultimate outcome of the Fatal Accident Inquiry must be to help avoid such tragedies from happening again.

The evidence given was technical, traumatic and deeply sad. There were many contributing factors according to the sheriff, some of which would have been avoided with the crystal clear benefit of hindsight.

As the sheriff noted, the owners took pride in their vessel, kept it well maintained and considered it to be a safe boat. They were managing it little differently to many others up and down the Scottish coast.

But, crucially, no stability rules applied to boats like the Nancy Glen at the time of the accident.

Duncan MacDougall was an experienced fisherman who knew these waters well and, if it could happen to his boat, there is an obvious need to raise awareness to prevent such devastating accidents in future.

Bringing our seas to life

Sir,
The Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust has been inspiring children to cherish their marine environment for over 15 years.

More than 200 schools and 10,000 children have taken part in the charity's educational programmes since 2005.

Connecting young people to their marine environment is crucial if we want them to help protect it. It's so heartening to experience the children's energy, enthusiasm and awe when learning about whales and dolphins.

Our sessions are so important as they spark passion and interest in the local environment and encourage conversations about the actions that we can all take to help protect it, now and in the future.

Players of People's Postcode Lottery have supported the charity, raising £80,000 since 2017 to support the development and delivery of new and immersive learning experiences that bring the marine environment to life for children in coastal communities.

Our latest creative project, funded by People's Postcode Trust and Sea-Changers, has been to launch the best of their education sessions online, working with schools and home educators across Scotland and England.

Based around the trust's research expeditions, these digital sessions introduce the amazing diversity of whales, dolphins and sharks in Scotland and give children a glimpse into what it is like to work at sea, studying and protecting ocean giants.

Prior to the pandemic, every year school groups would join the charity's crew on board their research vessel, Silurian, as she was temporarily transformed into a floating classroom.

The famous yacht has now visited communities on most of the larger Hebridean islands; Mull, Skye, Islay, Lewis, Harris, Uist, Barra, Coll, Tiree and the Small Isles; as well as some of the largest towns along Scotland's west coast, such as Oban, Mallaig and Ullapool.

Raising awareness and aspirations for green careers features at the centre of the charity's education strategy.

Each year the trust runs dedicated research expeditions for 16- and 17-year-olds on board Silurian.

These young adults gain hands-on experience

monitoring marine life, including collecting data as part of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust long-term citizen science project, which informs local and national conservation efforts.

Anyone can help the charity monitor marine life, by reporting their sightings of cetaceans - the collective name for whales, dolphins and porpoises - and basking sharks online.

The trust also offers guided field trips for schools, so that younger children can take part and experience the thrill of spotting seabirds and marine mammals from land.

Local wildlife is not only amazing to see, but each species also has an important biological role to play.

By protecting whales and giving marine ecosystems the chance to recover, we can improve the health and resilience of our seas and in turn the climate and planet for us all.

We're really proud to support the next generation of ocean ambassadors and look forward to when Silurian can once again become a floating classroom and set sail for island schools.

In the meantime, teachers or home educators keen to take part in our online sessions are encouraged to get in touch at info@hwdt.org.

Pippa Garrard, education manager, the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust

Prepared for a digital future

Sir,
With record demand on our broadband and mobile networks - and periods of extreme Scottish weather to contend with - I'd like to thank all our front-line colleagues for keeping our customers and communities connected during a challenging year.

The pandemic has accelerated Scotland's shift online. We've learned new terms like 'Zoom calls' and 'vaccine passports'. With the average home predicted to have 50 connected devices by 2023, families need better and faster connections, no matter where they live.

To future-proof our networks, BT Group confirmed plans to invest around £15bn so that Openreach can extend their ultrafast, full-fibre broadband network to 25 million UK homes and businesses by 2026.

More than 438,000 Scottish premises can already order full-fibre, with thousands enjoying ultra-reliable, ultrafast speeds.

Our mobile network, EE, has already reached around 40 per cent of the UK's population with 5G, with plans to offer the service in every corner of the UK by 2028. And on 4G, we'll expand our network to 600 more rural Scottish communities by 2025.

This ultrafast connectivity is being expanded on a daily basis. We're building like fury, and we know there's more to do.

To make sure this digital future benefits as many people as possible, we published a 'manifesto' for the next decade, setting out how we'll support responsible technology, become more inclusive and do more on climate action, including electrifying our vehicle fleet.

Despite these challenging times, we're working hard to bring next-generation networks and digital services to millions more in the coming years.

Jane Wood, BT Group Scotland director, Edinburgh

The purpose of pylons?

Sir,
The members of Tarbert Poetry Group have suggested that you might wish to publish my seasonal and topical poem:

Eco Claus

*Old Santa's sleigh's no longer what it was
since Prancer, Dancer, Rudolph and the chase
were boss. More eco-friendly now because
the methane-making motion's been replaced.*

*With fossil fuels now considered bad;
Internally combusted products out;
what could poor Santa do when all he had
was half a dozen reindeer - and the gout!*

*He'd have to go electric, so he thought;
but where are all the sockets in the sky?
Then Santa's fertile fancy something caught -
those shiny pylons! Some are really high!*

*So if they bother you, just think this way:
They're really charging points for Santa's sleigh.*

Rebecca Pine, Tarbert

Editor's note: Unless you happen to be a jolly chap in a red suit with flying reindeer, please keep well clear of all electricity-carrying structures.

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Thought for the Week

When my brother was young, he wanted to be a fireman when he grew up. I wanted to be a ballet dancer.

He followed a very different path.

I have always had a love of dance, even to this day.

Did you aspire to be anything in particular?

And has your life gone in that direction or taken you elsewhere?

In Charlie Mackesy's book, *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*, the mole asks the boy: 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'

'Kind,' says the boy.

This simple but profound quote came to mind again this week as a group of us were talking about good and evil in the world.

It seems to me that the bad things make the headlines far more than the 'good news' stories.

Thousands, probably millions, of acts of kindness go unnoticed by anyone other than the person to whom that kindness is done.

Towards the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says this: 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.'

As we begin a new year, for many it's a time to reflect on the year that is past.

I wonder what kindness was shown to you or by you?

And how do you picture the year ahead?

These past two years have been challenging in so many ways, and the next few months may not be so different.

But kindness knows no boundaries and perhaps it is a positive way to step into the new year – acknowledging the kindness you receive and going the extra mile to show kindness to another.

**Reverend Chris Fulcher,
Church of Scotland,
South Kintyre Team Ministry.**

FASLANE

The Royal Navy's lead submarine has returned home to Faslane from the other side of the world.

HMS Astute, and the 100 personnel who work onboard, had been deployed to Australia as part of the Carrier Strike Group, which included aircraft carrier Queen Elizabeth, F-35 Lightning jets and a ring of escort warships.

HMS Astute, first of her class, is the lead submarine in the Royal Navy's fleet of Attack submarines and said to be one of the most advanced submarines in the world.

One of four Astute class boats currently in-service, it was the final Royal Navy vessel to return to the UK before Christmas.

Speaking during the submarine's return Head of the Royal Navy Submarine Service Commodore Jim Perks said: 'HMS Astute has today returned to her home port on the Clyde.'

'Despite the challenges of deploying during a global pandemic, Astute has demonstrated the flexibility and reach that a submarine can bring. Her ship's company can be justifiably proud of what they have achieved.'

HMS Astute visited Australia to help cement links between the two nations following the announcement of the AUKUS agreement in September.

The agreement between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States will see the nations work on cooperation and engagement in the Indo-Pacific region.

The first step will be to determine the best path for the provision of a flotilla of nuclear-powered submarines to the Royal Australian Navy.

Commander Perks described the Carrier Strike Group deployment as a milestone in the development of UK Carrier Strike, providing an opportunity to gain further experience in operating the Lightning F-35B aircraft from the Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier.

HMS Queen Elizabeth was protected by a ring of escort warships during operations, with HMS Astute providing an undersea defence against other submarines.

The other task group vessels, including HMS Queen Elizabeth, returned to their home ports on Thursday December 9, while frigate HMS Kent and Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship RFA Fort

Kilted dook called off but fundraising continues

TAYVALLICH

A kilted new year dook by Donald Self into the icy waters of Loch na Cille on New Year's Day was sadly called off due to illness, but it won't dampen his fundraising enthusiasm.

Donald, a sixth year student at Lochgilphead High School, is due to head out to Senegal in August for a 12-month placement teaching English in a school there.

The dook was intended to help raise funds for the trip through Argyll-based charity Project Trust, which has been organising long-term voluntary placements in Africa, Asia and Latin America for young people since 1967.

Donald said: 'I applied to become an overseas volunteer with Project Trust because I felt the length of their placements gives me the opportunity to learn about and immerse myself into another culture, see a totally different part of the world and learn a new language.'

'Also, Project Trust has very good relations on the ground in the countries that it sends volunteers to. This means volunteers only end up working jobs where they are really needed and sought after in the communities. This will, I hope, allow me to have a real impact on



Project Trust brings international volunteering opportunities to young people.

my placement in Senegal.' Donald needs to raise £6,950 for Project Trust to fund his project and help the charity continue its global operations.

He added: 'Any donations, no matter how small, would be greatly appreciated.'

Donald has set up a Just Giving page entitled Teaching in Senegal with Project Trust.

Victoria were slightly later, getting back home on December 10 and 12 respectively. Astute returned to HMNB Clyde, the home of the UK submarine service, on Monday December 20.

LOCHGILPHEAD

Moving On - Mid Argyll, the charity supporting homeless people, delivered 54 Christmas parcels over the festive period.

The charity works year round providing

starter packs to homeless people moving into permanent homes as well as food parcels to those in emergency need.

Speaking after the Christmas parcels were delivered, a spokesperson for the charity said: 'We are so grateful to everyone who helped in any way, particularly those who donated food and other items for the parcels. We can now be sure that 54 families will have a better Christmas than maybe they expected.'

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Tracey 07984 473361

Lochgilphead - Lochgilphead Baptist Church
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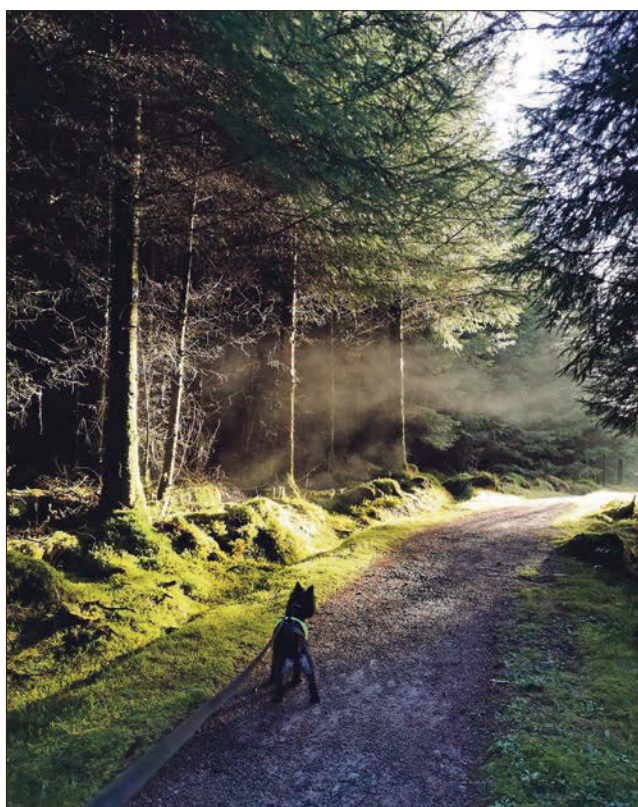


Through the reader's lens

In this first edition of 2022, we take a look back at a selection of the fantastic photographs sent in during 2021 by readers which we showcased in the 'Your Pictures' feature each week in your Argyllshire Advertiser.

Thank you to everyone who submitted photographs to the paper over the year, even if pressure on space means we cannot include them in this feature. Your images are much appreciated and enjoyed.

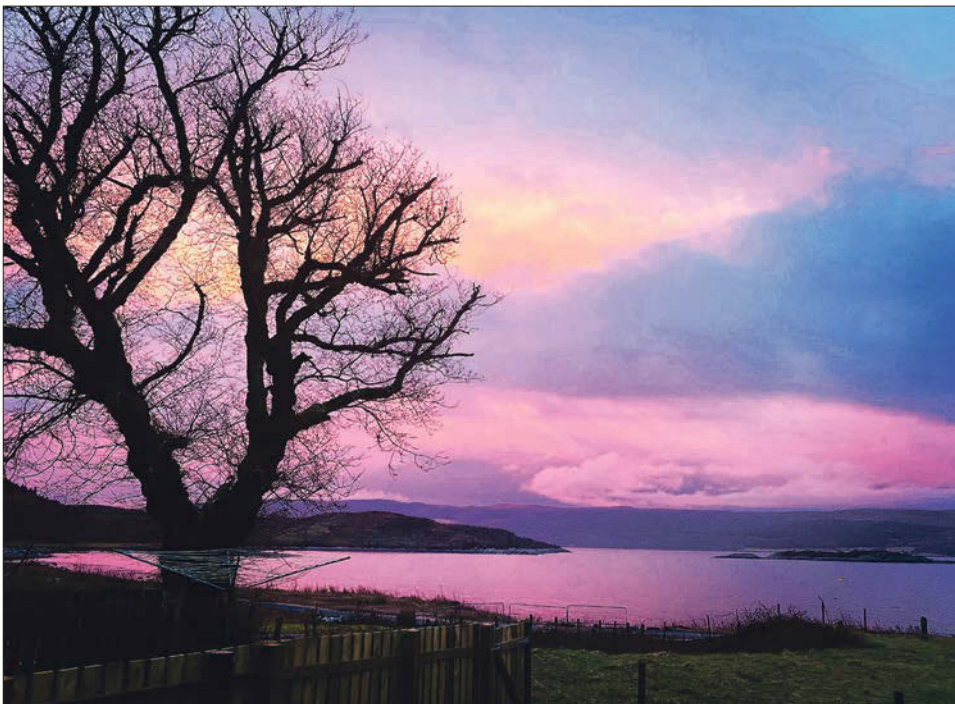
Don't forget to send in your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



JANUARY
Lochgilphead reader Liz McLean took this photograph of low winter sunshine through the misty forest as the sun broke through at Achnabreck on Tuesday January 12. Mirrin the Cairn terrier was having the time of her life on her walk.



FEBRUARY
Don Stewart of Letter Daill sent the Advertiser this snowy photograph he took of the scene at Cairnbaan when ice settled over the Crinan Canal on a crisp winter's day.



MARCH
Cheryl Brown submitted this gorgeous photograph of a beautiful night at Port Ann, taken from her living room window. Cheryl took the photograph at the end of February during a spell when the Argyll skies were often ablaze with shades of pink, peach and orange tones.



APRIL
In our April 2 edition we featured this lovely photograph, right, by Christine Reynolds from Ardpatrik, by Tarbert. Christine explained: 'The pussy willow on our tree is amazing this year. Spring is definitely here.'



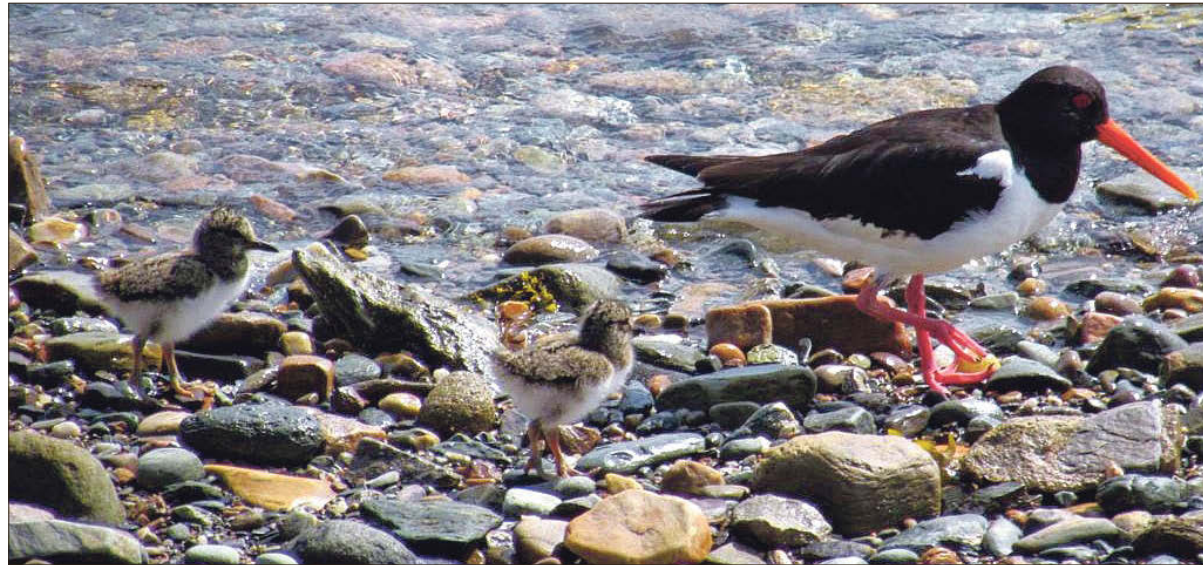
JUNE
Colin Barr always has his drone ready for a good photograph, and this one certainly fits the bill. The photograph was taken looking out over Carsaig Bay and beyond, and shows Wild Rose at her mooring. Colin said: 'The weather conditions were just right for a stunning photograph. The Sound of Jura never looked better.'



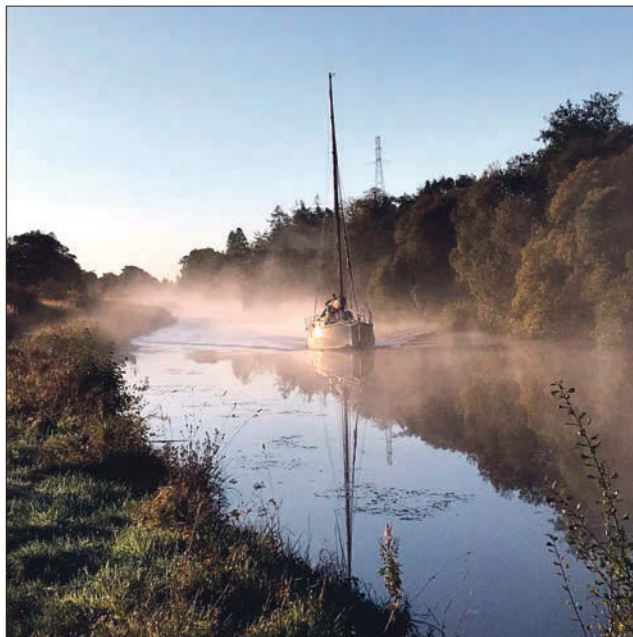
MAY
This photograph was taken from Ardrishaig on May 5 by John McCall of Lochgilphead. Looking down Loch Fyne, it shows the hills of Arran in the distance covered in snow during a cold spell of spring weather, with showery-looking cloud overhead.



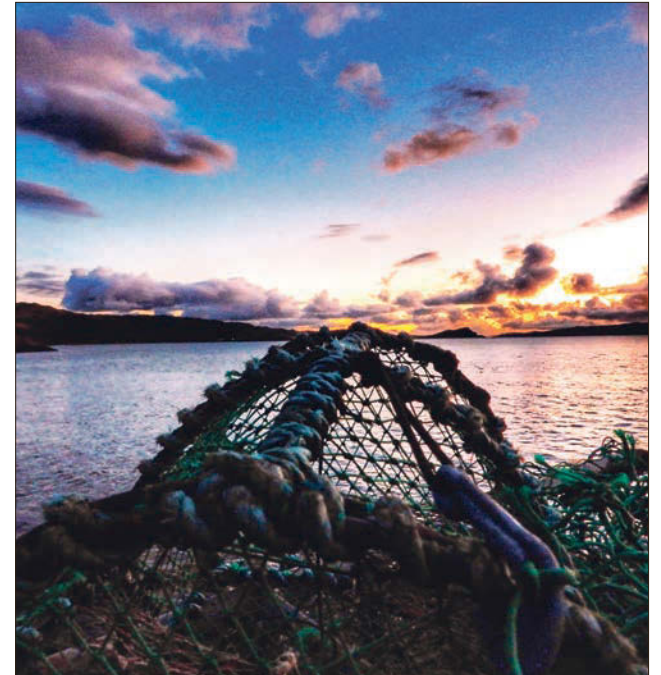
ns – a look back at 2021



JULY
Ardrishaig's Cheryl Ratcliffe-Nye sends lovely photographs to the Advertiser and she had keen enough eyesight to spot this Oystercatcher adult with three chicks on the shore, left. 'They blend really well with the stones on the beach,' said Cheryl, 'and they have already started to search around for food on their own.'



OCTOBER
Taken on October 15 during an early morning walk to Cairnbaan, James Bowe of Ardrishaig captured the scene as the sun rose on a beautiful day after a spell of rain. The mist rising from the canal makes for a tranquil, slightly eerie autumnal atmosphere.



NOVEMBER
Our November 12 edition featured another superb photograph by Aileen Gillies – and one with a special meaning. Aileen took the photograph of the sunset at Arduaine on her birthday, November 2.



SEPTEMBER
Recently retired Lochgilphead police sergeant Iain MacNicol captured this evocative scene on his iPhone while gathering sheep on his family's Turnalt Farm, Barbreck, aided by working collie and part-time model Bob.



DECEMBER
Ishbel Hawson of Polly's Coffee Stop fame took this photograph at the pre-Christmas 'Carols around the Kelpies' event at Ardrishaig Pier. Seeing the kelpies looking a bit un-festive she decided, with Scottish Canals' permission, to decorate them with lights. Given that we featured a similar photograph in our December 31 edition we have used an alternative one, also by Ishbel.



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Apprentice wins top prizes at Cruachan power station

A technical apprentice from Oban has won two top prizes at renewable energy company Drax's annual awards event in recognition of his achievements over the past year.

Iain MacPherson, 19, from Oban, won Craft Apprentice of the Year as well as the Paul Chambers Overall Apprentice of the Year Award after being commended for his enthusiasm and work ethic in his role at Cruachan Power Station.

Iain received outstanding feedback from his colleagues who speak highly of his commitment, potential and ability, and say he has become a valuable member of the team at Cruachan.

Iain, who is now entering the third year of his apprenticeship, said: 'I'm extremely grateful to have received these awards and be recognised for the work I've put in over the

'I'm extremely grateful to have received these awards ...I'd like to thank everyone who has helped and supported me...'

past year. I'd like to thank everyone who has helped and supported me throughout. I'm looking forward to the next year of my apprenticeship and the new challenges it brings.'

Covid restrictions meant this year's awards were held virtually, but none of the glamour and excitement was missing as apprentices from across the Drax Group were recognised for their efforts overcoming the unprecedented challenges Covid-19 brought.

Karen McKeever, Drax chief



Iain MacPherson, 19, from Oban, won Craft Apprentice of the Year and the Paul Chambers Overall Apprentice of the Year Award for his work at Cruachan Power Station.

human resources officer, who hosted the event, said: 'Drax is committed to championing and supporting people in their early careers. Hiring and developing a talented workforce of the future is essential for an innovative business like Drax.'

'Apprentices all have unique talents and bring a new perspective that we can learn from. It's been inspiring to meet them all and celebrate their achievements.'

'The last couple of years have been challenging for us all due to Covid, but our apprentices have shown great flexibility, resilience and patience in continuing to approach their learning with enthusiasm and dedication.'

Drax's long-running apprenticeship scheme is part of its commitment to developing new talent, as well as upskilling the workforce across the com-

munities where it operates. Drax has 52 apprentices as well as 50 existing employees working towards apprenticeship qualifications at other career levels within the business.

Drax recently launched the next stage in its public consultation on its plans to more than double the generating capacity of its iconic 'Hollow Mountain' Cruachan Power Station in Argyll and Bute.

Under the plans, a second underground power station will be built adjacent to the existing one to enable Cruachan to play an even bigger role in supporting the expansion of renewable energy sources such as wind power and provide lifeline stability services to the national grid.

Around 900 jobs will be created and indirectly supported during the new power station's construction.

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Emma rounds up pupils for online sheepdog school

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

We've all become used in the pandemic to communicating using computers.

But now there's a novel new purpose for technology – training working sheepdogs.

The online sheepdog school is the brainchild of Emma Gray, well-known from the popular BBC series *This Farming Life*, with firefighter-turned-farmer husband Ewan Irvine and young son, Len.

Emma, 35, is a well-respected sheepdog breeder and dog



Ewan, Len and Emma are settling into life on Bute. Photograph: Neil Denham.

trial enthusiast and said it had always been a plan to start a sheepdog school in some form.

She explained: 'We have a strong Instagram following, and almost every night I would be asked sheepdog training questions and found it hard to explain to people what I meant online.'

'By using the medium of video I can show exactly what I mean and people can see how the dog reacts and progresses.'

'We never really knew how to put it into practise until a friend told us about a particular online platform. We

haven't looked back since.' Emma was born on a farm near Hawick in the Scottish Borders and has been training dogs since she was 11.

In March 2021 the family moved from Fallowlees Farm in Northumberland – where Emma had been shepherding since the age of 17 – to a larger unit on the Isle of Bute, running 600 crossbred sheep and a herd of native cattle, as well as breeding top-quality sheepdogs at Ardros Farm.

'We absolutely love life on the island,' said Emma. 'It's a dream come true for us and we

don't think we'll ever get tired of the view! The people have been so welcoming and it's really great to be part of such an amazing community.'

The sheepdog school is now up and running, with twice-monthly videos showing how to train a pup from start to finish and how to tackle problems along the way.

'I hope we get loads of pupils so we can help people to understand how to train a working dog to the best of their ability, avoiding the common pitfalls,' said Emma. For more visit www.sheepdog-school.com

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NFU Mutual provides police with 4x4 vehicle to help tackle rural crime

Rural insurer NFU Mutual has provided Police Scotland with a 4x4 vehicle to help tackle crime in the countryside as part of its support for the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC).

The Toyota Hilux 4x4 will be used by Police Scotland officers to crack down on rural theft, poaching and heritage crime.

While Covid restrictions have kept some criminals out of the countryside, thieves are returning and turning their attention to high-value farm Global Positioning Systems while quad bikes and all-terrain vehicles remain high on thieves' shopping lists because of their high value and portability.

Agricultural field engineering lead at NFU Mutual Bob Henderson said: 'By providing the 4x4 we want to support rural crime officers to do

their job, which often involves accessing rough terrain and remote locations. NFU Mutual has supported the SPARC initiative since it launched because it operates across Scotland and has a clear strategy to tackle rural crime through visible policing, sharing intelligence and involving farmers and the wider community.'

Inspector Alan Dron, Police Scotland national rural crime co-ordinator, said: 'SPARC is about genuine partnerships and this vehicle which has been gifted by NFU Mutual further demonstrates the desire of all those on SPARC to work together, being visible and helping to prevent, reduce and tackle criminality in Scotland's rural communities and environments.'

Over the past four years NFU Mutual has invested more than £240,000 to support SPARC.



Bob Henderson of NFU Mutual, Police Scotland Inspector Alan Dron and Andy Purvis, NFU Mutual, with the 4x4 vehicle provided to SPARC. Alan Dron holds the SPARC award for Best Team at the UK Combined Industries Theft Solutions Conference.

NFU Mutual also supports an agricultural vehicle theft unit at the National Vehicle Crime

Intelligence Service which co-ordinates farm machinery theft intelligence between

NFU Mutual, police forces, Border Force and Interpol. For more information on

rural crime trends and advice, visit www.nfumutual.co.uk/ruralcrime.

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One of the longest serving Subaru and Isuzu dealers in the UK, S & S Services is glad to be able to showcase its New Year offers. It has been a tough time for showrooms as consumers are facing price rises and shortages of vehicles due to a global shortage in semiconductors. Father and son team, John and Matthew Spicer are both excited to be returning and seeing some familiar faces.

John said: "We are so excited to be back and we are bringing some fantastic models to showcase. We have been supporting the people of Argyll for over 30 years, through three generations, and during that time we have formed many

friends and founded a trusted, reliable business. Come meet us at Tesco Oban this January."

When asked, son Matthew said: "We look forward to seeing customers and we have so many offers available. Tesco car park is a hub for the town and people are used to seeing us there. Come and have a chat with us to start your New Year experience the right way." S & S Services was first started by Brian and Dulcie Spicer in November 1979 from a small building at Sandyford Toll, Ayr. Brian and Dulcie's son John joined the family business and for almost two decades cars were sold, serviced and many friendships formed. The family

business was further enhanced when John's wife Lesley joined the business in 1997. It was in the latter nineties that the business had outgrown the location and it now resides in an impressive state of the art

showroom and workshop at Ayr. Now on to the third generation with Matthew Spicer, business has flourished to unbelievable standards meaning that S & S are now the top UK Subaru dealer, achieving Subaru

UK's dealer of the year status continuously from 2007. S & S Services are your number one for Subaru, Isuzu and Great Wall franchise, with a large stock of new and used cars at competitive prices



**S & S Services has been supporting the people of Argyll for more that 30 years and its coming to you.
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DUNLOP - QUELCH
The marriage took place between Hugh and Rebecca on December 29, 2021 at Gretna Hall Hotel, Gretna Green.



KNIGHT-MILLAR
Both families take pleasure in announcing the marriage of Colleen, middle daughter of Robert & Elizabeth, Auchaleek, to David, only son of Gerald & Morag, Forfar, at Maryculter House Hotel, Aberdeen on 15th October 2021.
A wonderful day filled with lots of happy memories.

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Argyll and Bute Council

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EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 1980
CHOICE OF SCHOOL AND REGISTRATION
OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS
SESSION 2022/2023**



All children who reach the age of five years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for education during the week commencing 17 January 2022.

Usually children attend their local school however parents can make a request to place their child in any school under the management of the education authority. This is known as a placing request.

P1 registration, including placing requests for starting in August 2022, will take place online using the council's website. Details of the link will be published using social media and on the website. If you are unable to access the online registration form please call your local school week beginning 17 January 2022.

A list of all schools and documents relating to registration can be found on the council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/placing-your-child-school, this includes:-

- Gaelic Medium Education
- Denominational Schools
- Non-denominational Schools

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

The applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Having regard to Schedule 6, Part 3, s10 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, documents are only available to inspect electronically at this time. Customers requiring assistance can contact us by e-mail: planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk or tel. 01546 605518.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
21/01102/PP	Erection of 3 dwellinghouses and 2 flats. Installation of air source heat pumps, formation of access and parking arrangements and associated landscaping	Field Adjacent To Playpark, Isle Of Gigha, Argyll And Bute, PA41 7AD

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Councils website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008

Notice of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be published in a local newspaper under regulation 7(2)

The Kintyre Development Company, the prospective applicant, hereby gives notice of a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be undertaken in advance of the submission of two planning applications to Argyll and Bute Council for prospective development comprising

- 1) detailed planning application for formation of a golf course, maintenance building, access arrangements and car parking, hard and soft landscaping and associated uses on land north of West Darlochan and south and east of Kilchenzie, Kintyre
- 2) planning permission in principle for the erection of a 75-bed hotel, restaurant and leisure hub, up to 50 lodges, golf clubhouse, golf shop, access arrangements and car parking, hard and soft landscaping and associated uses on land north of Clochkeil Cottages, Machrihanish, Kintyre


Further information in respect of the prospective development may be obtained by contacting Robin Matthew, PPCA Limited, 39 Dunipace Crescent, Dunfermline KY12 7LZ; email – robin@ppca.co.uk; telephone 07515 796974.

A public event which will include a presentation of the prospective developments and opportunity for public discussion with the prospective applicant is to be held at Campbeltown Town Hall, 54 Main Street, Campbeltown PA28 6AB on 19th January 2022 between the hours of 1pm and 8pm.


Any persons wishing to submit comments should submit these to the prospective applicant at PPCA Limited, 39 Dunipace Crescent, Dunfermline KY12 7LZ or by email – robin@ppca.co.uk; before 9th February 2022.

Persons submitting comments in response to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) are advised that comments submitted to the prospective applicant at this time are not representations to the planning authority; in the event that prospective applicant submits a formal application for planning permission then there would be an opportunity to submit representations to Argyll and Bute Council as the planning authority at that time.

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Source: YouGov 2018

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February
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ENGAGEMENTS

ANDERSON - LITTLESON - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Christopher, elder son of Iain and Angela, to Jennifer, youngest daughter of Peter and Margaret.



MURRAY-SEMPLÉ

Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Ronan Martin, elder son of Martin and Sheila Murray, Derry, Northern Ireland and Ruth Mary, youngest daughter of Jim and Fiona Semple, Dalbhraddan Farm, Southend, Campbeltown.

DEATHS

BROCK - Peacefully after a short illness, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, on December 27, 2021, Mrs Flora Brock, nee Hardie, in her 94th year, of 13 Stag Park, Lochgilphead. Beloved and loving wife of the late Iain Brock; much loved sister of the late Mary Potts. A dearly loved aunt and cousin. A good neighbour and very dear friend to many. The funeral cortege will leave from Flora's home at 11.30am on Monday January 10, 2022, travelling along Lorne Street, Argyll Street and Bishopston Road en-route to Achnabreac Cemetery for a graveside service at

12noon. All friends are respectfully invited to attend

GLEN - Thomas Mitchell Glen. Peacefully at home, Tom Glen, aged 91 years of Roseneimhidh, Kames, Lochgair. Beloved Husband of the late Violet May Stuart. Dearly loved father of Christine, Moira, Alastair and the late Philip. Grandfather and Great Grandfather. A caring loving husband and father to his own and many other children in his care. A graveside Funeral Service will be held at Achnabreac Cemetery, on Thursday January 13, 2022, at 12noon. Family flowers only please. Donations to M.S Centre, Lochgilphead.

McKENZIE - Peacefully at her home, with her family by her side, after an illness borne bravely, on December 31, 2021, Eleanor McKenzie, nee Aitken aged 76 years of 3 Whitegates Court, Lochgilphead and formerly of North Lodge, Ormsary. Beloved wife of the late Peter McKenzie. Much loved and loving Mum of Alec, Isla and Lorna. Cherished Granny of Ross, Megan, Hayley, Kyle, Callum, Sophie and Rosie. Dearly loved Sister of Alick and the late Jimmy. Much respected mother-in-law of Kimberley, David and Charles. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will take place at Cardross Crematorium on Friday January 14, 2022 at 12.15pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Mary's Meals.

McMILLAN - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on December 28, 2021, Angela McMillan nee McShannon, in her 74th year, 98 Millknoe, Campbeltown, loving daughter of the late Donald and Olwyn McShannon, much loved sister of Brian, Gordon, Stephen, Elizabeth and Marie, a loving and much loved aunty and a special friend to many.

RICH - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on December 29, 2021, Margaret Rich nee Girvan, in her 89th year, 9 Smith Drive and formerly of Meadows Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late Charles and Peggy Girvan, much loved mum of Ann, Charlie, Ian and the late Margaret and a loving granny, great granny, sister and Aunt. Margaret's funeral will take place on Friday January 7, 2022 at 1.00pm in the Highland Parish Church. The cortege will leave the Highland Parish Church at 1.30 p.m. We will travel along Argyll Street, down Main Street and round the Cross on our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone is welcome to attend the service in the Church. Alternatively you may pay your last respects to Margaret along our route.

TAYLOR - Peacefully at home, Bayview, Southend, on December 26, 2021, Niall G Taylor, in his 97th year, dearly loved husband, best friend and companion of 57 years to Margaret. A dearly loved uncle and friend.

TODD - Peacefully at Mid Argyll Hospital on Friday December 31, 2021,

after a short illness. Mary (Myra) Todd, 93 years of Kingarth, Ardrishaig, dearly loved wife of the late Ian Todd, beloved mother of Carolyn & Claire and much loved Grandma to Lucy and Sophie, Alexander & Nicholas. Funeral service will be held in Ardrishaig Parish Church today Friday January 7, 2022 at 11am followed by the committal at Achnabreac Cemetery, to which all are welcome. In lieu of flowers we kindly ask for donations in Mary's memory to the Glenarary Ward or the Home Care team, all of whom provided exceptional care to our mother, at the services or via Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DOCHERTY - The family of the late John would like to thank everyone for their kindness and sympathy after the loss of John, special thanks to Rodger crooks and Donald MacDonald, Ian Campbell and the Stag hotel and the many people who lined the streets, also the family and friends that attended the service in cardross. Retiral collection for chest heart and stroke raised £200 also support from Lochgilphead red star

MEMORIAMS

McCALLUM - In loving memory of Muriel, who passed away January 7, 2018.

Your memory is a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure
- Richard and Sharon xxx

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Philippians 4:6-7
Join us on Sunday, 9 January at 11am for our morning service in the church. If you cannot make it in person, you can still join us online. To join the Zoom service, send your email address to officespringbankchurch@gmail.com and you will be sent a link to join us on Sunday via Zoom. Covid restrictions will apply in the building - masks and social distancing
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



Sunday services 10 am Saddell and Carradale Church SC002609
10 am Highland Church, Campbeltown SC002493
11.30am Southend Church SC005484
Covid 19 restrictions apply
Ministers Revd Steve Fulcher
Revd Christine Fulcher
01586 830504
www.kintyreparishes.org.uk

ST. MARGARET'S RC CHURCH
Lochgilphead
Holy Mass Sunday 10AM
ALL SAINTS INVERARAY
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr Henry Nkob
01546602380
All Welcome

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH
George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 9th January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Chris Holden
11.15am Sunday School
7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)
Wednesday 12th January
12 noon Bible Study and Prayer
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday 11am Holy Eucharist
St Columba, Pottaloch
1st Sunday Holy Communion 9am
3rd Sunday Evensong 3.30pm
(SCO13787, 31391)

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



A warm welcome awaits you in the Kirk Street Hall at 11:00am
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SC043322



SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

There will be a weekly service at Skipness 10am & Tarbert 11.30am - Rev. Lyn Peden
Please wear a face covering and stay 1 metre apart for the services
Contact Rev. Lyn Peden
01880 820158 for pastoral care
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Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 9th January
Morning Worship 11.15am
Gen 1 Triple C
Rev W Crossan
Everyone welcome
COVID Guidelines apply

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
Sunday 9th January
Hump-backed Pilgrims (Matthew 2)
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm
Wednesday
Time to Pause?
Ardrishaig Church Hall
12:45pm-1:15pm
Please note that Covid19 control measures apply at all Services (Distancing and masks will be required)

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 9th January
11.00am WORSHIP SERVICE
Jim Malcolm
More info at www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead Parish Church of Scotland - SC016311

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 9th January 2022
11.15am
Rev Walter Ritchie
All very welcome
Please remember to wear a mask

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH
Sunday 9 January
Tayvallich Church
10am Morning Worship
Booking required
Tel 01546 870635
Covid restrictions apply. Further information can be found on the church website
www.northknappdale.org

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE (Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)
Sunday 9th January 2022
There will be a service in Cumlodden church at 10.00am led by the worship team. There will also be a service in Inveraray Church at 11.30am led by the worship team. Please remember that masks must be worn while in church

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday 9th January
11am Worship Service
11am Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Service
Wednesdays 12pm Lunch club
7pm Make & Munch Craft Group
Covid 19 measures in place
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A bracing welcome for 2022

The chilly waters of Argyll welcomed some very short-term visitors as 2022 was seen in with a number of new year dooks up and down our coastline



Various choices of swimwear were demonstrated as hardy souls took to the Sound of Jura at Carsaig near Tayvallich to wash away the cobwebs, accompanied by John Hunt on the pipes.



Above: Looks a bit on the chilly side in Loch Fyne at this New Year's Day dook at the Newton, Inveraray.



Left: Inveraray swimmers avoiding hypothermia (hopefully) at last.



Santa and supporters spread good cheer around the region.

Santa's Round Table tour spreads cheer

With the help of their friends, Mid Argyll Round Table members were once again out and about spreading glad tidings of great joy over Christmas.

Starting in Tarbert on December 16, Santa and his merry band of followers travelled the region on their Magical Santa 'bubble' Bus, courtesy of West Coast Motors.

Supported by seasonal tunes from piper John Hunt, the four-night tour – also taking

in Ardrishaig, Lochgilhead, Kilmartin Glen and Inveraray – provided a welcome happy end to a year lacking a little in good cheer.

A collection for good causes moved online this year – the Round Table's Just Giving page raising almost £800 to boost local groups at a time when help is much needed.

Colin MacFarlane of Mid Argyll Round Table said: 'It all went well once again. I think

the use of the bus and providing a bus timetable, which we stick to, means a lot more people can see us.

'As well as thanking everyone who came along for sticking to the rules, we'd especially like to thank West Coast Motors for use of their festive bus and for their staff's time.

'Stand-outs were our driver Robert Mackay, our piper John Hunt and, of course, Santa himself.'

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A Scot's 5,000-mile trek across Canada...

Mid Argyll crews roar to rally success in Elgin

The final round of the Marshall Construction Scottish Tarmac Rally Championships saw two Argyll crews head north to the Milltown stages in Elgin.

This venue was being used for the first time in many years and was the culmination of a lot of hard work by the organising team.

A number of drivers and co-drivers were vying for the top spot and the important final championship standings.

Alister Inglis in his Fiesta R5 had been pretty dominant in the earlier parts of the season and was probably favourite to grab the overall championship.

Mid Argyll, however, sent two crews into this final round with a realistic chance of causing an upset.

Jamie Miller, Lochgilphead – although now ‘up the road’ – is very much involved in everything that



Jamie Miller and Ian McCulloch in their Citroen C2R2 MAX.

happens in Argyll rallying. He and co-driver Ian McCulloch, headed to Milltown with the best chance yet

of clinching a championship in their Citroen C2 R2 Max.

Things, though, didn't get off to a great start for Jamie with the car developing a fairly serious brake issue – ie no brakes at all – meaning that they limped through a very slippery stage one and then, in his own words, ‘drove like a pensioner’ for much of the rest of the day.

What had been a brilliant season for the team was mildly soured by mechanical issues but Jamie takes some solace from finishing third overall for the 2021 championship.

It should be noted that Jamie's long-suffering co-driver Ian sealed second spot in the overall co-driver's championship on the day too.

Father and daughter combo Innes and Kirty Mochrie also took to the roads and travelled some six hours to get to Elgin on the Friday.

Once again the Mighty Metro had defied the odds and embarrassed

a lot of much more expensive and powerful machinery and they, too, were now sitting on the start line of stage one of the final round knowing that they could, with the right combination of results, walk away as overall champions of the year.

A rare mistake on stage one saw the car bounce off a tyre or two but get away with it by missing the important components and only dislodging the light bar.

A steady run from there on saw the crew finish third in class on the day which was enough for Innes to capture second overall driver in the championship, while Kirsty capped

a fantastic first full season with the overall co-driver's title.

Alister Inglis held on to the overall title spot – despite a hairy moment when the Fiesta lost a wheel in the final stage of the day.

That aside, it was a strong year from the Stonehaven driver.

We look forward to a full 2022 season, Covid permitting, in conjunction with Dunfermline Car Club and the new main title sponsors Burnside Piling.

Words and pictures: Gavin Brown,
West Coast Photos



Overall championship winners Alister Inglis and Colin Inglis in their Fiesta, with a full complement of wheels.



The trusty Metro belonging to Innes and Kirsty Mochrie.

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