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MELODIC MEMORIES



Bar None community choir gives its funds to local causes as it comes to an end.

● FULL STORY PAGE 8

'Something has to change' as tenants lose their homes

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

An MSP has branded it 'shocking' that tenants of Kilberry homes – as the area emerges from 19 months of pandemic stress – are being moved out so their properties can be sold.

Argyll and Bute MSP Jenni Minto made the comment as families are faced with finding new homes in an area where there is virtually no rental property available.

The landlord is perfectly within their rights to sell, but it leaves one family with six months' notice – to be out their home by April 5 2022.

In pre-Covid times this would have been two months, but this has been extended by the Scottish Government following the pandemic.

The property will be on the market in the next few weeks.

Other tenants have been advised to expect notices to quit when their properties are put up for sale in the near future.

Continued on page 3.

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Plans to repair Inveraray sea wall

A damaged A83 sea wall on the shores of Loch Fyne is scheduled for repair 'later this year'.

Traffic lights have been in place on the A83 trunk road at the Lochgilphead side of Inveraray for a few months now as a precaution, pushing all traffic on to the Inveraray-bound lane.

A spokesperson for BEAR Scotland explained: 'The temporary traffic lights cur-

rently operational on the A83 near the Loch Fyne Hotel in Inveraray were put in place as a safety precaution earlier this year after teams discovered some undermining behind the sea wall.

'Since then, teams have undertaken investigations including geotechnical inspections, 3D topographic surveys and ground-penetrating radar surveys.

'Engineers are currently



Stones have been dislodged in Loch Fyne storms and the sea wall should be repaired later this year. 51_a42InveraraySeaWall03

assessing this information and preparing a design.

'Once this is completed, we will be in a position to programme the works which are anticipated to get under way later this year.

'The temporary traffic lights

will remain in place until the work is completed to ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

'We would like to thank road users and members of the community for their continued patience.'



The A83 has been reduced to one lane as a safety measure.

51_a42InveraraySeaWall01

Overnight resurfacing closures for A82 by loch

Major £470,000 resurfacing improvements on a 2km stretch of the A82 by Loch Lomond, from Ardlui to Kenmore Wood, began on Sunday October 10.

The work sees closures and convoys overnight from 8pm to 6am for the next two weeks.

No works are planned for Friday or Saturday nights. Access for emergency services will be maintained at all times. Transport Scotland has scheduled the works in four stages:

■ A82 Kenmore Wood – Sunday October 10 to Wednesday October 13 (four

nights). A road closure will be in place between Tarbet and Crianlarich during overnight working hours. A signed diversion route will be in place via the A83, A819 and A85.

■ A83 Ardlui Station – Thursday October 13 to Sunday October 17 (two nights, excluding Friday and Saturday). A road closure will be in place between Tarbet and Crianlarich during overnight working hours. A signed diversion route will be in place via the A83, A819 and A85.

■ A82 North of Ardlui (Phase one) – Monday October 18 to

Wednesday October 20 (three nights). A road closure will be in place between Tarbet and Crianlarich during overnight working hours. A signed diversion route will be in place via the A83, A819 and A85.

■ A82 North of Ardlui (Phase two) – Thursday October 21 to Tuesday October 26 (four nights, excluding Friday and Saturday). A 10mph convoy system will be in place during overnight working hours. The A82 will remain open during the daytime to keep disruption to a minimum, with a temporary 30mph speed limit, as

drivers will be travelling over a temporary surface.

Eddie Ross, BEAR Scotland's North West representative, said the work would improve the quality and safety of the road.

'The traffic management proposed, involving road closures or the use of a convoy system, is essential to the safety of roadworkers and motorists given the narrow road widths present at these locations.

'We've taken steps to limit the overall impact of the project by carrying out the required work overnight,' he added.

POLICE FILES

No MOT and incorrect licence

On Tuesday October 5 at 1.25am, police carried out routine checks on a vehicle on Lochnell Street, Lochgilphead. It was found the vehicle did not have a valid MOT test certificate.

The driver, a 34-year-old woman, was spoken to and at this time was also found to have incorrect details on her driving licence.

She was cautioned and charged with the offences and a report is to be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Drugs in vehicle

At 8.30pm on Tuesday October 5 a motorist was stopped by police on the A83 at Lochgair.

The driver, a man aged 54, was detained for the purposes of a drug search and a small amount of herbal cannabis was recovered

from the vehicle. He was issued with a recorded police warning.

Cannabis found

Police officers in Lochgilphead had cause to stop and detain a 37-year-old man for the purposes of a drug search on Lochnell Street at 10.25pm on Tuesday October 5.

He was issued with a recorded police warning after being found to be in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis.

Recorded police warning

About 2pm on Saturday October 9 at Union Street, Lochgilphead, police had cause to stop and detain a man, aged 27, for the purposes of a drug search.

After a small amount of herbal cannabis was recovered in the search, he was issued with a recorded police warning.

Arrest after Taynuilt hit-and-run

Police have arrested a 24-year-old man after a man died on the A85 near Taynuilt following a suspected hit-and-run.

The man has been released pending further enquiries into the incident, which happened around 1am on Sunday October 10 on the A85 at Kirkton and led to the death of 61-year-old Jimmy Harris, who lived in Taynuilt.

Detective Inspector Scott Hamilton said: 'Our thoughts are with Jimmy's family and friends at this time, as they come to terms with their tragic loss.

'Our investigation into this incident remains ongoing and we continue to appeal for

anyone with any information to please come forward.'

Anyone with information is asked to call Police Scotland on 101, quoting incident number 0293 of October 10, 2021.

Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Tenants to lose homes as landlord sells properties

Continued from page 1.

One said: 'There is nowhere locally available where people can rent. The only option might be a holiday chalet or static caravan. What they are doing is pushing folk into cities.'

Jonathan Sheldrick, with six months to find a new home,

said: 'One thing we looked at was community right to buy, but we have been advised that this process would take too long.'

'Anything we do needs to be done quickly, and that's part of the problem.'

'And anything we offer is likely to be more than matched

by holiday home buyers. With yet more holiday lets or second homes, it affects our community and has the overall effect of diminishing everything.'

Lochaber-based land campaigner Andy Wightman agrees and told the Advertiser: 'My view on residential tenancies is that no tenant should be

evicted because the landlord wants to sell, because that is their home.'

'Alternatively the landlord could wait until the tenant leaves and then sell with vacant possession.'

Argyll and Bute MSP Jenni Minto has been contacted by the tenants for advice and she passed the case to Minister for Environment and Land Reform Mairi McAllan MSP.

Ms Minto said: 'I find it shocking that this has occurred given what has happened over the last 19 months during the Covid-19 pandemic.'

'Families who have survived the pandemic and were looking forward to getting back to normality are now facing more upheaval.'

'I sincerely hope a suitable outcome can be found for my constituents.'

Ms McAllan responded by outlining the differences between residential and agricultural tenancies and suggested the tenants seek advice through organisations such as Citizens Advice Scotland and Shelter Scotland.

The number of young working families in Argyll has fallen in the past couple of decades as homes become unaffordable, while second homes and holiday lets take their place.

The issue has manifested itself in falling school rolls, struggling local shops and services, disappearing church congregations and, with few young people around, struggling clubs and sports teams.

And local culture and tra-



Kilberry tenants face having to find new homes.

51_a42KilberryTenants01



Weeded and cleaned up ahead of the big busking day.

Shipshape for pier busking day

Inveraray's stone pier has been given a much-needed clean by a team of volunteers led by Donald MacDonald of DA MacDonald contractors and Al Rodden ahead of a big day of fundraising.

Buskers will entertain around town on Saturday October 16 in aid of a community bid to buy the pier.

Arguably the world's best piper, Inveraray's Stuart Liddell, will perform to launch the Pipers for Piers and Buskers for Bollards event at 10am.

Linda Divers, Inveraray Community Council convenor, said: 'I'm hopeful that the buskers around town in the morning and on the green from midday will not only help boost the pier fund through public generosity, but raise awareness about the project.'

To finish the day, there will be a jam session in the George Hotel beer garden from 6pm prior to the regular Saturday entertainment starting at 8.30pm.

The pier fund target is £100,000, with £16,000 already raised.



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Native oysters back where they belong at Craignish

by Fiona Ross
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Almost a quarter of a million native oysters have now been introduced to Loch Craignish following a weekend of community volunteering.

On Sunday October 10, a community working party released 20,000 oysters on to the seabed at Craignish as part of a five-year project run by the charity Seawilding, which aims to reintroduce one million native oysters.

The protected species was once prevalent in most Scottish sea lochs but predation, disease and bottom trawling have destroyed most populations.

It is now recognised that native oyster beds are an important part of their local marine eco-system.

Each oyster can filtrate and clean up to 200 litres of water a day and the native oyster reefs enhance biodiversity by becoming fish spawning



grounds and nurseries. Earlier this year the charity Seawilding secured a National Lottery heritage fund grant to grow young native oysters over a five-year period in floating baskets on

the loch. When they are semi-mature, the oysters will be moved to trial seabed sites around Loch Craignish where it is hoped they will become a self-sustaining population.



Craignish is on its way to being inhabited with one million native oysters.

Project Co-ordinator Danny Renton, said: 'This is a pioneering project driven by the Craignish community. Loch Craignish was once a rich environment for native oysters, and scallops in particular, but bottom trawling since the 1980s has destroyed

much of the seabed. Our community wants to reverse that.

'We hear a lot about rewilding, but there's little action been taken so far with restoration of marine habitats – so what we are doing at Loch Craignish is an exciting opportunity to show that marine rewilding and reintroduction of priority marine species is possible.'

Each oyster hoister houses 30 mature oysters which will help to clean up the marina water as well as releasing spat, adding to the wider restoration effort in the loch.

The hoisters are sponsored by members of the community and boat owners and the plan is to suspend around 30 cages by the end of the year.

The project is working alongside the Scottish Association for Marine Science and the Department of Aquaculture from Stirling University to enable 20 marine science students to monitor, survey and research the restoration efforts over the next five years.

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Tarbert voted top marina for 2021

Tarbert Harbour has been voted Marina of the Year by Scotland's national boating club.

The accolade came this week from Sailing Cruising Scotland following a national vote.

A spokesperson for Tarbert harbour said: 'We are delighted to receive this award and would like to extend our thanks to everyone who voted for us.'

The accolade comes after the completion of a £700,000 project to improve services at Tarbert harbour.

The initiative by Tarbert Harbour Authority has involved new toilets, showers and a laundry and the old toilet block converted into a new harbour office, reception and chandlery.

A new waste pump-out station and a purpose-built waste/recycling area have also been completed.

The project was supported by £300,000 from the Coastal Communities Fund, with Argyll and Bute Council contributing £125,000 as



part of the Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund.

A further £267,000 came from the Tarbert Harbour Authority.

Phases

The shoreside project consisted of five phases, with the first of these being the the new toilet, shower and laundry block with upgraded disabled facilities, which opened in December 2018.

Phases two to four involved the building of the new office and chandlery plus the pump-out station and recycling area and the fifth

and final phase covered an extension to parking at the harbour.

It is estimated Tarbert harbour contributes approximately £850,000 a year to the community.

Sailing Cruising Scotland members who voted Tarbert to the top spot were keen to sing its praises saying: 'Great facilities and beautiful surrounding'; 'It just had to be. Tarbert Harbour is the best' and 'Big credit due and especially to the team that kept the shower block operational. Great team work all round.'



A food share scheme in Lochgilphead has been a great success.

Bring your own bag and get some veggies

It makes perfect sense and, in the words of one of the scheme organisers, 'puts veggies into bellies'.

Lochgilphead-based MS Centre Argyll has been working in partnership with Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) and the Lochgilphead Co-op to offer a food share of surplus produce to the community.

The programme has been a huge success and MS Centre manager Karen McCurry said: 'On every day we have food outside the centre - which is Monday, Thursday and Friday at least - we have a large number of people

collecting food for themselves, their friends, relatives and neighbours.

'The food share is for all in the community and saves food from going to waste. Some members of the community will use the vegetables to make soups to give out to their neighbours, which is fantastic.

'During the winter months, with the help of volunteers, we will be making soups which will be out on the table on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

'It helps reduce waste and gets veggies into bellies.'

To enjoy the produce, just bring your own bag and take what you need.

For one night only - Ardrishaig is Paris

Mid Argyll Arts Association (MAAA) transported the audience to the pavement cafés of Paris for a night of musical magic.

In reality, the venue on Saturday October 2 was the newly-refurbished Ardrishaig Public Hall and the performers were Les Trois Blondes - Scotland's only Bal-musette band playing classical Parisian café music.

The trio comprised John Burns on first accordion with second accordionist James Coutts and Fergus Wood on drums - who doubled up as an informative compere.

The hall was laid out with tables adorned with checked tablecloths and candles, so once the music started with a typical musette-style waltz it set the flavour of the evening.

The audience was provided with a snapshot of historical background and the introduc-



Les Trois Blondes - Scotland's only Bal-musette band playing classic Parisian café music.

tion of the accordion to the café culture of France in the 1920s and its development, before some information on the music and composers.

The pieces performed were all dances - waltzes, foxtrots, polkas, quicksteps and tangos.

Much of the music was well-known with highlights including a foxtrot C'est Si Bon, Under the Bridges of

Paris and the theme for 'Allo, 'Allo, which everyone knew.

It wasn't all Parisian, as a selection of Gaelic waltzes and a set of Irish jigs were included.

Concinnous Waltz, an intricate piece composed by John Burns for his band, was included in the programme.

For jazz fans, the exciting, bluesy foxtrot Nuages wouldn't have been out of place in a jazz

club, which Les Trois Blondes was happy to perform.

This was the first MAAA concert back in the refurbished hall and it was great to be back.

The audience enjoyed the atmosphere of the Parisian café if the smiles, gently-tapping feet and enthusiastic applause were anything to go by.

The association's next performance is Antigone, Interrupted by the Scottish Dance Theatre on Friday October 22 with a workshop on Saturday October 23.



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Science matters

DOROTHY H CRAWFORD



The elephant's nose

Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories, published in 1902, attribute the African elephant's long nose to Elephant Child tugging to escape the grasp of a hungry crocodile.

These days, however, most of us believe that the elephant's trunk evolved over time and has now become a very useful tool for our largest terrestrial animals.

This long, boneless appendage weighs more than 100kg and is unique among land fauna. It is multi-functional, transporting air and water, it is used for smelling, tasting, feeding, breathing, blowing, syphoning, washing, grabbing, carrying objects and sometimes even as a snorkel.

African elephants - *Loxodonta africana* - are herbivores, eating up to 200kg a day, spending up to 18 hours foraging for grass, fruits, leaves and tree bark.

Now a group of scientists has investigated exactly how elephants use their trunks to maximise their intake of nutrients*.

Using different sized cubes of rutabaga - swede - a root vegetable - they found that to pick up just a few rutabaga cubes the elephant used the prehensile tip of its trunk, where two finger-like projections pick up, smell and taste what's on offer.



The African savannah elephant. Photograph: Felix Andrews/Wikimedia Commons

But for more or larger cubes and for flat, leaf-like tortilla chips it used suction feeding, hoovering up the items with a loud vacuuming sound, resembling a feeding mechanism mainly seen among fish.

Investigating the animals' adaptation to suction feeding further, the scientists showed that elephants have the widest nostrils of any mammal examined and can generate very high lung pressures.

Consequently they can inhale at air velocities 30 times the spray speed of a human sneeze, even reaching the 150 metres-per-second of high-speed electric trains.

These high air speeds enable elephants to use suction and blowing to access out-of-reach food items, even reflecting an air jet off a solid surface to blow food closer.

The dual purpose transport of air and water in an elephant's trunk has already inspired advances in robotics designed to refuel ships or provide air to trapped victims and the authors of this report hope their new findings will spawn further advances.

*AK Schultz et al J. R. Soc. Interface 18, 20210215. 2021.

Councillors' expenses fall during pandemic

Just over £10,000 in expenses was claimed by Argyll and Bute councillors in the 2020/21 financial year - less than 10 per cent of what was claimed the year before.

The amount paid out to the authority's councillors had already fallen for four years on the trot before the Covid-19 pandemic led to meetings being staged remotely.

That, in turn, led to significantly less mileage being claimed, though the bulk of the £10,289 in the year's expenses was for miles covered on council business.

An additional £7,166 was paid out by the council for telephone and ICT expenses, which the authority meets directly.

Including salaries, councillors were paid more than £727,000 in 2020/21.

Kintyre and the Islands Liberal Democrat councillor Robin Currie, who became the authority's new leader in September, claimed the most with £2,405.

As well as £594 in mileage, he was also awarded £851 to cover ferry fares from his home on Islay, and £890 for overnight accommodation.

In addition to being leader, Councillor Currie is also chair



of the policy and resources committee and environment, development and infrastructure committee. He also sits on committees operated by national bodies.

His predecessor as leader, Helensburgh Central Liberal Democrat councillor Aileen Morton, claimed the next most with £1,152, virtually all of which was mileage.

Her fellow Helensburgh Central councillor, Conservative Gary Mulvaney, claimed £665, all of it mileage, in his role as the council's deputy leader.

Councillor David Kinniburgh (Conservative, Helensburgh and Lomond South), who became the area's Provost in November, claimed £265, all of which was mileage.

A number of councillors were paid no expenses at all, other than the telephone and

ICT expenses which are met directly by the authority.

The total of expenses paid out, after deduction of phone and ICT costs, is a small fraction of the £104,925 which was claimed by councillors in 2019/20.

The figure was £116,892 in 2018/19, and £129,772 in the previous financial year.

Executive director Douglas Hendry said: 'All meetings of the council, committees and members' seminars and development sessions were held on a virtual platform during the 20/21 financial year.'

'This has been in response to the coronavirus pandemic, which saw the council take steps to reduce the risk for its members, staff and citizens, while ensuring the authority remained able to continue to exercise its essential functions.'

'Additional training was undertaken by elected members in relation to the technology, knowledge and skills necessary to support the transition to a virtual environment.'

A return to in-person meetings of the council, or potential hybrid arrangements, continues to be explored by the authority with a further update due in November.

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Art and smarten-up for Tarbert thrift shop

Thanks to a shop front improvement grant from Argyll and Bute Council, the Tarbert Church of Scotland was able to spruce up its charity shop in the village.

The 75 per cent grant helped towards the cost of painting and erecting new signs at the thrift shop with a specially-commissioned painting of Tarbert with the prominent church and a Church of Scotland emblem.

The painting is the remarkable work of talented Tarbert artist Matthew Manao, who studied fine art at Glasgow School of Art, and it makes the perfect connection between the thrift shop to the church.

The thrift shop provides a major part of the income for the church and has been a lifeline to keeping the church going for many years.

It has helped provide funds for disabled access to the church through the sale of merchandise with images gifted to the church by prominent Mid Argyll artist Jolomo, the late John Leckie and Molly Smith, supported by monetary donations and by



A smart-looking Tarbert thrift shop, complete with Matthew's artwork above the door.

the sale of 'virtual' bricks. Lisa MacFarlane of Tarbert church said: 'We are grateful for the support of the community and the many visitors to Tarbert.'

'Feel free to join the Church of Scotland in Tarbert, Kilberry and Skipness Facebook page for updates on the church and thrift shop.'

The shop front improvement grant uses Scottish Government Town Centre Funding with the aim of supporting the local economy by providing employment for tradespeople while helping towns become more attractive places to live, work, visit and invest.

Work complete on White Shore path

One of Tarbert's most popular walks has been given a new lease of life thanks to community volunteers and Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust (TSCT).

The White Shore walk runs from the car park at Garval to the White Shore on Loch Fyne.

Over the last few years the path to the White Shore - a popular picnic spot and where generations of youngsters have learned to swim - has fallen into disrepair, but thanks to volunteers and grant funding from TSCT, the path has been gravelled and new board walks and steps installed.

This 20-minute walk is a beautiful one which changes with the season.

In summer you can expect to see primroses, daffodils and bluebells - you might even hear the first cuckoo of the year here.

In summer, the trees give

welcome shade along the way, with red squirrels regularly spotted, while in autumn red, orange and gold leaves lie in a thick carpet for walkers to crunch through.

TSCT chairwoman Sheila Campbell said: 'Thanks to everyone who helped with the repairs. Particular thanks go to the family 'bubble' who, during the second lockdown, dragged sandbags to stabilise the path at the burn.'

'Their work was immense and inspired the trust to take action.'

'I'd also like to thank Argyll and Bute Council, Tesco Bags for Life and Paths for All for grant funding and Stephen Johnstone for his work leading the repairs.'

'In spring we will carry out our beach clean following the winter storms. Thank you to all those who take a bag along and collect any rubbish as they



go along. It really does make a difference.'

Future works include a new interpretation board at the start of the walk in Garval car park.

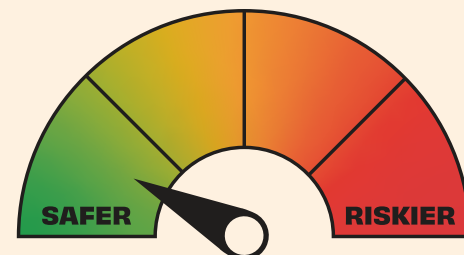
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*Exemptions apply





Choir members were delighted to meet up again with Stephen, front, as he visited Lochgilphead last Friday - jazz hands and all.

mp_a42Choir02

Ian Davidson receives the £500 donation on behalf of Lochgilphead Parish Church from Mhairi MacVicar and Stephen Povey. 51_a42Choir01



Bar None ends on community high note as Stephen departs

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

With the departure of conductor and leader Stephen Povey, community choir Bar None has decided to call it a day

after nine years of harmony. Members admitted to being 'devastated' to see Stephen move on, but since he has been there from the beginning and with the choir very much bearing his stamp, it seemed

only right to end the choir in its current form.

Funds accumulated over the years thanks to performances at big Argyll events will be distributed to 10 local good causes, each receiving £500.

Stephen moved in August to a new teaching position at St Mungo's High School in Falkirk.

On his first trip back to Lochgilphead since then, Stephen told the Advertiser: 'I spent 10 great years in Argyll, so it was time for a wee change.'

'I've already started as conductor for Sing Forth adult community choir in Falkirk. But it feels quite strange after being with Bar None for nine years. It's a long time to be together and I have to say I miss them.'

'With Bar None, I was there from the start; we started it together so it feels quite strange moving to another choir which has been going for a similar amount of time. It's been going well so far, though.'

Bar None treasurer and choir member Mhairi MacVicar said: 'We're gutted to see Stephen go. Obviously the pandemic meant we couldn't sing together and we were looking forward to getting back together.'

'We were devastated when Stephen broke the news to us that he was moving on.'

'We can't replace Stephen. He has his own style, he knows us all and it was his choir.'

'Sometimes we got what he was after right away, but there were other times when it took a while for us to fully grasp what he was looking for, but we would gradually build until everything fell into place and it would sound amazing. He just knew the people, their voices and pushed our capabilities.'

'Without Stephen and his unique arranging of songs, his character and knowledge of what works for us, we couldn't possibly continue to function as the same choir.'



Bar None performing at the Best of the West festival at Inveraray Castle in September 2017. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

Bar None choir performed at many events over the years, including gigs at Best of the West, FyneFest and Gig in the Goil as well as entertaining all over the region.

But it was about more than just the music.

Mhairi explained: 'The choir has a definite social side. It got people out the house on a Monday night for practices to meet other folk and it definitely boosts mental and physical wellbeing. We all loved it.'

'It was very sociable and a great excuse to meet up and have a chat.'

Stephen chipped in, laughing: 'Too much chat sometimes.'

Mhairi paid tribute to everyone behind the scenes who kept the choir functioning, including chairwoman Fiona Munro and secretary Lorna Clark.

She also acknowledged the support of Lochgilphead Parish Church on the choir's behalf and particularly Ian Davidson holding the hall keys.

'Thanks to Ian for his patience,' said Mhairi. 'Many a time he waited patiently in the hall while we ran through it 'one more time' when he could have been at home with a dram.'

Stephen added: 'We found our home in the church hall and in the church as well. We used the church for the amazing acoustics and our concert there a few years ago was a big highlight of the choir's time.'

With her treasurer's hat on, Mhairi continued: 'Over the years, having been paid for performances at festivals and, with limited outgoings, we accumulated a healthy bank balance. As a community choir, we wanted to give back locally and chose 10 organisations to each receive £500.'

'These are all related to the choir in some way, either personally to members, or through having sung for them, with them or just having a connection to music.'

'We are gutted to have to give up Bar None, but delighted to be benefiting such great causes after a year and a half when fundraising has been almost impossible.'

The groups are: Lochgilphead Parish Church, The Dochas Centre/Circle of friends group, Lochgilphead 1st Brownies, Lochgilphead Resource Centre, the MS Centre, Marie Curie, MAYDS for their J.A.M sessions, Dementia choir, Mid Argyll Youth Chorus and Mid Argyll Pipe Band.



COVID BOOSTER VACCINATIONS

23RD & 24TH OCTOBER 2021

VICTORIA HALL CAMPBELTOWN

WHO CAN ATTEND:-
Anyone over 50 who has had their 2nd dose of covid vaccine **MORE THAN 6 MONTHS AGO** and those who are immunosuppressed or clinically vulnerable

IMPORTANT NOTE: YOU MUST HAVE HAD YOUR 2ND COVID DOSE BEFORE 1ST MAY 2021 TO ATTEND THIS CLINIC

SATURDAY 23RD OCTOBER 2021:

10am – 1pm • OVER 80s & CLINICALLY VULNERABLE

1.30pm – 4pm • AGES 65 - 80 & CLINICALLY VULNERABLE

SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2021:

10am – 1pm • AGES 55 - 65 & CLINICALLY VULNERABLE

1.30pm – 4pm • AGES 50 - 55 & CLINICALLY VULNERABLE

Joanne helps make cycling easier in Mid Argyll through bothy's bikes

Joanne Clark has been in post as Ardrishaig Bothy project co-ordinator since early September.

Her mission is to encourage people to walk and cycle for everyday journeys.

Ardrishaig Bothy itself is one of a number of bothies around Scotland operated by national

cycling charity Cycling UK. Hosted by Scottish Canals at Ardrishaig Pier, the bothy focuses on raising awareness of cycling and walking routes, increasing confidence in people's travel journeys, creating partnerships to enable bikes on buses and improving local route knowledge.

It also offers a platform for the community to share feedback and suggestions.

Joanne, from Lochgilphead, succeeded Alec Ohnstad in the role and is looking to build on progress already achieved by Alec.

She explained: 'To help people to cycle and walk more we are working with local businesses and organisations to ensure access is as widely available as possible.'

The bothy has a number of electric bikes, or 'ebikes' in partnership with Mid Argyll Community Pool as well as traditional modern bikes available for the community to borrow for two-week trials. These can be used to commute, exercise daily or for daily tasks.

There are also weekly social rides which begin at the bothy and vary in length.

These are inclusive, social-

ly-distanced pedals which people of all cycling abilities are welcome to join.

The Bothy also offers one-to-one confidence-building rides for those who would rather ride at a slower pace and practise their cycling skills.

Joanne said: 'The led rides are available to anyone and it doesn't matter what your ability is or whether you haven't been on a bike for a while. We are also looking at organising some led walks as well.'

Businesses can also borrow bikes for a trial period to see if they work for them.

For more information or to sign up for led rides or walks, contact joanne.clark@cyclin-guk.org.

Sarah Taylor of social care firm CarrGomm uses one of the bothy's ebikes to commute for work.



New Ardrishaig Bothy project co-ordinator Joanne Clark.

51_a42ArdrishaigBothy02

An advertisement for COVID-19 testing. It features a close-up of a brown doormat with the words 'DO THE TEST' written on it in black capital letters. The doormat is placed on a white tiled floor. To the right of the doormat, the text 'A wee reminder.' is written in large, bold, black font. Below that, 'Let's stop the spike.' is written in a slightly smaller bold black font. At the bottom right, the website 'NHSinform.scot/testing' is listed in a smaller black font.

A wee reminder.

Let's stop the spike.

NHSinform.scot/testing

The Softer Crofter

FIONA ROSS

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



Crofting chaos as pigs dig for freedom

They have an open-plan log cabin, an expansive woodland playground, daily food deliveries and stunning views, but it seems that's not enough.

The pigs have itchy trotters and all bets are off each morning when it comes to the porcine headcount.

Like Steve McQueen and his pals, these guys make their great escape via a system of secret tunnels.

Our regular patrols around the pig perimeter show no signs of potential escape routes, yet each morning roll-call flags up some missing persons.

Their getaway efforts are pretty much in vain, however, as at the first sounds of bucket-filling the thick bracken in the neighbouring field erupts with a cacophony of grunts and squeals and the AWOL

The pigs plot their next great escape.

crew come thundering home. They are none of them piglets or wieners any more, yet their Houdini antics seem they would only be achievable by animals much more petite than our strapping big boys.

Their rooting and foraging along dykes and fences leave wee dips in the dirt, but only a fraction of the size of our guys' girths.

Yet they escape every single day.

To be fair they're not packing a bag and jumping on the 926 to Campbeltown, they're just digging up the adjacent drying green, but it's a pain in the backside. Literally.

One of the regular culprits



thinks he's an adolescent Labrador and constantly jumps up on whoever of us

is unfortunate enough to be carrying the bucket of feed.

Try carrying kilos of sow rolls while climbing a fence and heaving tonnes of cattle-handling gates into a configuration that will allow the return of these reprobates. Then try that with the encouragement of a hefty Tamworth headbutting your bum.

Oh well, they'll be due a trip to Mull in the coming months and eventually a wealth of Christmas hams will materialise and we'll miss their fun and frolics.

It will be time then to indulge their larger, hairier neighbours with a bit of attention as the Highland cows have been disappointingly independent throughout the summer.

They'll saunter over for the occasional bit of grooming or a wee scratch and a chat, but mostly the summer's plentiful water supply and abundant



All set to feed the Highland lassies through the winter.

grazing have made us pretty much redundant recently in terms of cattle management.

But we're prepped and ready to go when the thermometer drops and the girls look to us for their catering requirements.

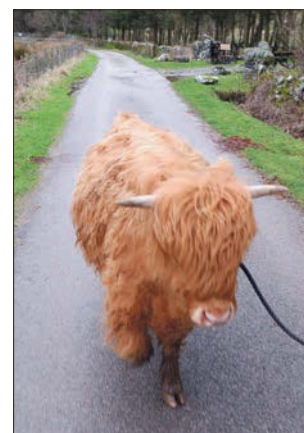
A lorry loaded with 150 bales of hay pulled up in the village last week and we joined two sets of neighbours to offload it on a dark and dreich night.

We made a great team filling each other's trailers with plenty of heaving, chucking, stacking and occasional counting - when we remembered.

Somehow it was less fun the next day back on the croft with the trailer stranded on the drive a seriously sweaty and peching distance from the hayshed.

One by one we lifted, lugged and laid the 50 bales in their winter home and maybe felt just slightly smug at the fruits of our labours, but surely it would be a sad and pathetic person that would then perform a sneaky web-search entitled 'hay bale stacking calories...'

600 per hour, if you're asking.



The Highlanders have been fending for themselves all summer - apart from the odd groom.



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Responsible tourism and a world-class destination

David Adams McGilp, right, regional director for VisitScotland, discusses the importance of responsible tourism in recovery from the pandemic:

Operators across the visitor economy in Argyll and the Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond and Dunbartonshire go into the final months of the year responding diligently and often creatively to numerous different challenges posed by the pandemic.

Trading conditions are still extremely difficult for many, despite the lifting of restrictions through spring and summer.

Scots and those elsewhere in the UK have been rediscovering our region and we have been working with visitors and communities to ensure we maintain our stunning landscapes, protect, respect and enjoy our countryside and by asking people to leave no physical trace of their visit through a number of national responsible tourism marketing campaigns this year.

Environmental change is one of the biggest challenges facing our tourism and events sector. There is around £12m of investment in tourism-related infrastructure and supply-chain improvement through the Argyll and Bute Rural Growth Deal and we are working with all partners to prioritise projects and provide sustainable business models across the region.

Working together, we can help Scotland become a world-class destination, and the best destination for responsible tourism.

With the easing of restrictions for international travel, engagement with global markets is a key priority and almost 200 people joined our recent industry webinar 'Marketing Scotland internationally'.

Our new £6.5 million global



marketing campaign - Scotland is Calling - is designed to support the recovery of Scotland's tourism industry, by keeping Scotland front of mind with high-spending international visitors.

We've also launched a new travel trade platform which will enable Scottish businesses to connect with key buyers from around the globe regardless of the challenges of Covid-19.

'Tourism and events are a force for good... because they enrich our lives socially'

Discover Scotland 2022 is a new event series, comprising an online business-to-business event with five regional showcases.

Discover Scotland: Reconnect 2022 will take place virtually on April 5-7, 2022. The five regional showcases, known as Discover Scotland: Live Showcase, will then be held in May and September 2022, with a focus on responsible tourism.

Argyll and the Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond and Dunbartonshire also benefit from VisitScotland's national promotions like the Now Is Your Time campaign, our main marketing activity for the summer that began

with days out before moving to short stays, city breaks, family gatherings and escape and connect experiences to benefit physical and mental wellbeing.

Through support from Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 20/21, events have taken place across the region.

The Everything Flows coastal photography trail is at Rockfield Centre in Oban until October 31 featuring the 'Island - Paul Glazier' exhibition.

The cinema tour of Launch! On the Sea with Scotland's Lifeboats includes screenings in Tiree, Coll, Tighnabruaich and Dunoon.

Next year we look forward to the Year of Stories 2022 to celebrate and promote the wealth of stories inspired by, written, or created in Scotland.

I'd encourage businesses to take advantage of a new Days Out incentive scheme that will provide a boost for visitor attractions during the winter months.

Administered on behalf of the Scottish Government, the VisitScotland Days Out Incentive Fund will deliver £4 million of funding to support the recovery of the tourism industry in Scotland through subsidising the cost of a ticket to visitor attractions, day tour excursions and outdoor wildlife and adventure activities.

This is in addition to another fund, the £1.4 million Scottish Government fully-funded ScotSpirit Holiday Voucher Scheme, which there's still plenty of time for accommodation providers and visitor attractions to join, to help carers and low income families get a short break.

Tourism and events are a force for good, not just because of the economic aspect but because they enrich our lives socially.

Without them, Argyll and the Isles would be a much poorer place.

YOUR PICTURES



Like a scene from the heyday of Para Handy and the Clyde puffers, the VIC32 makes her sedate way from Crinan towards Bellanoch Bridge. Lochgilphead reader Rhona Young kindly sent us her photograph, taken on Saturday October 2 as the Vic32 was travelling on the Crinan Canal en route to Cairnbaan. Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



CAMPBELTOWN
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Friday 15th October - Thursday 21st October

Dune (12A)

Thursday 6.00pm

Ron's Gone Wrong (PG)

Daily (Except Monday & Tuesday)
3.00pm

The Addams Family 2 (PG)

Daily (Except Monday & Tuesday)
2.30pm

No Time To Die (12A)

Friday, Saturday, Sunday &
Wednesday 4.30pm & 6.00pm
Thursday 4.30pm

CLOSED MONDAY & TUESDAY

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk

Obituary: Dugald Gillespie, Islay

Dugald Gillespie, known as Dougie, was a popular singer in Gaeldom for many years.

He was born in Portnahaven, Islay, and was educated there, leaving Islay at the age of 15 to start an engineering apprenticeship.

He met his future wife, Marie, at the Highlander's Institute and after two years at sea with Ellerman Lines, travelling the world, Dougie and Marie got married in Riddrie, Glasgow.

They had three children - Sheena, a radiographer, Neil, an opera singer, and Mairi, a teacher.

After joining the City of Glasgow Police in 1960, Dougie started to sing with the Police Male Voice Choir, enjoying some interesting trips abroad and making successful recordings.

This ignited his passion for singing and in 1981, at Lochaber, he joined the ranks of Islay's national Mod Gold medallists, including his great friends Donald Macleod and Ian Carmichael.

His friend Willie Cameron said: 'I remember when he won the Gold Medal at Fort William in 1981 and the great ceilidh that followed.

'He was also a regular at the mid-week Park Bar Ceilidh, alternating with Ian Carmichael and we had many cracking nights there. Many



nights at The Dorchester Hotel also. There were three national Mod Gold medallists from Portnahaven, Islay - Mary C MacNiven, Donald M MacLeod and Dougie Gillespie.

'Dougie was also a past president

of The Islay Association.' Working through the police ranks and promoted to Inspector, Dougie was asked to head the unit which drew together the members of Strathclyde Police Pipe Band, and he was thrilled to be

in charge throughout the boys' record-breaking run of six consecutive world titles.

Willie said: 'Angus Lawrie composed a lovely tune for Dougie entitled simply, 'Dugald Gillespie'. It appears in the Gordon Highlanders' collection and was often used in compilations.

'Dougie was one of the most in-demand and popular singers for the Highland Annual Gatherings' busy scene of ceilidhs, formal and informal.

'Dougie was always in demand for many decades.

'The Glasgow Highland associations, of which there were many, held six ceilidh dances a year.

The night usually featured a male and female Gaelic singer, a piper and a box player.

'I played at many of them and Dougie was without doubt the most popular/regular singer at these functions.'

At the same time as heading up the unit which drew together the members of Strathclyde Police Pipe Band, Marie and Dougie had moved to Garrowhill and enjoyed many years of playing and socialising at Garrowhill Bowling Green, where they made many life-long friends.

He was also an elder at Mure Memorial Church in Garrowhill.

They enjoyed numerous trips to London to visit Neil and his partner Michael, to Holland to visit Mairi and her husband Jamie and to Islay to visit Sheena and her husband Douglas. By this time they had been delighted to welcome their first grandchildren, Gregor and Euan.

Sadly Marie's health deteriorated and she passed away in October 2009.

She never got to meet Mairi's daughter Katie, who came along in 2010, but Dougie spent many happy times with them in Holland and Scotland.

After Marie's death, Dougie's enthusiasm for singing waned and he rarely sang in public.

The ceilidh crowd at Kilmeny were delighted last year, however, when he joined Neil in a duet, and proved that he still 'had it'.

Dougie had only very recently returned to live in Portnahaven, when he discovered his heart was failing.

He passed away peacefully in his sleep on September 2 at the age of 87, and was laid to rest with Marie, at Nerabus, 'beside the sound of the sea'.

He will be missed by the family and everyone who knew him, but is remembered with love and affection.

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The Easy Club band is hopeful of playing some public gigs before too much longer. 51_a31EasyClub02

Club getting back in the groove

It has been a difficult time for all music-makers, but gradually and carefully the Mid Argyll-based Easy Club is opening up.

The Easy Club's diverse bunch of musicians are playing together again face-to-face thanks to venues including the Cairnbaan Hotel and Mid Argyll Youth Development Services in Lochgilphead.

All being well, there will be some public shows coming

up, but in the meantime the club is showing the two musical films it made during the lockdowns. The 20-minute-long films will be shown in Lochgilphead on the afternoons of Saturday and Sunday October 23 and 24 at the youth centre on the corner of Union Street and Manse Brae, from 4pm to 6pm.

The first one is a history of the club's first five years, with a wide range of musical styles, and the second an environmental film focusing on Mid Argyll - quite relevant as the climate change conference COP26 looms on the horizon.

TSI gives young people a start

Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI) - which supports charities and non-profit groups in the region - is helping young people achieve their potential.

TSI is undertaking the volunteering element of the Young Person's Guarantee, a government-backed scheme bringing together employers, partners and young people.

It aims to connect every 16-to-24-year-old in Scotland not in work or studies with the opportunity of a job, apprenticeship, further or higher education, training programme or volunteering.

There are opportunities for 60 young people in Argyll and Bute to take part in a six-month volunteering placement with some of the region's best known charities.

Each young person will be fully supported by a dedicated mentor throughout the placement, offering a fantastic stepping stone towards study or work.

Young people will receive £30 per week, all travel expenses and a Saltire Award recognising their achievements on completion of the placement.

Check out argylltsi.org/youngpersonsguarantee to refer yourself, someone else or would like more information.

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*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

For more information contact jboyle@scottishfield.co.uk

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Property and people

The unfettered property market has caused rapid change in Argyll.

Those with property to sell have generally done well, but anyone local and looking to buy will probably have struggled to compete with others with more money from elsewhere.

Change is constant, we know that.

But the speed is something new. Since the 1980s, when the 'ripple effect' emanated from London, homes in Argyll have been an attractive proposition to those looking for bigger properties for less money than they might pay elsewhere.

Many retirees moved to Argyll, and why not?

Second homes became commonplace and these days our villages are filled with holiday lets rather than family homes.

Perhaps now we need to stop and ask if the consequences are worth the cash.

A happy note

Sad as it is to see the Bar None choir winding up, they spread joy for nine years and the members clearly loved every minute.

We have no doubt the people of Mid Argyll wish Stephen all the best in his move.

And if the right conductor came along, is there a chance we could see a new choir emerge?

Faster solution needed for A83 at Rest and be Thankful

An open letter from John Gurr, chairman of the Rest and be Thankful Campaign group, to Scottish Government Minister for Transport Graeme Dey:

Dear Graeme,
I am writing in response to the members' debate on Wednesday October 6 in support of getting a faster solution for the A83 RABT (Rest and be Thankful).

I thought it was a very positive and constructive debate, with our community of cross-party MSPs delivering a similar message.

The key points are set out below.

■ A need to consider this route as a lifeline road for Argyll and treating the delivery of a permanent solution as an emergency to cut through the bureaucracy that seems to exist in Transport Scotland. As Jackie Baillie said, men landed on the moon faster than it is taking to build two miles of road. At no time have we heard if you are willing to consider this as an emergency. It seems you are more interested in avoiding legal action than listening to the requests of your fellow MSPs and providing a solution for the people of Argyll. This road is wanted by the entire population; I cannot see a single person objecting so we need to hear how things can be delivered quickly, not what obstacles exist.

■ To provide a more robust temporary solution before the next landslide. We are challenging why Transport Scotland is building more catch pits. They have not prevented the road being closed this week, let alone this winter. Even your BEAR Scotland representative at the A83 task force admitted the catch pits will not stop landslides closing the road. It is not common sense to keep digging holes in the ground; we think it is just folly. We would argue that traffic needs to be routed away from the danger of major landslides urgently, not forced to navigate next to a catch pit that may or may not work.

We also met Transport Scotland officials at the forestry road, when we were presented with problems and issues, not solutions. Other countries with similar terrain manage to deliver fast and safe infrastructure, so if this is 'one of the biggest engineering challenges in Scotland' do we have the right people with the right level



A quicker solution to the problems facing the Rest and be Thankful is needed.

of experience to deliver a project of this scale quickly?

■ To review how the task force functions and ensure people are listened to and action taken. It was encouraging to hear you are willing to review this, however, we fear that on its own it will not change Transport Scotland. We need you to hear what has been said and get a change in Transport Scotland's approach.

You were kind enough to offer us a walk with Transport Scotland along the forestry track.

We would like to send you and our MSPs an open invitation to take a journey down the A83, meet the businesses and people of Argyll that rely on this road and listen to their stories.

We could take the bus too.

It now falls on your shoulders as to what happens next.

Do you ignore our request, continue to let us wait under the threat of landslides until a solution is recommended at the end of next year, delivered at some point in the future?

Or do you come and see this lifeline road all the way to Campbeltown, see why we need you to call this an emergency, challenge Transport Scotland to deliver a permanent solution within this parliament and a temporary solution that keeps the route open regardless of landslides while the permanent solution is built.

This is a choice, it is possible, it just needs the right people, determination and cut through.

Kind regards
John.

Help at hand with breast cancer

Sir,

As a Clinical Nurse Specialist on Breast Cancer Now's helpline, I'm acutely aware of the shattering impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the emotional wellbeing of people with breast cancer. News of a diagnosis can be a lonely experience and the pandemic has at times exacerbated this, denying people the chance to be with loved ones.

We've seen a sharp rise in calls to our helpline and emails to our Ask Our Nurses service from people struggling emotionally – many say the loneliness they've felt living with breast cancer during the pandemic has been the hardest emotional impact to cope with and that it's negatively impacted their mental health.

This Breast Cancer Awareness month we want to remind everyone affected by breast cancer that we're always with you, in every way we can.

Thanks to support from players of People's Postcode Lottery, our online support services are one click away for anyone after a breast cancer diagnosis.

Whether you're a younger woman, adjusting to life after treatment, or living with incurable secondary breast cancer, our tailored support provides a confidential, safe space to connect with others and access specialist information.

Click on breastcancer.org/online-services to find out more about Younger Women Together, Moving Forward, Someone Like Me, and Living With Secondary Breast Cancer.

Jane Murphy, Breast Cancer Now Clinical Nurse Specialist

Talk about sight loss

Sir,

For the 10 people every day in Britain who begin to lose their sight, many find it helpful to talk through these feelings with someone outside their usual circle of family and friends. That's where Need to Talk, our free counselling and confidence-building service, can help. Launched with support from the EU INTERREG VA programme, Need to Talk is available in Argyll and Bute. Contact our Need to Talk team on 0300 123 9999 or email needtotalk@rnib.org.uk.

James Adams, director, Royal National Institute of Blind People, Scotland.

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Thought for the Week

Our planet is at crisis point – I think we all understand that now – and we know CO2 is a real problem.

One morning recently, I heard the following two news items on the radio:

First was a report about the petrochemical plant at Grangemouth which emits tons of CO2 into the atmosphere.

There are plans to convert it to a hydrogen plant which would capture the CO2, send it along a pipeline to Aberdeenshire ready for it to be stored deep under the sea.

That was immediately followed by a report on the shortage of CO2 caused by the increase in energy costs and the closing down of two fertilizer factories which send CO2 on to other industries, in particular food.

How ironic that one industry wants to bury the stuff that others desperately need.

I decided to find out more and discovered that CO2 in varying grades of purity is used in a wide variety of industries.

On further research, I also discovered that CO2 is already being turned from a pollutant into a resource.

Companies around the world, including the UK, are reusing CO2 to make building blocks, cement, foam housing insulation and fuel.

I found two examples of companies feeding CO2 to algae, one to make carbon fibre and the other to revive oyster reefs.

'Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.' (1 Corinthians 4:2)

We are all responsible for the care of our planet, whether as members of faith groups or members of a global society.

Refining CO2 might cost a fortune, but not doing so could cost the earth.

Reverend Christine Fulcher, South Kintyre Team Ministry.

DUNOON

A major road through Cowal has been deemed to be dangerous due to sections of it having no white line markings for nine months.

At a meeting of Argyll and Bute Council on September 30, Cowal councillor Alan Reid raised the matter of the A815, which runs from the A83 down the peninsula to Toward. He said: 'With the dark nights coming in, the lack of white lining is becoming dangerous.'

'I am pleased to see the good progress on the road improvements, but the work is not finished until the while lining gets done.'

'When will this reach Cowal? At the Bute and Cowal area committee in August we were told this would happen in September. Then at the environment, development and infrastructure committee I was told it would happen 'shortly'.'

'But there is still no sign of white lining work on stretches of the A815 and some of this resurfacing work was done in March.'

The council's policy lead for roads and infrastructure services South Kintyre councillor Rory Colville attributed the delay to competition from other companies for services from Transport Scotland.

Councillor Colville explained: 'I can't remember off the top of my head, but we compete with BEAR Scotland, which has a bigger budget than we do, and white lining is a priority for it when Transport Scotland is in the area.'

'I don't doubt the areas you mention are quite substantial, but all we know is that sometimes they can get here and it is raining and they cannot do any work.'

'We are competing with larger operators and unless we have something in-house which is economical, we must continue to compete. But I will hopefully get back to you with a definite date.'

BUTE

Kaya Fraser, Mount Stuart's emerging artist-in-residence is to present the fruits of her residency in a new exhibition this autumn at the Discovery Centre on the Island of Bute.

A preview of Kaya's collaborative project, Milk + Two Sugars Please will take place at the Rothesay Amphitheatre on Saturday October 16, from 12.30-3.30pm. Milk + Two Sugars



Carsaig was the setting for a fun sea safari.

Sea safari explorations

A special seashore safari was held at Carsaig on Saturday October 9 for children and adults from throughout the area.

Nets and buckets were supplied for safari-goers on the lookout for a diverse range of wildlife including hermit crabs and snakelock

TAYVALLICH

anemones.

This community-led initiative aimed to raise awareness of the marine environments and species in Argyll and to find out more about some of the animals that live on local beaches and just off the shore.

Their voices are combined with field recordings of the places each collaborator calls home.

KILMARTIN

Residents of Kilmartin have been asked to vote on the best way to spend £2,500 from TSL Contractors, the firm carrying out the revamp at Kilmartin Museum.

Among the options being polled are new picnic benches for the village green, an outside tap for the toilet block, wildflower plugs and seeds, tree planting and an improved children's playpark.

Voters can make their choice via the Kilmartin Village Facebook page.

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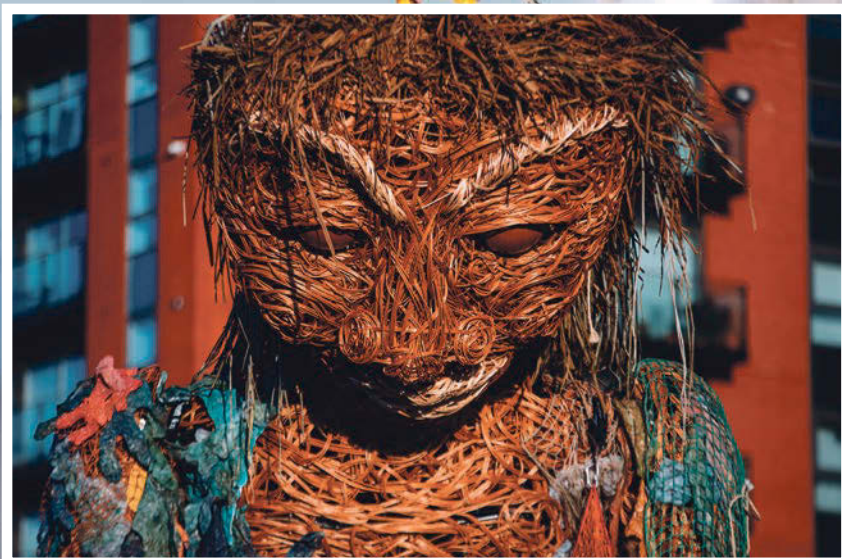
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Brace yourselves - there's a **STORM** coming



Oban Business Improvement District
www.bid4oban.co.uk



Created for the opening of Celtic Connections 2020 by Edinburgh-based visual theatre company, Vision Mechanics, Scotland's largest puppet will rise from the oceans to walk through Oban on Sunday, October 24.

The 10 metre Storm will be walking our streets on Sunday, October 24.

Storm is a legend come to life, emerging from the sea and coming to Scotland to tell us that the oceans are in crisis. This free, outdoor theatre spectacle is funded by EventScotland through Scotland's Events Recovery Fund and was developed in celebration of Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 20/21.

Storm's visit to Oban is being hosted by Love Oban and is part of a tour of Scotland's coastlines urging care and protection for our oceans and environment as she takes in the natural beauty found all across her home nation.

Aided by ten puppeteers the 10 metre tall spectacle will leave Station Square at 10:30am on Sunday, October 24, and will head along the esplanade for a brief pause at the North Pier before finishing her journey at the Corran Halls.

Station square will be closed off from 8am to allow Storm to set up and there will be stalls to visit from 9.30am-10.30am as well as entertainment from Oban High Traditional School of Music. It is hoped to have OHS pipe band and Oban Gaelic Choir in attendance.

BID4Oban's Andy Spence said: 'We are absolutely delighted to have such a spectacle coming to Oban.'

'The immense feat of mechanical mastery will provide a great morning out but also reinforces the important messages around caring for our coastline and of course the environment too.'

Storm first rose at North Berwick's Fringe By The Sea on Sunday August 15. As well as Oban she will have visited

Alloa, Anstruther, Burghead, Nairn, Dundee, Irvine, Wick, Dumfries, and Edinburgh.

Made from entirely recycled and natural resources Storm weighs around 500 kilos. Her eyes are the colour of oyster shells, her hair thick strands of kelp, her voice the chorus of the waves. She is accompanied wherever she travels by a beautiful soundscape created by the pioneering Scottish folk singer Mairi Campbell.

Vision Mechanics Artistic Director, Symon Macintyre said: 'Like many of us, Storm has been resting at home since early 2020, lying in wait to begin her journey across Scotland.'

'We are delighted to be able to assist Storm in her journey to some of Scotland's most beautiful coasts and waters. We believe strongly in her message of environmental care and are proud to be able to share it with people all across Scotland. From North Berwick, to Wick, to Oban - Storm is a striking vision to behold against the landscape of this beautiful country.'

'Oban is a gateway to the islands surrounded by some of Scotland's most beautiful coasts and waters. Storm's visit is a reminder to us all that we must treasure and protect the environment and take responsibility to make change.'

'As she journey's across Scotland Storm is a striking vision to behold against the landscape of this beautiful country. She will walk through Oban to ask 'what are you doing to fight the climate crisis?'

Paul Bush OBE, VisitScotland's Director of Events, said: 'It is wonderful to have Storm rise again and return to Scotland to tell her story.'

'We are living in a climate emergency and Storm's journey along our country's beautiful coastlines will help draw attention to the role we all have to play in protecting our oceans and environment.'

Storm's walk will be live streamed across the Vision Mechanics social media channels. Audiences can check in on the day to follow her route.



The Highlanders are back!

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk

The Highlanders were back at Oban Livestock Centre this week with a rise in sale prices.

Top price at The Highland Cattle Society's autumn show and sale was 10,000gns for the overall champion from the McConachie family's Culfoich fold near Grantown-on-Spey.

The prestigious championship title was secured for the society's past president Gordon McConachie and his family by Carlin 6 of Culfoich.

This April, 2020-born heifer is by the 3,600gns Jacob 2 of Benmore, which stood male champion at the Royal Highland Show in 2019 and previously bred two yearling female champions at Oban for the family. Bred out of Laria 1 of Culfoich, which won the junior championship at the Royal Highland Show in 2010, this rising yearling heifer sold to Germany's Falko Steinberg who purchased his first Highlander at Oban in 1988.



Left: Champion female Carlin 6th of Culfoich, owned by J&M McConachie and brought out by Rachel McConachie, sold for 10,000gns to Falko Steinberg Germany and, right, it was a great start to the morning for Karen and Michael Macgregor and their fold based in Glenborrodale, Acharacle, when their three-year-old heifer Sobhrach 2nd of Eilean Mor sold for 9,000gns. Photographs: Kevin McGlynn.

Breeders witnessed increased averages compared to the 2019 sale, particularly for younger females as yearling heifers traded £1,393.17 dearer on the year, while heifer calves increased by £1,248.06.

Next best at 9,000gns, was

the second animal through the ring from Karen and Michael Macgregor's 11-cow Eilean Mor fold at Port An Aiseig, Glenborrodale, Acharacle.

Also achieving a personal best for the couple when sold to Balrownie Farms, Brechin,

was the three-year-old heifer champion Sobhrach 2 of Eilean Mor, due to calve in March to Harris of Balemartine.

Lanarkshire breeder Alan Prentice, of the Hyndford Fold, Ravenstruther, sold his dearest female to date when his three-year-old heifer Banrigh 10 of Hyndford made 7,000gns.

It was a particularly memorable day for The Applecross Trust team from Strathcarron, when they topped the heifer calf trade at 6,700gns, after returning to the sale ring for the first time in 35 years.

John Cooper's Culloden fold at Tordarroch Estates,

near Inverness, produced the next top price of 3,600gns for March-born heifer calf, Heather 17 of Tordarroch. Just behind at 3,500gns, from the Armstrong family's Balemartine fold on the Isle of Tiree, was Bonnie Ruadh 1 of Balemartine, which stood reserve overall champion in the pre-sale show. Last to hit the 3,000gns bracket was Neoinean Ruadh 6 of Leys, from Leys Castle Farm, Inverness, and was sold to Willie MacLean, Inverglenn, Barcaldine, Oban.

Karen and Michael Macgregor were back in the money at 2,300gns for the

yearling heifer Ros Dath Airgid 2 of Eilean Mor, which sold to Andrew Ewing, Dumbretton.

She is by the same sire as the 9,000gns sale, out of Ros Dubh of Eilean Mor.

Sunday's pre-sale show attracted a large crowd of spectators and saw sisters Sophie and Tara Adams from Aberdeenshire lead the way among the young handlers. Sophie came first in the 15- to 18-year-olds class and went on to take overall champion, while Tara won the U14 section and stood reserve to her big sister.

Full prize list, visit www.obantimes.co.uk

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Around the markets

United Auctions, Dalmally, Saturday, October 9: held their Annual Show & Sale of Suckled Calves, with 1,180 Calves sold. 693 Bullock calves sold to £1170 for a 554kilo Limousin Cross from P M Kennedy, Tom A Bhioran and to average £750.17 (+£55.67). 487 Heifer Calves sold to £1140 for a 546kilo Aberdeen Angus Cross, also from Mr Kennedy and to average £649.51 (£+4.16). Bulls sold to 416.7 per kilo for Charolais Crosses from Otter Estate to average 282.07 per kilo (+ 24.77). Heifers sold to 325 pence per kilo for Simmental Crosses from Machrins, Colonsay to average 261.24 pence per kilo (+ 16.34). Mr Shane Brown, South Barr Farms, Inchinnan judged the various classes and his awards are as follows: Bullock Class. 1st & 2nd Tombuie, 3rd Dall. Heifer Class. 1st & 2nd Tombuie. Champion – Tombuie, Bullock. Reserve – Tombuie, Heifer. A good show of quality bred calves was on offer to a strong force of buyers. Cattle in general were around 20/25 kilo's lighter on the year. PRINCIPAL LOTS & PRICES

BULLOCKS
Aberdeen Angus
£1140, £1100, Tom A Bhioran; £1000, Ballymeanach, Mull.
Shorthorn
£900, Feorline; £885, Tiretigan; £880, Feorline; £860. Kiloran.
Blonde
£1055, Tom-na-Coille.

Charolais
£1070(6), Otter Estate; £1050(5), Bragleenmore; £1040(3), Tiraghoil; £1025(2), Bragleenbeg; £1015, Dunans; £1010, £1005(5), Musdale; £1000(6), Otter Estate; £930(6), Musdale; £910(4), Bragleenmore; £910, £900(4), South Arditie.
Limousin
£1170, Tom A Bhioran; £1140, Feringa Coll; £1140, £1100, Tombuie; £1025(7), Tiraghoil; £1000, Tombuie; £1000, Otter Estate; £1000, Feringa; £990, Tiretigan; £950, Otter Estate; £940(2), Carnoch, Glencoe.
Luig
£890, 2 Bonawe Croft.
Saler
£985, Brenachoille; £950, Otter Estate.
Simmental
£1090(5), Tiraghoil; £990, Tom Na Coille; £980(3), Duntium; £970, Tiraghoil; £965, Carnoch; £905(6), Duntium.
HEIFERS
Aberdeen Angus
£1140, Tom A Bhioran
Shorthorn
£920, £840, Tiretigan.
Blonde
£995, Tom Na Coille.
Charolais
£1060, Dunans; £1030(2), Bragleenbeg.
Limousin
£1040, £1020, Tombuie; £870, Bargaillan.
Simmental

£960, £900, Duntium; £890, £870, Auchen Estate; £840, Stronachullin; £810, Duntium.
LEADING PRICES PER KILO
BULLOCKS
Aberdeen Angus
304.8(8), Scotstown; 303(4), Balantyre; 290.7, Scotstown; 280.3(4), Ederline; 279.2(2), Balantyre; 276.2, Garvie; 273.3(8), South Arditie.
Shorthorn
327.7, Kiloran; 321, Otter Estate; 316.2, Kiloran; 308, Machrins; 307.3(4), Tiretigan; 300.9, Otter Estate; 298.6(2), Machrins; 295.7, Kiloran; 277.8(2), 90/110 Borve & Stronmagachan; 276.4(2), Brenachoille; 270.4, Stronmagachan.
Charolais
416.7(6), 361.6(6), Otter Estate; 357.4(3), Tiraghoil; 336.4(3), South Arditie; 320.6(5), Tom A Bhioran; 317.3(7), 314(4), Ederline; 313.8(4), Bragleenmore; 311.7(2), Ederline; 306.5(10), South Arditie; 304.3, Tullochmore; 302.5(10), South Arditie; 301.9(5), Musdale; 298.7(5), Laggan Farms; 295.6(5), Musdale; 292.9(10), South Arditie.
Limousin
416.7, Otter Estate; 338.9(5), Dall; 321(5), 319.9(3), Otter Estate; 316.9, Feringa; 316.6(2), Kengharrie; 315.6(2), Feringa; 313.5(2), Tullochmore; 309.9(2), 306.3, 302.3 Kiloran; 301.6(2), Feringa; 301.4(2), 300, Caolis, Coll; 295.5(3), CuiLuaine & Craig Farm; 294.7(20), Otter Estate; 293.8,



The ladies took the major prizes from their male counterparts, with champion, right, Carlin 6th of Culfoich yearling heifer owned by J&M McConnachie & Son lead out by Rachel McConnachie and reserve, left, Bonnie Ruadh 1st of Balemartine, Tiree, owned and lead out by Emily Armstrong.



Above, sisters Emily and Eva Armstrong with mum Fiona and their yearling heifer Ruadh 1st of Balemartine, Tiree, after she was awarded reserve female champion overall.



Right: a beaming Emily Armstrong after selling her yearling heifer for 3,500gns.



Sisters Tara and Sophie Adams were all smiles after Tara won the junior young handler prize and Sophie won the senior young handler prize as well as the overall young handler prizes. She was presented with The Oban Times trophy at the dinner in the Royal Hotel on Sunday evening. All photographs: Kevin McGlynn.

Achallader; 293.7(6), Muckairn; 293.5, 293.2(6), Dall; 293, Craigmores; 292.6(6), Ballymeanach; 292, Craigmores; 291.3(2), Dall; 290.8, Cuiluaire; 290.4(7), Tirraghoil; 290(3), South Arditie.
Luing
287.1(4), Tom Na Coille; 283.7(5), Balnahard.
Saler
321(4), 319(2) Otter Estate; 317(2), Scallasaig; 309.9(2), Kiloran; 300.9, Otter Estate; 294.9, Feringa; 294.7(2), Otter Estate; 293(8), 292(2), Scallasaig; 290, Curacao.
Simmental
375.9(5), Tirraghoil; 355.9(10), Old Manse; 344.4(2), Machrins; 331.4, Uillmar; 327.7, 317.8(2), Kiloran; 317.3(7), Old Manse; 317, Scallasaig; 314.9, 314, Machrins; 313.1(3), Old Manse; 312.5, Uillmar; 310(7), Old Manse; 309.4(4), 308(2), Machrins; 306.3(2), 302.3(2), 301.9, Kiloran; 301.3, Curacao; 300.8, Duntuium; 300(2), Duncroisk.
Whitebred Shorthorn
299.1(6), Lochdochart; 278.8(8), Stroneskar.
HEIFERS
Aberdeen Angus
320.2(4), Ederline; 299.5(2), Balantyre; 283.8(2), Ederline; 274.1(8), Scotstown; 273.1(7), South Arditie.
Shorthorn
275.5, Scallasaig.
Charolais
304.3, Tullochmore; 299(4),

Ederline; 294.1(10), Otter Estate; 289.7(4), Ederline; 288.6(10), South Arditie; 286.7(13), Dunans; 282.1, Laggan Farms; 281.1(3), Tirraghoil; 280.4(3), South Arditie; 273.3(3), Bragleenmore; 272.7(9), Laggan Farms; 272(10), South Arditie.
Luing
278.9, Tom Na Coille; 270.3(6), Balnahard.
Saler
275.5(2), 275.2(5), Scallasaig.
Simmental
325(3), Machrins; 313.4, Auch Estate; 306.1, Machrins; 306(4), 292.1(2), Old Manse; 286.7, Dunans; 286.5(3), Old Manse; 285.7(3), Auch Estate; 283.8(2), Stronachullin; 282.7(2), Kiloran Farms; 282, Auch Estate; 281.6, 280.2(2), Old Manse
United Auctions, Dalmally, Saturday October 2: sold 1633 sheep of all classes. Lambs averaged £67.00 (+£16.99). In keeping with current trends, all classes of lambs were in exceptional demand and many more could have been sold to meet the needs of a large turnout of buyers.
LEADING LOTS & PRICES PER HEAD
LAMBS - SUFFx - £80.50, Duntuium.
TEXx - £105, Dunans; £100, Ardbeg; £92, Dunans; £92, Craig; £90.50, Craigmores; £85.50, £85, Craig; £85.00, Ardbeg. CHEV - £84, Blairmore; £77.50, Kilvaree; £73, Blairmore; £73, Ballard; £73, Wester Bleaton.

CROSS - £74.50, 10 Eastfield; £73.50, Balnahard. MULE - £95, Dunans; £79, Ederline Estate; £79, 10 Eastfield.
BF - £80, Duntuium; £67.50, Largie; £67.50, Glenfeochan Estate; £66, Achnaba; £64, Glenfeochan Estate; £64, Dunans; £63, Fidden; £62.50, Achnaba; £62.50, Castles Estate.
GIMMERS - CHEV - £100, Ardchnonnel.
CROSS - £130, 10 Eastfield.
EWES - LLEY - £73, Kilpatrick Croft.
TEX - £78, Craig; £71, Fidden. CHEV - £80, Ardchnonnel; £75, Ballard; £75, £68, £67, Ardchnonnel. CROSS - £69, Balnahard; £65, Ardchnonnel. BF - £68, Fidden; £58, Fernoch; £56, High Field Croft; £56, Cuiluaire; £52, Ardchnonnel; £50, Fidden.
RAMS - BF - £150, £120, Stronmagachan.
LEADING PRICES PER KILO
SUFFx - 252p, Duntuium. TEXx - 292p, Craigmores; 266p, Birchfield; 261p, Craig; 256p, Birchfield; 252p, Craig; 247p, Ederline Estate; 235p, Dunans; 225p, Ardbeg. CHEV - 256p, 246p, 243p, Ballard; 240p, Blairmore; 235p, Ardchnonnel; 234p, Lochdochart; 232p, Blairmore; 232p, Wester Bleaton. CROSS - 278p, 256p, 247p, Balnahard; 240p, Eastfield; 237p, Croft 162. MULE - 240p, Ederline Estate; 236p, Duntuium; 232p, Eastfield; 230p, Saulmore. BF - 237p, Glenfeochan Estate; 233p, Fidden; 229p, Dunans; 228p, Glenfeochan Estate; 227p, Saulmore; 227p, Birchfield; 222p, Achnaba.

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November



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Union roadshow focuses on future farming policy

NFU Scotland is to undertake a series of online and face-to-face meetings ahead of responding to the Scottish Government consultation on how the nation transitions to a new agricultural policy.

Central to that transition will be taking forward the findings and recommendations of farmer-led climate change groups to pave the way for legislation that will redefine agricultural support in Scotland.

The union's programme of engagement with members kicked-off with a national webinar on Wednesday October 13 chaired by NFU Scotland president Martin Kennedy, with a presentation from director of policy Jonnie Hall.

A series of meetings around the country will follow, which

Martin Kennedy and Jonnie Hall will attend.

The purpose is to set out the current situation, the intentions of the Scottish Government and gauge current thinking from farmers and crofters on how best they can be supported to deliver sustainable food production, climate ambitions and nature restoration simultaneously.

NFU Scotland launched its proposal for a future support package via its report The Transition to Future (Conditional) Agricultural Support – NFU Scotland's Approach in July 2021.

These proposals for the structure of future support distilled the concepts and principles from five farmer-led groups and the Union's own Steps to Change proposals to design



NFU director of policy Jonnie Hall.

a uniquely Scottish future agricultural policy framework.

In August, the Scottish Government announced the establishment of the Agriculture Reform Implementation Oversight Board (ARIOB) together with the publication of a consultation entitled Agricultural

Transition in Scotland: first steps towards our national policy.

The Scottish Government consultation, which closes in mid-November, also builds on the recommendations from the farmer-led groups.

It sets out several key questions which are intended to

inform wider work on the development of agricultural policy and the replacement to the Common Agricultural Policy.

Both the consultation and the outputs of the ARIOB will directly inform proposals for a future Agriculture Bill to be introduced in 2023 to deliver a new support framework.

Mr Hall said: 'This is a defining moment for Scottish agriculture. The prize of a new, properly-funded agricultural support package that delivers for Scotland's current and future needs is the biggest priority for the union.'

'We need to move beyond the rhetoric and see action that will deliver meaningful change for our farmers and crofters.'

'For more than four years,

partly driven by the catalyst of Brexit, NFU Scotland has been championing the need for change to a new agricultural policy. This consultation is our chance to ensure that farming and crofting across Scotland meets environmental and climate challenges in a uniquely Scottish way while still delivering high quality, sustainable food production that underpins Scotland's food and drink sector and maintains the social and economic fabric of rural areas.'

A face-to-face meeting, including a livestream, with Argyll and the Islands members is scheduled for Friday October 29, with a virtual meeting on Monday November 8. Venues and times will be confirmed, and invitations issued, in due course.



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All types of motor homes and caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards. We do not dispose.

T: 07885 203020

Email: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk

WANTED

For immediate cash payment and free collection.

All types of 4x4 vehicles, double cab & single cabs pickups. Shogun landrover defenders, Isuzu, Landcruiser, Navara, L200 Toyota Hilux, Discovery, any vehicle considered old or new. Any condition running or not. High miles, rotten chassis, or over heating top. so any condition.

Price paid without any hassle we also buy motorhomes touring caravans and commercial vans and trucks.

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ask for Robert**

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Competitive prices paid.

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West Coast MOTORS

WANTED



Looking for motorhome or caravan.
First time buyers.
Any make or condition considered.

Tel: 07537 840381

WANTED 4X4S FOR CASH



WANTED ALL 4X4'S & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

We buy for retail, breaking and export so no matter the age or condition we can make a cash offer. Young or old, all makes and models, engine problems, farm used, accident damaged, mot failures etc.

WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE, FAST PAYMENT AND COLLECTION.
TEL: 07789 855381

WANTED

All types of 4-wheel drive vehicles & pickups, Landrovers, Toyota, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford and MOT failures, non-runners, etc.
Will travel and collect.

T: 07546 788945

WANTED MOTOR HOMES

Caravanettes and camper vans, all makes and models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Social distancing measures in place.

Contact William 07730 130284
email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

FIAT PANDA



1242cc, MOT until June 2022, 67,000 miles, good condition, ideal first car,
£1250 ono

Tel: 01631 710868 or 07780960582

1.2 CORSA



Just been serviced with full new brakes, wheel cylinders, disc pads and exhaust. Stereo with Bluetooth and reversing camera. MOT until September 2022. Ideal first car.
£800

Tel: Peter 07798 613385

WANTED 4X4

All types of 4x4's, Landrover Toyota, Nissan etc. We also buy MOT failures and accident damage vehicles. Anything considered.

T: 07885 203020 or
E: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk

WANTED

4x4 VEHICLES

Landrover, Toyota, Isuzu, All single and double cab pickups. Any age or condition considered. Also buying motorhome and caravans. Immediate payment and collection

Please call or WhatsApp James on
07789 138028/ 07487 548703
Email: wanted4x4s@gmail.com



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NEW CAR INDEX



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RECRUITMENT

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The Construction Industry's an exciting place to be right now. Come and be a part of an amazing award winning team.

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Due to expansion, we are currently looking to recruit all trades people, in particular skilled workers.

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What can we offer you?

A competitive salary. Access to training and development to further your career with us. A workplace where no day is the same and you will get to see and work on projects that are helping develop communities across Argyll.

Call us on 01546 602989

Send C.V to jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk



MACPOOL IS RECRUITING

We are looking for unique individuals who have potential, flair, the ability to fit seamlessly into our current team and who will bring the newly redeveloped Activity Hub to life. Energy and enthusiasm are required as well as a can do attitude with a focus on customer service.

Whether you are young or old, looking for something to fill a few hours a week or a full time position, we may have something to fit the bill.

We are looking for team members to fill the following vacancies:

- Shift Supervisor**
- Fitness Instructor/Senior Attendant**
- Leisure Attendant**
- Hub Administrator**
- Café Assistant/Cook**
- Cleaner (Dry Side)**

Attractive rates of pay available, starting salaries will be dependent on qualifications and experience.

We are also offering the following **Modern Apprenticeship** opportunities: -

- Business/Administration
- Leisure Management
- Hospitality/Cookery

For full vacancy information please visit our website www.macpool.org.uk

If you wish to discuss any of the above vacancies please call Fiona or Kirsty on 01546 606676



Part-time Permanent Cleaner required at Lochgilphead CERC Centre Argyll College UHI.

We are looking for someone to clean the main building. Hours are 1.5 daily Mon - Fri. Times can be flexible outwith 9am - 4pm when the students are in.

Contact aclochgilphead@uhi.ac.uk or call 01631 559830 for further details and to apply.



Project Manager (1 year contract initially)

MACC is seeking to recruit a highly motivated and capable project manager to assist the board of MACC in moving forward some of the strategic priorities under consideration for inclusion in the 2022-2027 Business Plan. This is a funded placement you must have graduated in the last 4 years with at least an HNC but ideally with a relevant degree subject. There is no age limit for candidates.

Essential:

- Highly computer literate and effective with working with all Microsoft software packages (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook)
- Excellent communication skills
- Excellent organisational skills
- Self-motivated with a strong work ethic
- A team player and able to work in a small team effectively as well as with volunteers

Desirable:

- Relevant degree related subject
- Previous project development experience
- Experienced with funding applications
- Experience in economic development activities

Covering letter and C.V's should be no more than 3 sides of A4 in total they must focus on relevant skills and experience for this job. Deadline for C.V.s is midnight Sunday 24th October, interviews as soon as possible thereafter.

Any questions and C.V's to be submitted to: enquiries@maccdl.co.uk 01586 551555

COURIER RECRUITMENT ADVERTISER
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Campbeltown Medical Practice GP Receptionist Vacancy

Bright, enthusiastic person required to join our busy GP reception team.

One year temporary contract

You will be part of a very busy team, dealing with a high volume of telephone patient enquires.

This is a demanding and challenging role in a constantly changing health environment.

Applicant must be computer literate, have excellent communication skills and be able to work under pressure.

Hours: Monday - Thursday 0900 - 1730, Friday 0900 - 1700

Please email the practice on campbeltown.practice@nhs.scot to request a job description. Closing date: 31st October 2021

Please send your application for the attention of Catherine Cunningham, Office Supervisor at campbeltown.practice@nhs.scot

74%

Local newspapers in print and digital (74%) are more than three times more trusted for local news and information than social media platforms such as Facebook and LinkedIn (22%)

Source: YouGov 2018



Research shows that for every £1 spent with a local, independent business, between 50p-70p circulates back into that local economy

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So every time you pick up a copy of The Campbeltown Courier or The Argyllshire Advertiser you are not just helping one local business but a whole range of local businesses



RECRUITMENT

Environment Protection Officer



Full time, permanent
Stornoway Office (whilst this will be your base location it is not expected that you will be required to attend the office every day)
£30,532 to £34,378 (you will join SEPA on £30,532) – plus an attractive benefits package.

Every day the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) works to protect and enhance Scotland's environment, helping communities and business thrive within the resources of our planet. We call this One Planet Prosperity. The scale of environmental challenge facing humanity is enormous, with a real urgency to act.

Our statutory purpose is clear, that we need to create environmental success in ways that, as far as possible, also create social and economic success. The two core services we deliver for the people of Scotland are regulation and flood risk management, and with One Planet Prosperity we have established a radical strategy for how we will drive change.

To support this strategy, we are seeking to recruit an Environment Protection Officer who will be based in our Stornoway Office.

As a member of a busy Environmental Performance team covering The Western Isles, West Highland, and Argyll and Bute, you will work with a variety of regulated businesses to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and respond to reports of environmental pollution.

We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for candidates with practical industrial or regulatory experience who can apply their expertise in a pro-active regulatory role. Additionally, you must be able to build great working relationships and engage effectively with those we regulate, local communities, partner bodies, and other relevant stakeholders.

You can find out more about this role in the job descriptions.

SEPA aspires to be a world-class regulator and wants to work with those we regulate to help Scotland move from being a three to a one planet society. Are you the right person to help us achieve that? If so, we would love to receive your application.

To apply, please visit
<https://applications.sepa.org.uk/>
quoting reference number CB00039.

Closing date: 24 October 2021.

Environment Protection Officer



Full time, permanent
Fort William Office (whilst this will be your base location it is not expected that you will be required to attend the office every day)
£30,532 to £34,378 (you will join SEPA on £30,532) – plus an attractive benefits package.

Every day the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) works to protect and enhance Scotland's environment, helping communities and business thrive within the resources of our planet. We call this One Planet Prosperity. The scale of environmental challenge facing humanity is enormous, with a real urgency to act.

Our statutory purpose is clear, that we need to create environmental success in ways that, as far as possible, also create social and economic success. The two core services we deliver for the people of Scotland are regulation and flood risk management, and with One Planet Prosperity we have established a radical strategy for how we will drive change.

To support this strategy, we are seeking to recruit an Environment Protection Officer who will be based in our Fort William Office. As a member of a busy Environmental Performance team covering Lochaber, West Highland, Argyll and Bute and the Western Isles, you will work with a variety of regulated businesses to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and respond to reports of environmental pollution.

We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for candidates with practical industrial or regulatory experience who can apply their expertise in a pro-active regulatory role. Additionally, you must be able to build great working relationships and engage effectively with those we regulate, local communities, partner bodies, and other relevant stakeholders.

You can find out more about this role in the job descriptions.

SEPA aspires to be a world-class regulator and wants to work with those we regulate to help Scotland move from being a three to a one planet society. Are you the right person to help us achieve that? If so, we would love to receive your application.

To apply, please visit
https://applications.sepa.org.uk
quoting reference number CB00037.

Closing date 24 October 2021

Environment Protection Officer (two posts)



Full time, permanent
Lochgilhead Office (whilst this will be your base location it is not expected that you will be required to attend the office every day)
£30,532 to £34,378 (you will join SEPA on £30,532) – plus an attractive benefits package.

Every day the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) works to protect and enhance Scotland's environment, helping communities and business thrive within the resources of our planet. We call this One Planet Prosperity. The scale of environmental challenge facing humanity is enormous, with a real urgency to act.

Our statutory purpose is clear, that we need to create environmental success in ways that, as far as possible, also create social and economic success. The two core services we deliver for the people of Scotland are regulation and flood risk management, and with One Planet Prosperity we have established a radical strategy for how we will drive change.

To support this strategy, we are seeking to recruit two Environment Protection Officers who will be based in our Lochgilhead Office.

As a member of a busy Environmental Performance team covering Argyll and Bute, West Highlands, and the Western Isles, you will work with a variety of regulated businesses to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and respond to reports of environmental pollution.

We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for candidates with practical industrial or regulatory experience who can apply their expertise in a pro-active regulatory role. Additionally, you must be able to build great working relationships and engage effectively with those we regulate, local communities, partner bodies, and other relevant stakeholders.

You can find out more about this role in the job descriptions.

SEPA aspires to be a world-class regulator and wants to work with those we regulate to help Scotland move from being a three to a one planet society. Are you the right person to help us achieve that? If so, we would love to receive your application.

To apply, please visit
https://applications.sepa.org.uk
quoting reference number CB00038.

Closing date: 24 October 2021.



Source: Business Choice & The Newspaper Society

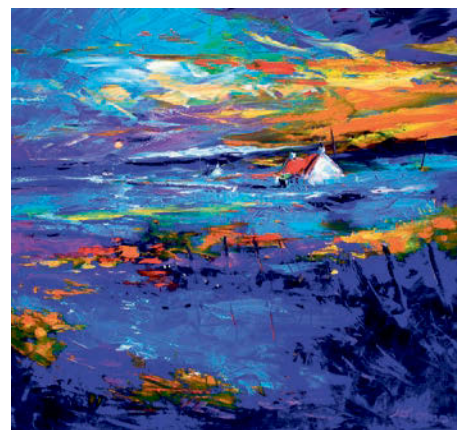


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SCOTTISH FIELD November



The Green Issue...

Perfect Perthshire... Green lairds...
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Kilmacolm eco-friendly home... Pumpkin recipes...
An Angus garden... Wild salmon in the Clyde...
Images of the North East... Aquaponics...

PERSONAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Helen and Jimmy Watson

wish to thank all friends, relations and neighbours for the beautiful flowers, gifts, cards and good wishes sent to us on the occasion of our Golden Wedding on the 9th October.

Neilina and Garry

would like to give a special thank you to all our neighbours in Glengilp for the lovely farewell dinner and the wonderful cash gift with which we will buy a memento of our friends in Glengilp. An extra special thank you to Joan and Anne for organising such an unforgettable evening and to Bill for supplying the delicious tomatoes.

Hugh and Kate McNair

would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the lovely gifts and good wishes on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding.

Bill Gray

Happy 90th Birthday
With lots of love from Helen and all the family
xxx



Happy 90th birthday Ria (Stewart) Johnston

Have a wonderful day mum love you lots Michael, Alison, Andrew and co xxxx



When I was 17 it was a very good year (as in Frank Sinatra song)

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
21/01517/PP	Use of land for the siting of mobile unit for sale of cold food off the premises (Class 1)	Tarbert Holiday Park, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6YF
21/01874/PP	Upgrade works to field accesses (retrospective)	Land South Of Tigh Na Fasgagh, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute
21/01875/PP	Upgrade works to field accesses (retrospective)	Land Between Kilfinan View And Brenfield Croft, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute
21/01876/PP	Upgrade works to field accesses (retrospective)	Land Between Ard Shealach And Kilfinan View, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute
21/01631/PP	Use of land for the siting of a converted horse trailer for the use of supplying take away hot and cold drinks, home baking and ice cream (retrospective)	North West Corner Of The Car Park Adjacent To Crinan Canal At Lock 10, Cairnbaan, Argyll And Bute

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



Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society



Regional Press
closer to home



Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

CABLE REPLACEMENT, CARRADALE TO ARRAN

Notice is hereby given that Scottish and Southern Electricity Works has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a cable replacement at:

Cost	£6,500,000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
Carradale to Arran, Kilbrannan Sound, Firth of Clyde	55° 36.016 N	005° 22.984 W
	55° 35.709 N	005° 22.750 W
	55° 35.652 N	005° 22.876 W
	55° 35.804 N	005° 23.553 W
	55° 36.084 N	005° 24.640 W
	55° 35.952 N	005° 25.026 W
	55° 35.913 N	005° 26.282 W
	55° 35.879 N	005° 26.983 W
	55° 35.810 N	005° 27.805 W
	55° 35.756 N	005° 28.229 W
	55° 36.076 N	005° 28.401 W
	55° 36.158 N	005° 27.717 W
	55° 36.306 N	005° 26.858 W
	55° 36.295 N	005° 25.801 W
	55° 36.260 N	005° 25.173 W
	55° 36.411 N	005° 24.729 W
55° 36.392 N	005° 24.519 W	
55° 36.256 N	005° 23.884 W	
55° 35.916 N	005° 28.333 W	
55° 35.889 N	005° 22.937 W	

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at <https://bit.ly/3apEEXB>.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made by email to:

MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: **00009441** and **Scottish and Southern Electricity Works**.

Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) determine applications for marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. During the consultation process any person having an interest in the outcome of the application may make representation to MS-LOT. The representation may contain personal information, for example a name or address. This representation will only be used for the purpose of determining an application and will be stored securely in the Scottish Government's official corporate record. Representations will be shared with the applicant and/or agent acting on behalf of the applicant, any people or organisations that we consult in relation to the application and, where necessary, be published online, however personal information will be removed before sharing or publishing.

A full privacy notice can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-and-fisheries-licensing/marine-licensing-operations-team-privacy-notice/>. If you are unable to access this, or you have any queries or concerns about how your personal information will be handled, contact MS-LOT at: ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

DEATHS

COFFIELD - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on October 8, 2021, Sharon Ann Coffield, in her 52nd year, 40 Cara View, Tayinloan, dearly beloved partner of Brian, much loved mum of Brian, Lee, Chevonne and Julian, a loving nana and beloved sister and aunt. Sharon's funeral will take place in Woodside Crematorium, Paisley on Saturday October 16, at 11.30 a.m. To which all friends are respectfully invited.

MACNEILL - John. Peacefully at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on October 3, 2021, beloved husband of Isobel, loving father of Gordon and Fiona and proud grandfather. Funeral service has taken place.

MEREDITH - Peacefully at home, An Cala, Lochgair, with his family by his side, on October 8, 2021, Barrie Ronald Weston Meredith, in his 80th year. Beloved husband of Vivienne, much loved father of Mandy and respected father-in-law of Ian and a good friend to many. A Graveside service will take place at Kilevin

Cemetery, Crarae, on Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations to Macmillan Nurses or Maire Curie Care.

YOUNG - Suddenly at his home, Achabreac Lodge, Lochgilhead on October 11, 2021, James (Jim) Young, aged 82 years. Beloved and loving husband of Marie Wilson; cherished dad of George and Kevin; much respected father in law of Heather and Shona; adored papa of Stephen, Carys, Jade and Jake and proud great-grandpa. A dear brother, brother in law, uncle, great uncle and cousin to all the extended family. A good friend and much respected former work colleague to many. A private family service will be held in Lochgilhead Parish Church, on Monday October 18, at 11am. Additional mourners are welcome to join the family at Achabreac Cemetery or as the Funeral Cortege leaves Lochgilhead Parish Church at approx. 11.45am. Family Flowers only. Donations can be made directly to British Heart Foundation or via Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SWEENEY - Alastair, Dolleen, Fiona and all the family of Marion (Morag) Sweeney would like to express their sincere thanks to all who attended Morags funeral and paid their respects to the cortege. Also to all who sent cards, flowers and messages of sympathy. Thanks also to Reverend William Crossan for a moving and heartwarming celebration of Morags life. Thanks also to T A Blair Funeral Directors for their sensitive support and to the Ardshiel Hotel for excellent catering. Thank you also to all the Carers who looked after Morag at home. A special thanks to Fiona for all the care she gave Morag.

THOMSON - Alan, David and Raymond would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of condolences on the passing of their dad (Hamish). Special thanks to Kenny Blair and staff for their professionalism. Thank you to Rev William Crossan for his uplifting service. Special thanks to the carers who attended and cared for dad at home. Thank you to the

Argyll Hotel for their catering. A huge thank you to everyone who paid their respects to dad on his final journey, it was very much appreciated.

MEMORIALS

DAWSON - Jack, Mamie and Gladys, dearly loved and greatly missed.
- Bill Dawson and family.

MUIR - Treasured memories of Ian, a loving husband and dad. You are forever in our hearts.
All our love.
- Ellen, John, Maurice. Xxx

MUIR - In loving memory of Ian, a loving dad, father-in-law and grandad.
- Love Angela, Kenny and Kerr.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears Psalm 34:4
Join us for our Service in the church
on **Sunday, 17th October 2021 at 11am**
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 as required by the Scottish Government www.springbankchurch.org.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch>
officespringbankchurch@gmail.com
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



South Kintyre Team Ministry 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 Filcher
Revd Christine Fulcher
01586 830504
www.kintyreparishes.org.uk

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday 17th October
11am Worship Service
11am Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Service Wednesdays
12pm Lunch club
7pm Make & Munch Craft Group
Covid 19 measures in place
If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046
Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

ST. MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilhead
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 17th October
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Garry Brotherston
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 20th October
12 noon Prayer and Bible Study
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christ Church, Lochgilhead
Sunday 11am
Holy Eucharist
St Columba, Poltalloch
9am Holy Communion
1st Sunday of the month
6pm Evensong
3rd Sunday of the month (SC013787, 31391)

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



A warm welcome awaits you
in the Kirk Street Hall at 11:00 am
Baptist Church
Pastor Mark Jasper
01586 554 092
pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncommunitychurch
SC043322

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 17th October
Morning Service 11.15am
Rev W Crossan
Covid 19 Guidelines apply
Everyone Welcome
Triple C and Gen 1
Sunday 24th October
Church Hall

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

There will be a weekly service at Skipness 10am and Tarbert 11.30am - Rev Lyn Peden
World Day of Prayer - 2.30pm - Tarbert Church
Please wear a face covering and stay 1 metre apart for the services
Contact Rev. Lyn Peden
01880 820158 for pastoral care
Charity number Tarbert SC002622 Skipness SC004280

ST. KIERAN'S, ST. JOHN STREET, CAMPBELTOWN

01586 552160
campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk
Worship:
Saturday (Vigil Mass), 6.00pm
Sundays, Holy Mass, 10am
Most liturgies live streamed.
<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>
A Parish of the R.C. Diocese of Argyll and the Isles; Charitable Trust, a registered Scottish Charity, SC002876
Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am
And Achahoish at 12:30pm

LOCHGILHEAD PARISH CHURCH



Sunday 17th October 2021
11.00 am
WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev Robert MacLeod
Covid restrictions will apply including social distancing.
More info at www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilhead Parish Church of Scotland - SC016311

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor Kilmartin
Sunday 17th October
Mr Jim Malcolm
All very welcome
Please remember to wear a mask

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 17 October
Tayvallich Church
10am Morning Worship
Mr Jim Malcolm
Booking required
Tel 01546 870635
Covid restrictions apply
Further information can be found on the church website
www.northknappdale.org

WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES

(Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)
Sunday 17th October 2021
There will be a service in Cumlodden church at 10.00am
Led by the Rev. Dorothy Wallace
There will also be a service in Inveraray Church at 11.30am
The service will again be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Masks must be worn when attending either church.
Charity No: SC016665


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Captain holds his nerve to seal cup shoot-out victory

Kyles Athletic	1
Oban Camanachd	1
Celtic Society Cup final	

(Kyles Athletic won 4-3 on penalties)

Kyles Athletic lifted the Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup for the first time since 2017 when they beat Oban Camanachd 4-3 on penalties following their 1-1 draw at Tainuill Sports Field.

On a heavy pitch following recent rain, the clubs agreed the final would go straight to penalties in the event of a draw rather than playing extra-time.

Roddy MacDonald gave Kyles the lead on 35 minutes, but Malcolm Clark ensured the sides would go into the break level when he equalised on 42 minutes.

The closest to a second-half goal was an Andrew MacCuish shot which was superbly saved and cleared by John Whyte, who also did well to deny Connor Howe a late winner.

With no further scoring and the pitch cutting up, match referee Iain Kennedy

took the contest to a penalty shoot-out. Oban Camanachd's Scott MacMillan scored, but Robbie Macleod did likewise for Kyles.

There were further successes for Oban Camanachd's Daniel Cameron and Kyles Athletic's Callum Millar.

The tension heightened as Daniel MacVicar and Luke Thornton both failed to convert, before Garry Lord and Ross MacRae scored to make it 3-3 and the shoot-out was now at sudden death.

Oban Camanachd's Andrew MacCuish smashed his penalty wide, giving Roddy MacDonald the chance to win it for Kyles.

The Kyles Athletic captain held his nerve to strike the final, decisive goal before being presented with the Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup by the sponsors.

It was the first trophy success for Kyles Athletic boss Robert Baxter in his maiden season in charge.

Baxter said: 'We are absolutely over the moon. This is testament to the efforts of the whole squad.'

'I'm just a wee calming influence on the

boys and whilst I might load the gun, they are the ones who fire it.'

'The guys have worked so hard all season and, with all our injuries, we have dug deep and come out on top.'

The Celtic Cup final wasn't the only action on Saturday as Kilmory lost out at home to Kilmallie in the Mowi Central League. Kilmallie youngster Shane O'Rua gave Kilmallie the lead on four minutes.

Ben MacKinnon, another youngster with first team experience, made it 0-2 three minutes later.

Euan Gilmour pulled a goal back for Kilmory on 34 minutes, but Michael Rodger restored Kilmallie's two-goal cushion a minute after.

Kilmory's Jamie Baxter made it 2-3 on 40 minutes and it stayed that way until the break. The second half belonged to Michael Rodger as he took his tally to four goals with strikes on 46, 54 and 70 minutes to make the final score 2-6.

Kyles skipper Roddy MacDonald lifts the Celtic Cup aloft. Photograph: Neil Paterson.



Harper wins second Mull Rally – 19 years after his first

Daniel Harper celebrated a superb Beatson's Building Supplies Mull Rally victory when the event finished in the early hours of Sunday October 10.

The Mini JCW WRC driver topped the podium 19 years on from his maiden 2002 win.

Daniel said: 'It's been a long wait for this second win and I think that actually makes it better than the first one. I always, always wanted to win driving a Mini.'

'As always, this has been a fantastic event – but it's been tricky. The weather's never straightforward and we took a bit of a gamble on Saturday morning, taking a slick when we thought it would dry up a bit. That's what this rally's all



The winning team of Daniel Harper and Chris Campbell.

about.' The Englishman was the last non-Muileach to take victory on what was a typically challenging all-asphalt event.

Local hero and winner last time

out Paul MacKinnon retired from the lead when his Ford Fiesta Rally2 MkII suffered an engine problem on Saturday afternoon. The second leg of the event was a heart-breaker for local fans with Dervaig's John MacCrone also departing after an engine issue in another Fiesta Rally2 MkII following the Mishnish Lochs 3 test.

For the first time, the Mull Rally was a round of the British Rally Championship.

Matt Edwards, chasing a hat-trick of BRC titles, was one of the first victims of the event, sliding off the road on the third corner of the opening stage.

The Welshman's recovery drive to move up 135 positions to fifth at the

finish – setting a string of fastest times and breaking stage records along the way – was one of the stories of Saturday.

Edwards' countryman Osian Pryce was, however, the BRC master of Mull. Running a sister Volkswagen from the Mel Evans Motorsport team, Pryce delivered the perfect drive to score maximum points and a superb second place.

Mark Constantine, Vauxhall Corsa; Kyle White, Peugeot 208 R2; William Creighton, Ford Fiesta Rally4, and David Bogie, Ford Escort, also celebrated class success on the island, with Bogie's sensational third overall meaning Eddie O'Donnell, Ford Escort, picking up the class D award.

Star return to league action with victory

Continued from page 28.

This gave manager Weir the chance to ring the changes, with Ryan Caskie coming on to replace Aaron Moore and helping himself to two goals of his own from close range to make the final score 1-7.

The only sour note was an injury to goal-scoring substitute Caskie which will rule him out of Star's next game.

Red Star will look to make it back-to-back wins on Saturday October 16 when they travel to play Port Glasgow OBU.

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Star return to league action with a victory

Duncanrig	1
Red Star	7

SAFL - Division One

RJD-sponsored Red Star travelled to East Kilbride, on Saturday October 9 to play their first league game since February 2020 and returned home with three points after an excellent performance against Duncanrig.

The visitors started the game on the front foot and could have been ahead after three minutes when Fraser Talbot's long-range effort came crashing back off the bar.

Star didn't have long to wait before they opened the scoring, however, as Stuart MacLean reacted quickest to a slip in the Duncanrig defence to put his side ahead four minutes later.

Talbot again came close to his first Red Star goal but was denied by the crossbar for the second time after finding space to shoot in the box.

The lead was doubled soon after when Aaron Moore linked up well with Stuart MacLean on the right and powered his shot through the hands of the Duncanrig keeper.

Star had several chances to make the game safe in the opening half hour with Craig

Aitken and Andy Weir providing the ammunition from the wide areas but the final touch was lacking.

Coll McCallum was next to rattle the bar as his long-range effort took a bizarre bounce over the keeper's head but the woodwork was once again kind to the hosts.

Duncanrig pulled themselves back into the game with a rare attack which saw Star switch off and concede a disappointing goal as the midfielder burst through the Star spine unchallenged to leave Ally Lewis with no chance.

This stung Star back into action and the two-goal cushion was restored before the break when an excellent counter-attack saw Talbot lay a perfectly weighted pass into the path of Aitken, who finished with great composure to give Star a 1-3 lead at half time.

Star looked to put the game to bed as quickly as possible in the second half and did so as Aaron Moore grabbed his second of the afternoon following a slip from the Duncanrig keeper. MacLean was next to double his tally as he proved too sharp for the Duncanrig defence and finished well from a tight angle to make the score 1-5 with half an hour to go.

Continued on page 27.

Racing Elaine heads to Spain thanks to sponsors



Elaine MacEachern is heading for Madrid to race in the Spanish round of the Women's Motocross World Championships in Madrid this weekend.

The motocross racer from Ormsary - now living in Inverclyde - met two of her main local sponsors earlier this week to thank them for their support.

Elaine said: 'I have a new look on my bike that shows off a couple of the local sponsors who have put a massive extra effort into getting me to Spain.'

'I'd like to thank all the local businesses who have sponsored me throughout the year and a big thank you particularly to DA MacDonald Contractors Ltd and A&D Watt Plumbing and Heating.'

'Their support in getting me back to the tracks this year after three years has been incredible and I'm grateful to them for giving me this opportunity to race and be able to go to Spain.'

'A special mention to Dyce Carriers Ltd, David Ferguson at Aquatig and my uncle at Michael Dempster Building Contractors for their very generous sponsorship towards this trip.'

'Not forgetting dad, mum and Elizabeth; Gavin Gorrie for all his help at home with prepping the bikes and van with us and to Douglas Watt for all the driving and trackside support.'

Spain-bound Elaine with sponsors Donald MacDonald of DA MacDonald Contractors, left, and Douglas Watt, of A&D Watt Plumbing and Heating.



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