

DON'T FORGET to put your clocks BACK ONE HOUR this weekend



Lochgilphead students to strike for climate justice

by Fiona Ross
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Students in Lochgilphead will join thousands of young people worldwide striking for climate justice on November 5.

Lochgilphead High School pupils are working in partnership with Time for Change Argyll to organise a day of action supporting the international Fridays for Future campaign, initiated by Swedish environmental activist Greta Thunberg.

An open invitation has been made for all local people with concerns about the climate to join the event, which will begin at Lochgilphead joint campus at 1.30pm. The plan is for those in attendance to march from there to Ropework Park.

Time for Change Argyll spokesperson Freya Aitchison said: 'The school and the council have been notified about the strike, which is to show solidarity with the people already experiencing the worst effects of climate change and to urge the global leaders at

COP26 to take stronger action to keep global heating to below 1.5°C.

'Everyone is welcome, not just school students, and it's encouraged to bring banners and signs.'

The day of action is also being supported by Argyll College UHI which has announced it will be authorising absence for

'We're supporting our students who want to take part in Fridays For Future's school strike for climate justice.'

any students wanting to join protests.

Staff at the college are encouraging students to join Greta Thunberg at a demonstration in Glasgow's Kelvingrove Park which is anticipated to be attended by 8,000 people, including the award-winning 18-year-old campaigner.

'We're supporting our stu-

dents who want to take part in Fridays For Future's school strike for climate justice on Friday November 5,' a spokesperson for the college said.

'As an institution which is committed to reducing our own carbon footprint, we will not disadvantage students who wish to attend this demonstration. We will be authorising absence for anyone who informs us in advance that they will be travelling to Glasgow to protest.

'An authorised absence means that student bursaries and any funds dependent on attendance will be unaffected for this day.'

Time for Change Argyll's involvement in the strike follows their meeting last week with Argyll and Bute MP Brendan O'Hara, after which he raised their concerns at a debate in the House of Commons about limiting global temperature rises at COP26.

At the debate on October 21, the MP said: 'Last night

Continued on page 3.



Edith spreads the love at belated birthday party

They stood outside in the rain back in February to show their love for Edith MacKellar on her 90th birthday – but last weekend Edith returned the compliment to friends and neighbours.

Edith was surprised back then to see a damp, socially-distanced group of villagers standing outside Furnace Village Hall to sing 'Happy Birthday', before presenting her with flowers.

Touched by the gesture, and with restrictions easing slightly, last Sunday afternoon Edith took the opportunity to treat villagers to food and drinks, in the company of her family, at the village hall as a late birthday celebration.

Edith is pictured on the right having a great time with Karen Baird and Syb Masters.

Photograph: Emma Irons.

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POLICE FILES

Drugs found

At 10.20am on Wednesday October 20 at Argyll Street, Lochgilphead police had cause to stop and search a vehicle and motorist. A man, aged 18, was found in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis. He was subsequently issued a recorded police warning.

Charged

A report was made to police at 7.15am on Thursday October 21 in relation to a male allegedly acting in a threatening manner and having assaulted another person at an address in Burns Brae, Lochgilphead. Police attended and a 24-year-old man was identified as being responsible. He was subsequently arrested and charged in relation to assault. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

No vehicle insurance

At 1.20am on Monday October 11 near Sinclair Avenue, Inveraray, police officers carried out routine checks on a motor vehicle and found it did not have insurance. The driver, a woman aged 29, was later charged with the offence and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Theft

Between 5pm on Wednesday October 20 and 10am on Thursday October 21, at M&I MacKinnon Shellfish Limited, Tarbert, a fuel tank was damaged and a quantity of fuel stolen. Enquiries continue and police are appealing for anyone with information to contact them on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.



Work to lay the stone paving got under way earlier this week...and the way it looked in May before work began.

Town begins to shine as transformation evolves

Stunning improvements are materialising on Lochgilphead front green as plans for a £1.5 million upgrade become a reality, writes Colin Cameron.

Since contractor Hawthorn Heights Limited arrived at the site on May 31 to begin work, the green has changed beyond

recognition, with a raised area taking shape, drains installed, a new walking and cycleway in place and exciting new play equipment in place for youngsters.

The contractors are now busy installing the same stone slabs as those recently used to

upgrade pavements across the road in Colchester Square and Argyll Street.

Investment

The use of Achnaba stone, from MacLeod Construction's quarry outside Lochgilphead, will help tie in the new public events space on the

green to the rest of the town. The use of Achnaba stone was made possible after Argyll and Bute Council allocated £80,000 to the scheme from its share of the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Programme to revitalise town centres.

Rest disruption takes Inveraray off bus route

Frequent closures at the Rest and be Thankful due to the threat of landslides have resulted in Citylink bosses re-routing the Oban bus away from the A83 through Inveraray to the A82 Loch Lomond road.

The change to the 976 Glasgow to Oban service is for the winter months only as the intention is to bring back journeys via Inveraray next summer.

A Citylink spokesperson said: 'We have made the decision to route the Oban service away from Inveraray



The landslide threat on the A83 has resulted in Citylink re-routing the Oban service to Inveraray.

for the winter months due to the unreliability of the A83 at the Rest and be Thankful. The frequent road closures over the last couple of years have caused an increasing level of disruption

to the service.' The change to the Oban to Glasgow service means there are no buses serving the A819 between Dalmally and Inveraray. Customers wanting to get to Oban from

Inveraray will now have to travel to Lochgilphead and connect with the West Coast Motors service from there, or go to Tarbet for bus connections. Inveraray Community Council has approached Argyll and Bute MSP Jenni Minto for support. Community council convener Linda Divers said: 'I think it's unfair for the people who use the service for it suddenly to be taken away. It's a disappointment to Inveraray residents who use the bus for hospital, dental and optician appointments.'

Rest petition picks up speed

A petition by the business-led Rest and be Thankful Campaign group calling for a permanent solution for the A83 at Glen Croe by 2024 has attracted thousands of signatures since going live on Monday October 18.

At the time of going to press this week, that number had shot up to 2,344.

The petition asks the Scottish Parliament to urge Transport Minister Graeme Dey MSP and the Scottish Government to recognise 'the crisis' at the Rest and be Thankful as an emergency due to the economic and environmental impacts and the 'high risk' that 100,000 of debris is ready to fall which could be a 'risk to life'.

John Gurr, the campaign group's chairperson, said: 'We ask that Graeme Dey MSP and the Scottish Government deliver a robust two-way temporary alternative to the A83 by 2022 - the current mitigation works of planting trees and digging pits does not stop landslides or stop the road from being closed every time it rains.'

'We ask Mr Dey and the Scottish Government to stop wasting time on lengthy consultations and deliver a permanent solution by 2024.'

To add your signature to the 'Deliver permanent solution to the Rest and be Thankful by 2024' petition, visit chnq.it/RQDn8NHcdf

In a separate move, Argyll and Bute councillors Dougie Philand, Mid Argyll, and Donald Kelly, South Kintyre, of the political grouping Argyll and Bute First have submitted a petition to the Scottish Parliament asking for a full public enquiry into the management of the Rest and be Thankful project.

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Clerical errors hit Argyll's Covid jab rollout campaign

by Colin Cameron
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Health bosses have apologised this week after a series of Covid vaccination administration errors sparked widespread confusion across Argyll.

A Covid vaccination clinic in Lochgilphead last weekend - believed by many to be a drop-in session - prompted questions on social media about why it had not been advertised.

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) told the Advertiser this week that the clinic, held at Lochgilphead Community Centre on Saturday October 23, was not an open drop-in session, but was intended as a second dose clinic for people aged 18 to 39, who were able to turn up and receive their jab. It followed a staff clinic held on Thursday October 21.

An HSCP spokesperson added: 'There will be no further drop-in Covid-19 vaccination clinics and our clinics will be advertised on the NHS Highland website shortly.

'Some clinics have started and others are scheduled to start in November. The scheduled clinics will be updated on the website.'

But the confusion did not stop there.

The HSCP blamed human

error for sending out letters inviting 16 and 17-year-olds for a second dose - only for them to be turned away at Lochgilphead on Saturday and at Oban's Corran Halls the following day, Sunday October 14.

The HSCP spokesperson said: 'Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership would like to apologise for the vaccination invitation letters sent in error.

'The letters were issued by human error inviting people to attend the clinic. Unfortunately the attempt to cancel the appointment scheduling tool from issuing the letter was unsuccessful.

'We apologise sincerely for this error and the confusion this has caused. All eligible people due Covid-19 vaccinations will be lettered inviting them to the next scheduled clinic for their age group.'

NHS Highland phonelines were once again jammed on Wednesday this week after people in Mid Argyll received letters inviting them to attend a Covid vaccine clinic on November 1 at Lochgilphead Village Hall, 8 Hall Road, Lochgilphead, Cairndow, PA25 8QA - a non-existent hall and road in a Cairndow postcode.

Fresh letters are to be issued. As confusion piled upon con-

fusion, Lochgilphead Medical Centre issued a Facebook appeal for patients not to contact the practice about Covid vaccine issues and instead to speak to the NHS Highland Vaccination Hub on 01463 705531.

NHS Highland plans to run its Covid booster and flu vaccination programme until December.

Dr Tim Allison, director of public health for NHS Highland, said last week that the latest phase of Covid jabs 'will be challenging'.

He added: 'Not only do we have a larger number of people requiring vaccination, we also have a population that has gone back to work or school and will not find it as easy to attend clinics.

'The re-opening of NHS services also restricts our ability to complete vaccinations across a complex geography as quickly as we aim to.'

Responsibility for administering booster or third Covid vaccinations has been centralised by Argyll and Bute HSCP, away from the GP practices.

The HSCP spokesperson explained that given the pressure health and care systems are under, the HSCP 'felt that the best way of balancing the delivery of the vaccination programme in this context was for the practices to offer

the flu vaccine to their patients and for the board to deliver the Covid booster in most areas'.

They added: 'The board is extremely grateful to all practices for their support of the programme so far.

'The HSCP vaccination team is delivering Covid-19 vaccinations with the exception of those registered at GP practices on the islands of Coll, Colonsay, Jura, Tiree, Bute and the three practices on Islay.

'People eligible and meeting the priority groups recommended by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation will be invited by letter, with details on how they can get their vaccination, as clinics are arranged locally.

'It is important for patients who are eligible for a booster to wait to be invited to clinics, rather than contact the hub about their appointment. Exceptions to this will be communicated on our website.'

Dr Allison concluded: 'Please be assured we are working to vaccinate you as quickly as we can but we would ask for everyone's patience as we work through our plans.'



Lochgilphead students last joined the global strike in 2019.

Lochgilphead students to strike for climate justice

Continued from page 1.

I met my constituents who had organised a meeting through Time for Change Argyll and Bute.

They wanted to make sure that I, as their MP, knew exactly what they expected of me, of the Scottish Government and of the UK Government ahead of COP.

'That included telling the UK Government and the Prime Minister that they must now live up to what was promised in Paris and guarantee to re-



Argyll College students are being urged to join Greta Thunberg at the Glasgow march

Photograph: Anders Hellberg/Effekt magazine.

strict global warming to 1.5°, that there can be no more horse-trading and trying to fudge this issue and that Glasgow has to be the turning-point for the world that Paris should have been. Now, tragically, it has to be seen as a squandered opportunity. I know I am not alone in engaging with constituents on this issue.'

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Villagers turned out in force to the newly-reopened hall to support Macmillan and enjoy great food and company.

Team Furnace boost for Macmillan Cancer Support

Furnace Village Hall was finally able to fling open its freshly-painted doors on Saturday October 23, after a long 19 months due to Covid, to host a well-attended Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning.

Guests were welcomed with a bowl of hearty soup made by Cindy from the village shop.

This was eagerly 'washed down' with tea and coffee, which in turn was soaked up by sandwiches and cake, and plenty of it – all made by bakers in the village.

The cups were refilled and plates refreshed throughout the morning leading up to the much-anticipated raffle, with

donated prizes including a print of Furnace from The Harbour Gallery, Avon products and an amazing Topsy Turvy Cake – very much a team effort from four village bakers.

'The event exceeded all our expectations,' said Ruth Tott, organiser of the day. 'We raised a staggering £780, which will go straight to Macmillan to help it offer valuable support when people need it most.'

'This was very much a team effort and I want to thank the washer-uppers, the servers, bakers and the 'meeters and greeters' for their help leading up to and during the day, and to everyone who generously supported the cause.'

Minor glitches but pool project on home straight

by Colin Cameron
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Work continues on the re-development of Mid Argyll Community Pool (MACPool), with the new café and changing rooms extensions substantially complete.

The project has, however, encountered some unforeseen complications in the past few weeks, with the roof of the pool needing remedial work and, like other construction projects, minor delays to material supplies.

John Gurr, incoming chairperson of Mid Argyll Community Enterprises (MACEL), which operates the



Kim Ritchie, standing down as chair of MACEL after 10 years in the role, pictured in May 2019 with a plan of the proposed re-development.

08_a18KimRitchie01

pool, explained: 'MacLeod Construction Ltd, which is carrying out the work, is managing to find ways around the majority of these hurdles but the result is we will not get the building handed over until Christmas.'

'We can assure you that everyone is working very hard to hit these new dates, and the MACEL board is hopeful that it can welcome the first

swimmers back to the pool by the end of January.'

At the MACPool AGM on October 7 Kim Ritchie stood down as chairperson of the MACPool board.

Mr Gurr thanked Kim for her hard work over the last 10 years, and for navigating MACPool through some challenging times. Her legacy will be presiding over the redevelopment of the new pool

facilities and finding the £1.7m of funding needed to achieve this vision.

'We would like to thank everybody who has donated funds for the much-needed fit-out of the pool for their generosity,' continued Mr Gurr.

'There is always more we can do to ensure this community project is the best it can be for opening. If you haven't yet contributed and would like to – it's not too late! Just email redevelopment@macpool.org.uk for more details.'

One of the success factors of the new Hub is going to be the MACPool team.

Manager Fiona MacAlpine is recruiting new team members, so if you think you have what it takes to be a shift supervisor, leisure attendant, administrator or cook and want to join the team in the new MacPool Activity Hub, keep an eye on the Argyllshire Advertiser recruitment pages, as well as the MACPool website and Facebook page.



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Saturday 1.00pm
Sunday 5.30pm

Wednesday & Thursday 4.00pm

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Saturday 7.30pm

Spirited Away (PG)

Saturday 4.30pm

Camera: The Giant Monster (PG)

Sunday 2.00pm

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Tribute paid to legion and armed forces



The Royal British Legion was established in May 1921 to care for those who had suffered as a result of service during the Great War. A century on, the charity continues to support the armed forces' community. At a special wreath-laying ceremony on Sunday October 24, Inveraray branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland commemorated the centenary at Inveraray and Furnace war memorials. Pictured are Legion members preparing to lay the wreath at Inveraray war memorial. Photograph: Emma Irons.

Education chiefs reveal plans to 'cluster' Argyll and Bute schools

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Education chiefs have revealed a timeline for community engagement on shaking up school leadership across Argyll.

Argyll and Bute's community services committee decided in June this year there would be an extensive consultation process to help shape the future of education services.

The pledge was to listen to all stakeholders, from parents to pupils and communities to education professionals, trade unions and policymakers so they can have input.

If the changes go ahead, it could see schools covering from ages three to 18 working together in clusters. Instead of each school having its own headteacher, there would be an executive headship for each cluster. Resources would also be bought and shared out

in each cluster and teachers would also work for a cluster rather than one particular school so they too could be shared, for example to give cover.

Potentially the numbers of headteachers across Argyll and Bute could be cut from 80 to around 14, warns Scotland's largest teaching union The Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS) which says it has major concerns.

More than 800 people have already signed an online petition at change.org to stop plans for a cluster schools programme in Cowal.

In 2004 Argyll and Bute plans for joint school campuses in Campbeltown, Dunoon and Helensburgh were abandoned after protest marches and petitions persuaded councillors to reject the super-campus idea.

Information from the new cluster consultations will be used to inform any proposals



Council policy lead for education, Councillor Yvonne McNeilly.

before they go back to the community services committee. Consultation time with communities, parents and pupils comes towards the end of the schedule - those groups will be given 'a toolkit'

to help them lead their talks themselves. Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for education Councillor Yvonne McNeilly said: 'The best outcomes for our young people are at the heart of all our work.

We are a council that listens to our communities and this proactive engagement programme will be at the core of our decision-making.

'We very much welcome the views and ideas of our communities and look forward to seeing what their vision is for the future of education services in Argyll and Bute.

'To provide the very best for our children and young people we must take positive action to deliver a sustainable education service. This expanded engagement programme is one such positive action.'

An overview of how the engagement would work was due to be shared with the council's policymakers last month when headteacher focus groups were due to start.

Union representatives and headteachers were to be consulted on proposals this month with school staff being consulted next by their own

headteachers. Between now and March on the consultation calendar, all staff will be able to attend one-to-one engagement sessions.

Then will come consultations with higher education and further education partners at Argyll College and SAMS before it is the turn of communities, parents and pupils.

Over two weeks sometime between next month or January, still to be confirmed, there will be an open consultation followed by a direct email campaign reaching businesses, the diocese and Bord na Gaidhlig, the principal public body in Scotland responsible for promoting Gaelic development.

In April, there will be a findings and analysis review of all the consultations and in May there will be a presentation of findings and refined proposals to headteachers, unions and policymakers.

Lochgilphead flower shop to become hot food takeaway

Plans to turn a Lochgilphead florist into a hot food takeaway has been approved.

An Argyll and Bute Council planning officer recommended that planning permission should be granted for the proposal by Mr A Pia for 25 Lochnell Street.

Residents have made their concerns known to the authority about traffic and the suitability of the development in a conservation area, with 11 objections submitted.

The plans, however, were approved by the council's planning, protective services and licensing committee at its virtual meeting on October 20.

In response to an objection about the appropriateness of the plans for a conservation

area, the officer said: 'A council officer has visited the site and has deemed the proposal acceptable within the conservation area in its impact on the main streetscapes. The rear extension and work is not deemed unexpected in the back lands and its visibility from the lane.'

The officer added: 'The current upgrade programme of the Lochgilphead Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) includes the upgrading of shop fronts.

'If there is to be a change of use of the shop, advertising permission is likely to be required for new signs, which may qualify for assistance under the grants scheme.

'It is deemed that as the building is within the CARS area, a void shop may be detrimental to the streetscape and the economic vitality of the town centre.

'The rear extension to form

toilets is to be a single storey rectangular structure of around four square metres adjoining the rear wall of the current building. This is not only subordinate to this part of the block but to the shop unit itself. It will be accessible from both the premises kitchen and the outside yard.

'The exterior of the extension is to be finished in materials consistent with a rear of block townscape and with its limited exposure with the conservation area.'

The officer concluded: 'The proposal conforms to the relevant policies of the development plan and there are no other material considerations which would warrant departure from these policies.'

The application was approved by six votes to five, subject to conditions including the installation of a suitable fume extraction system for odour control.

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Remember, remember the impact of fireworks as new laws are imposed

The Scottish Government has launched a new campaign to ensure people are aware of new regulations relating to the use of fireworks.

New laws mean it is now illegal to set off fireworks before 6pm and after 11pm. The law allows for an extension until midnight on November 5 and 1am on Hogmanay, Chinese New Year and Diwali.

The new rules aim to lessen the negative impact of fireworks on people and animals.

Fiona Clarke, an autistic person living in Scotland, supports the campaign.

She said: 'Visually, fireworks can be a sensory delight and portray celebration but for some of us, the noise, flashes of light, together with the unpredictable nature of how long they will go on for, can be overwhelming.'

'It's not just sensory issues that can cause autistic people difficulty with fireworks, as some may simply not understand what Bonfire Night is or what to expect.'

'This campaign is important in raising awareness of the negative impact fireworks can have on others and encouraging people to be more mindful of that.'

New rules aim to lessen the negative impact on people and animals

If you plan on having your own firework display this year it is important you know the rules and how to keep you and your family safe.

Statistics show that during the bonfire season, 85 per cent of all firework injuries treated at emergency departments happen at informal displays. More than half of those requiring treatment are children.

So make sure you keep a safe distance – not all fireworks are suitable for private use. It depends on size of your garden/area.

Follow the fireworks code – stand well back, never return to a firework after it has been lit and read instructions before use.

Deputy assistant chief officer Alasdair Perry is the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service's head of prevention and protection.

He said: 'We welcome the continuing support of our communities and by following

'Fireworks can be a sensory delight... but for some of us the noise, flashes of light and the unpredictable nature of how long they will go on for, can be overwhelming.'

all the available safety guidance from ourselves and our partners, they can help reduce the risk of harm. Every year people are injured by bonfires and fireworks and admitted to hospital - and children are particularly affected.

'Anyone thinking of hosting a private event involving fire, flame or fireworks is asked to consider the risks. Those who choose to do so should familiarise themselves with the



fireworks code and fire safety guidance.

'We strongly advise them not to take risks because the consequences can be devastating.'

If you are planning a private fireworks display, let your neighbours know when you might be setting fireworks off. For some of your neighbours, fireworks can be particularly distressing and frightening. Many neighbourhood pets

will also be distressed from the loud and sudden noise.

Scottish SPCA head of education, policy and research Gilly Mendes Ferreira said: 'Every year, thousands of animals suffer stress and anxiety caused by the use of fireworks.'

'As animals have more acute hearing than humans, the loud and high pitched noises made by fireworks can cause animals to become fearful

and distressed. Animals can panic and flee at the sound of the bang and this can lead them towards danger such as being the cause of a road traffic accident, also putting human lives at risk.

'Our advice for those with animals can be found at www.scottishspca.org/news/fireworks-advice.

'This includes not walking your dog at night when fireworks are being set off, bringing all pets indoors and stabling horses. Make sure doors, windows and cat flaps are kept closed so your pet doesn't become distressed and try to escape. If you're setting a bonfire, always check for cats or wildlife before setting it alight.'

If there is a local firework display taking place, think about going to it instead of holding your own private one.

Visit www.firescotland.gov.uk for more information.

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Lochgilphead Parish Church

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Home baking, sales table and raffle (donations for sales table and raffle gratefully accepted)

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You are invited to attend

Scottish Bible Society's Annual Service when local churches get together to celebrate Bible Sunday on Sunday 31st October in the Highland Parish Church at 7pm

with guest speaker Norman Liddle, the Community Partnership Manager from Scottish Bible Society in Edinburgh.

Come along and hear what the Bible Society is doing in Scotland and overseas.

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The End of the Road Club presents

"Spooky Tours" Free event for the kids

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Beautiful autumnal colours in focus

Mairi Henderson from Lochgilphead submitted this week's featured photograph.

Taken with her iPhone 11, Mairi used a long exposure setting to capture the motion of the water in this burn on the Inveraray to Dalmally road, surrounded by beautiful autumnal colours.

Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A doormat with the text "DO THE TEST" on a tiled floor next to a doorway. The doormat is orange and has the words "DO THE TEST" printed in bold, black, capital letters. The floor is made of white tiles with a grey geometric pattern. A white door is partially open, showing a glimpse of the outside world. The overall scene is clean and modern.

A wee reminder.

Let's stop the spike.

[NHSinform.scot/testing](https://www.nhs.uk/informationscot/testing)



Above: Headline act Rory O'B weaving magic into the mundane; below: Che Martin from Campbeltown on the right with Dave Baggaley on keyboard.



MOJO has the Ardfern rafters ringing

As the dust settles on the fourth MOJO festival of original music, organiser Dan Griffiths gives the Advertiser the lowdown on an evening of musical magic from some of Argyll's best musicians

MOJO 2021 simply blew the roof off Craignish Village Hall yet again with superb original musicians from across Argyll.

With Covid requirements in place and everybody adhering to them very well, the audience was treated to original music from some of the best our region has to offer.

There may have been just 50 per cent attendance due to Covid restrictions – but we still achieved 100 per cent of the atmosphere which is what our showcase is all about.

Our format had changed this year, with more acoustic acts playing due to bigger bands being unable to get together over the last year. But the

acoustic sets gave an even more personal touch to the night, which really got everyone hooked from the start.

Sound man Matt delivered excellent sound as ever, our volunteers ran everything so smoothly, the musicians excelled in their performances and everybody there just loved it.

First up was Catherine Fincher from Lochgilhead, our youngest ever singer who, after a bit of last minute tuning, set up the night so well with her spellbinding voice and style.

Catherine included real vulnerability in some tracks, particularly her lockdown blues



Opening act Catherine Fincher, with her spellbinding voice, set up the night in style.

but cleverly always remained upbeat and the audience really took to her brilliant set.

Act number two was Che (Charles) Martin from Campbeltown who gave us a great bustling performance with support from keyboardist Dave Baggaley.

In his indie folk set, Che delivered his really popular alternative national anthem This is Scotland to a cheering audience and gave us some really moving tunes.

From Ardfern, Hannah

Boaden, with support from partner Paul Standing, was next, giving us a lesson in varied instrument techniques, with Hannah's vocals and keyboarding really shining out in all her catchy indie/grunge songs, especially her Chased a Life.

So to act number four – the Lush Puppies. Sheila Mcgregor and Ali Barrow from Oban created a mesmerising set of delightful songs, such as Summer Song, with their beautiful harmonies and fine guitar playing.

The headliner act was Rory O'B from Oban, who began his set with such an unusual acoustic ballad style, weaving magic into sometimes mundane things, leaving everybody in a lovely bubble.

This burst in splendid fashion when he changed his format completely and started his legendary rap, beefing up the vibe with the guest appearance of his fellow vocal hero and friend K9 Kev, Kevin Irvine.

They just took over the place, including the floor, and the audience just loved it so much they couldn't get enough of their West Coast Town.

There was encore after encore and fans even had some space cleared for a good old dance hoedown.

We didn't have a full house and Covid restrictions meant no big bands this year, but again Argyll's finest original musicians stood tall and delivered – brilliant performances, so many great styles of great music, inspiration and a really special fourth MOJO showcase which will always be remembered fondly for all who were there.

We also made a small profit, too, which will be shared equally between all acts.

We hope to be back next year, but meantime, follow these unique music people on social media, click them a 'like' as it means a lot. Follow our Facebook page for follow-ups from all our acts and updates.



Above: The mesmerising Sheila Mcgregor and Ali Barrow – The Lush Puppies.



Left: Hannah Boaden delighted the audience, supported by Paul Standing.



AN CÀRR DUBH WIND FARM Public Exhibition Invitation

We invite you to attend our public exhibition for the An Càrr Dubh (previously called Car Duibh) Wind Farm proposal, with the nearest turbine located over 5km to the north-west of Inveraray and over 4km to the east of Dalavich.

PHYSICAL EXHIBITION

Ford Village Hall - Tuesday 9 November, 2pm - 7pm

Dalavich Community Centre - Wednesday 10 November, 2pm - 7pm

Loch Fyne Hotel, Inveraray - Thursday 11 November, 2pm - 7pm

To help manage Covid-19 risks we are operating an appointment system, please book a space to attend at www.ancarrdubh.co.uk or call us on 0800 772 0668. The booking system will be available from 1 November 2021.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Our exhibition website will be live from 1 November 2021 to 21 November 2021 with all exhibition material available and opportunities to discuss the project with the team. Please visit www.ancarrdubh.co.uk for more information, where a link to the online exhibition and details of the live Q&A sessions will be available.

Comments should be made to Statkraft UK and do not constitute a formal representation. An opportunity to make a formal representation will exist when a subsequent application is made. Thank you and we hope you can take part in the events.



Exquisite symbols are located in Kilmalieu's old cemetery.

Understanding gravestones: their symbols and stories

Intriguing insights into local history and people's past were revealed to Inveraray History Society earlier this month by Mark Hatton in his presentation on Understanding 17th and 18th century gravestones.

Early in the 17th century, a sense of peace under the rule of James I led to a blossoming of trade.

Once a constrained city, Edinburgh began to show a development in burial stones to prove social status.

These stones illustrated a different attitude to death in that life on Earth was the hard part before going to heaven.

Argyll was quick to follow this trend and the individuality of gravestones became more frequent.

Symbols were largely in three categories – mortality, resurrection and trade/status.

Skulls were used to indicate that death is inevitable and served as a message to the living that life must be used to prepare well for that eventuality.

Hourglasses and hearts emphasised this message as well.

Resurrection symbols showing hope for eternity were often portrayed by a child's face with wings, while trade and status symbols were shown in many different styles, indicating a great deal about a person's life.

Mark illustrated many exciting examples around Argyll, highlighting some of the breathtaking symbols in the old cemetery in Kilmalieu, near the Old Military Road.

His concern is that a number of locations are not being looked after, and these important illustrations of the area's history will be lost forever if nothing is done about it.

An excellent example of a successful restoration is to be found in the grounds of the historic church of Kilbride, near Oban, completely rejuvenated by a dedicated team of volunteers.

A Friends of Kilmalieu group is in the process of being set up on Facebook and would welcome anyone interested in helping to restore this important part of local history.

Caroline Wood would be happy to let anyone know of an initial meeting and progress. Email carolinewood76@hotmail.co.uk for more details.

Inveraray History Society's next meeting will take place on Tuesday November 2 in the church hall.

The speaker will be Duncan Beaton on family history research at Inveraray Castle archives.

All are welcome to go along, whether society members or not.

Councillor steps down citing personal reasons

Lomond North Councillor Barbara Morgan has resigned from Argyll and Bute Council, the authority has confirmed.

The Kilcreggan resident, who was elected as a Conservative councillor in 2017, has stood down for personal reasons.

She had been chairperson of the council's Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee since October 2020, following the passing of Helensburgh and Lomond South Councillor Ellen Morton.

Arrangements for the next steps are to be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the full council, which is scheduled for Thursday November 25.

A virtual full council meeting is taking place on Thursday October 28, but is expected to solely discuss responses to consultations by the Scottish Government.

It is not known whether a by-election will take place before the scheduled council elections on Thursday May 5,

2022, or whether the Lomond North ward will continue with its two remaining councillors – George Freeman and Iain S Paterson – until then.

Ms Morgan was also a member of the council's community services committee, and had been present at a virtual meeting of the full council on Thursday September 30.

The council confirmed her resignation was with immediate effect.

Column sponsored by Safer Scotland

Remember, remember... the impact of fireworks

New rules have been introduced to lessen the negative impact of fireworks, meaning it's illegal to set off fireworks before 6pm and after 11pm. This extends to midnight on 5th November and 1am on Hogmanay, Chinese New Year and Diwali.

While fireworks can be great fun, they can be dangerous if used incorrectly. During bonfire season, 85% of all firework injuries treated at emergency departments happen at private displays, and more than half of those requiring treatment are children.

Mortars and rockets are responsible for the majority of serious eye and hand injuries, however sparklers, fountains and firecrackers are also frequent sources of injury.

It's safest to celebrate at an organised event if there's one in your area, but if you're planning a private display at home, make sure you know how to keep you and your family safe:

- Keep a safe distance
- Follow the fireworks code and read instructions before use
- Not all fireworks are suitable for private use. It depends on the size of your garden
- Visit www.firescotland.gov.uk for more safety advice

It's important to think of others and be aware of the impact fireworks can have on those around you. The loud and sudden noises can be distressing for those with noise sensitivity, including autistic people and veterans, and pet owners know only too well the distress they can cause animals.

Enjoy fireworks safely. For more advice visit www.firescotland.gov.uk

To report the misuse of fireworks anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

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Care service approach 'fails to address Argyll's needs'

Plans for a national care service in Scotland have failed to take account of the challenges facing Argyll and Bute, the area's council has claimed.

The Scottish Government has proposed the service in a bid to improve the way social care is delivered in Scotland after recommendations of an independent review.

The council has been invited to deliver its opinions, but a draft response has claimed that not enough consultation has taken place and at the wrong time.

It has also expressed the view that a national care service is not the only solution to addressing the challenges faced by social care services in Scotland.

The authority's draft response was discussed by the full council at a special virtual meeting on Thursday October



28. In the draft document, a council spokesperson said: 'As a remote/rural council, we feel there has been a lack of consideration of the particular and unique challenges that we face as an authority, compared to those within more urban areas, when developing the proposals, and would urge the Scottish Government to ensure that the impacts of this proposal are fully assessed in an Islands Impact Assessment

and Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

'For example, being able to provide equity of provision to all our residents and communities is a significant issue for an area like Argyll and Bute and there is a concern some of the proposals will compound this issue.

'The council also believes that the period of consultation is unnecessarily short given the scale of implications for

'The council has concerns around the level of detail and evidence that has been made available'

social work/care service users, carers, staff in the sector, provider organisations and for local government as a whole.

'It is also being carried out at a time of unprecedented pressure on public services as they seek to recover from the impact of the pandemic.

'This response from the council is based on the limited, and sometimes unclear, information provided as part of the consultation document. The council has concerns around the level of detail and evidence that has been made available.

'Given the significance of the proposals, there is an expectation of greater clarity but this does not currently exist.'

The council's draft response raised concerns about a perceived lack of detail on the medium to long-term strategy required to implement the new service.

It also expressed fears about 'unanswered questions' on the employment status of local government social work and social care staff.

The spokesperson added: 'The council recognises that there are issues which require to be addressed in respect of social care services, but does not support the view that the creation of a National Care Service is the only solution to addressing these challenges.

'On this basis, the council has outlined a number of alternative measures that could be taken to implement the desired changes across the key themes within the consultation paper.

'To date there has been no involvement from local government in respect of developing the proposals, therefore the council would very much welcome further engagement and dialogue as the consultation process progresses.'



Social care minister Kevin Stewart. Photo: Andrew Cowan/Scottish Parliament.

Social care minister Kevin Stewart said: 'We are committed to delivering a National Care Service by the end of this parliament to end the postcode lottery in the provision of care services in Scotland.

'The Independent Review of Adult Social Care found the current ways of working have not fully delivered the improvements intended to be achieved by integration of health and social care.

'We understand there is often a need for a different approach for people living in island and rural areas and the National Care Service will help ensure that is delivered.

'A full range of impact assessments, including the Island Communities Impact

Assessment and Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment will be carried out in line with our statutory duties and commitments.

'Our ambition is to create a comprehensive community health and social care service that wraps around families and smooth transitions between different categories of care.

'The consultation seeks views on including those services that are already currently covered by integration arrangements, although this varies in different parts of the country.

'We are still very early in the consultation process and we look forward to considering all feedback when the consultation closes later this year.'

Argyll and Bute Council feels there has been a lack of consideration for the 'unique challenges' in the region, including remote rural areas and many inhabited islands.

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Mairi MacLeod Coleman is to chair Scottish Land and Estates in the Highlands.

Mairi takes the lead on Highland land management

A leading businesswoman from Lochgilphead is to head up the Highland division of a national land managers' organisation.

Mairi MacLeod Coleman takes up the post of chairperson with Scottish Land and Estates (SLE) after 15 years' experience in the banking industry.

She has recently joined her family's business, MacLeod Construction and Achnaba Estate, and is based full time in Lochgilphead.

She is also the vice chairperson of liveArgyll and the chairperson of Young Enterprise Scotland in Argyll.

Mairi succeeds Gordon Robertson who has served as Highland chairman for more than 15 years.

Mairi said: 'I'm really passionate about helping to address important issues in our rural areas, such as housing and skills and training opportunities.'

'There are unique challenges for rural Scotland and Scottish Land and Estates members are already playing their part in helping to positively address those.'

'I'm looking forward to working with businesses in the Highland region to build our contribution even further.'

Chairman of Scottish Land and Estates Mark Tennant added: 'Mairi is a very welcome addition to the SLE regional team and will play a crucial role in ensuring the views of our members are well represented.'

CONTACTUS

email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
telephone 01546 602345

Enterprise agency recruits new chief

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) has announced the appointment of Dr Stuart Black as its next chief executive.

Stuart, who will take up the post in January 2022, has led the economic and community development agency's Moray team since February 2020. Earlier this year, he took on additional responsibility as HIE's lead area manager, co-ordinating the work of eight locally-based teams around the region.

Originally from Inverness, he is a graduate of the universities

of Edinburgh and Glasgow, where he gained a doctorate in town and regional planning.

Stuart began his career with the University of Aberdeen, before joining HIE for the first time in 1996 as head of economics. Between then and 2008, he held several posts covering different parts of the organisation's remit. These included local enterprise company chief executive, director of strengthening communities and director of global connections.

From 2008 to 2020, he was a member of the senior team



Dr Stuart Black will take up the post in January.

at the Highland Council, initially as director of planning and development and later as executive chief officer for transformation and economy.

Economy Secretary Kate Forbes MSP said: 'Highlands and Islands Enterprise has a vital role to play in supporting

businesses and communities through a sustainable economic recovery from the impacts of the pandemic and helping to drive forward an ambitious agenda of economic transformation.

'I am delighted to welcome Stuart Black to his new post. He is already held in high esteem across communities and businesses because of his previous work in the Highlands. I have had the privilege of working with him in the past and I look forward to strengthening our working relationship.'

HIE chairman Alistair Dodds CBE said: 'This is a significant appointment for

HIE, of course, and for the Highlands and Islands more widely.

'The economic impacts of the pandemic were keenly felt by Scotland's rural areas, including many that depend on hard-hit sectors such as tourism, hospitality and food and drink. That said, we have some wonderful assets across our region – not just our geography, culture and heritage, but also the skills and resourcefulness of our communities and businesses – that offer tremendous hope for the future.'

'I know Stuart will bring to the role not only his exceptional talent and experience, but also a willingness to listen to our businesses and communities and the energy and creativity we need to work together to make a positive difference in the years ahead.'

Partnership requires listening to others

A view by health and wellbeing campaigner Barabel McKay, chairwoman of the volunteer Mid Argyll-based Health and Care Group.

Democracy is in trouble. The people are speaking, but they are not being heard.

The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities says that the communities it serves are losing out because of a lack of consultation between themselves and government on new care proposals. As its president puts it, partnership 'eludes us in practice'.

In our community, this sounds familiar.

Kirsty Flanagan, the executive director of Argyll and Bute council, is warning us about depopulation, more old than young left behind. Funding for services gets allocated by population, so people leaving the area take their spending power with them.

The Convention of the Highlands and Islands suggests a sub-regional population response team.

In other words, set up a group; get some money; do a scoping exercise; find out what is happening on the ground; brainstorm; discuss next steps. That takes time.

'Rapidly impacting on the situation' is exactly what will not happen. In spite of this, the same approach is proposed in council housing strategy - looking at cost, legislative barriers, land supply and infrastructure.

As the problems have been

around for a long time, they cannot have been caught unaware and must have already prepared some answers.

People vote with their feet if their needs are not met.

If adequate support is not available for complex conditions, people move to have better medical management.

Relatives who cannot find care for an elderly or dementia-affected loved one go elsewhere.

The current ambulance crisis means staff and patients can no longer trust that transport to appropriate care is within reach of a phone call.

This problem is not ours alone, but our geography, road conditions and lack of ferries make our situation more critical. There is a demonstrable lack of respect towards individuals and business interests in this area.

A senior member of NHS management staff told our group we just upset ourselves talking about things that had no solution. I believe that working together we can find answers for our future. In this partnership we need to learn to hear each other, listen – and respond.

The health and care group aims to represent the views of service users and their families. Email Barabel McKay - barabelmck@gmail.com

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Action needed to save Scotland's rainforest from alien invaders

Urgent action is required to stop *Rhododendron ponticum* wiping out Scotland's rare rainforest, according to a new report published by Woodland Trust Scotland in partnership with Scottish Land and Estates.

Recommendations in the 'Rhododendron in the Rainforest' report includes establishment of a Rainforest Restoration Fund to help communities and land managers tackle the scourge.

The report was funded by Postcode Green Trust and made possible by support from players of People's Postcode Lottery.

Temperate rainforest is a globally rare habitat and Scotland is home to a substantial proportion of the surviving European fragments - with a significant proportion of that area in Argyll. Only 30,000ha are left,



scattered down our west coast - but in total this equates to an area just slightly larger than

Edinburgh. Woodland Trust Scotland director Alastair Seaman said: 'This dwindling

habitat is being choked by *Rhododendron ponticum*. The shrub colonises woodland fast, out-competes native trees for light and is not palatable to any grazing animals. It quickly shades out rare flora and results in loss of insect habitat. That in turn has a knock-on effect on birds and bats.

'Some stakeholders told our report authors they believed more rhododendron is estab-

With a firm foothold in this west coast temperate rainforest, this patch of *Rhododendron ponticum* is smothering the oakwood.

Photograph: Caz Austen/WTML.

lishing and re-establishing than is currently being cleared. If this is a war, rhododendron is winning.'

Karen Ramoo, policy adviser at Scottish Land and Estates, said: 'One of the main recommendations is the establishment of a Rainforest Restoration Fund, along the lines of the highly praised Peatland Action Fund, which was recently extended, with a £250m funding package over a 10-year period.

'Land managers across other areas of Scotland are committed to eradicating invasive species such as rhododendron. This is not a cheap problem to solve but we believe the situation can be turned around, especially if this new Rainforest Restoration Fund is introduced.

Laura Chow, head of charities at People's Postcode Lottery said: 'We are delighted that our players' support is helping preserve and protect Scotland's

rare and precious rainforest. We hope this report will lead to positive action.'

Rhododendron ponticum is a non-native ornamental shrub introduced to Britain by the Victorians for its impressive spring flowers.

Despite wreaking ecological havoc, it continues to be sold by plant nurseries in the UK, both as a flowering plant and as the rootstock for other grafted species.

A DEFRA consultation in 2009 included *Rhododendron ponticum* on a list of 15 alien species that were being considered for a ban on sale. The Horticultural Trade Association expressed concern that a ban would be difficult to implement and that growers and retailers would be disproportionately affected. The continued sale and planting of invasive rhododendron in the UK, especially in the rainforest, clearly increases the risk of further spread to new locations.

The new report notes that if invasive rhododendron and its rootstock are still on the market, it will be difficult to build a sound case for eradicating it in the wild.



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Dead salmon 'stink out' village

A sudden and unforeseeable bloom of micro-jellyfish is being blamed for thousands of fish deaths at salmon pens in the Sound of Gigha.

A spokesperson for The Scottish Salmon Company dismissed claims by anti-fish farm campaigners that the mortalities had been caused by a severe outbreak of disease and gill issues.

Campaigners also claimed that up to 90 per cent of fish had died in some cages at the site that could amount to more than 500,000 caged salmon being lost, valued at millions of pounds.

There were also reports of nearby village Tayinloan 'stinking' of dead fish, with lorry after lorry spilling rotten fish fluid on roads.

The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency is investigating.

A spokesperson for The Scottish Salmon Company said: 'Fish health and welfare is fundamental to responsible salmon farming.



Anti-fish farm campaigners claim disease killed up to 90 per cent of fish in some cages, amounting to more than 500,000 caged salmon being lost. The Scottish Salmon Company says this is inaccurate.

'However, as with any farmer, operating in the natural environment brings unique biological challenges such as the sudden and unforeseeable bloom of micro-jellyfish which occurred recently at our Gigha site.

'Unfortunately, this has caused fish mortalities which

we are disposing of in line with regulations and reporting as standard practice in the industry.'

The spokesperson said the claim of 90 per cent mortalities was not accurate as the incident was still being dealt with and the exact figure was yet unknown.

BACK ON TRACK!

Tracy Molloy – The new Campbeltown Group Slimming World Consultant.

I started my Slimming World journey back in 2016 and today my weight loss stands at 4st 10lb.

I am very excited to be Campbeltown's new consultant and for members to return to the group, providing some normality in their lives following the Covid restrictions and lockdowns.

Why I started this journey

Before Covid hit and I moved to Campbeltown, I did reach my target of losing 5st in December 2019 but the last few years I have stayed the same weight. As many people will understand, work can get in the way sometimes, and working full time at Tesco's and being a caretaker of holiday cottages, you can lose your way!

I thought I was OK till I looked at my 40th birthday photos and it came as a massive shock to realise how big I had gotten. I have always been outgoing and bubbly and never concentrated on my weight. However, I knew then I had to do something about it.

I also had two back operations and I knew if I didn't do something about my weight I would eventually have to have another operation, which I didn't want.

I tried for 18 months to try lose weight by going to the gym but I hit a brick wall and couldn't get any more off.

Over the years I have seen many friends doing fad diets, but they were never long-term fixes - until my best friend started at Slimming World. I could see the change in her instantly and was shocked when she told me about Food Optimising, I just couldn't believe it.

That's when I decide to give it a try and I remember my consultant asking me at the time why I had come. I said to prove it doesn't work long term. How wrong I was and I have never looked back.

Eat as much as you can and lose weight!

Slimming World fits perfectly into my lifestyle. I love to eat and hate the feeling of being hungry. Slimming World encourages you to eat and when I say eat I mean lots of tasty filling foods such as fruit, pasta, potatoes, meat and fish. You are never hungry. The plan is extremely family friendly. My partner and son eat the same meals as I do so I never have to make different meals.

I remember my consultant and myself crying when I reached my target, it was as the best feeling ever.

Since my weight loss I am fitter and healthier and feel great in myself. I can now do more than I ever thought was imaginable. I can go on rollercoasters without having to think if I can fit in the seat. I have also done a bungee jump over Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe - it was the most liberating thing I have done.

When I moved to Campbeltown, going into that first group was very daunting but I have never looked back. Everyone was so welcoming and I have made life-long friends thanks to Slimming World.

Sadly, with the loss of Rhona who passed away last September, Covid and the restrictions on gatherings, Campbeltown has been without a group for some time. Stephanie from Islay has been doing a fantastic job of keeping things going by covering virtually or in person when possible and I'm keen to build on this moving forward.



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Climate courage

It is easy to despair when thinking about the climate challenges ahead.

The world's biggest polluters like the USA and China are making too much money to care about the environment.

They show little sign of any major concessions to reduce emissions, so why should everyone else bother?

Which is where Mid Argyll's young climate protesters come in, along with every other youth campaigner around the globe. Good on them for standing up to be counted.

If we each take a few steps - perhaps reducing plastics use or energy consumption, it will have a cumulative effect.

Good luck to our campaigners, and let's hope the delegates at COP26 are listening.

Ouch

Just as GPs are relieved of Covid job responsibility, the centralised system goes horribly wrong.

Fair enough, our surgeries are under pressure, but that has been the case throughout the pandemic.

They each had a local system for getting vaccinations done, so why not leave them to it?

It must be dispiriting for vaccinators on the front line, and no doubt they will take the brunt of the public frustration.

But if we all have patience, we'll get there.

Thanks for MOJO magic music showcase in Ardfern

Sir,
What can I say but wow! That was a great showcase of Argyll's finest original musicians at MOJO 2021.

We had incredible talent on the stage at Craignish Village Hall on October 16.

Many thanks to Catherine Fincher, Che Martin with Dave Baggley, Hannah Boaden with Paul Standing, Sheila McGregor and Ali Barrow as The Lush Puppies and Rory O'B with K9 Kev.

It was such a joy to behold their performances. Well done to them all for their entertainment and inspiration.

We will be hearing more from them all in the future for sure, meantime check out and like their Facebook pages.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers for making it a smooth operation - Octavio, Lori, Bek, Steve, Jude, Magdellena, Rebecca, Will and Lix.

Thanks to Mr Cool sound man Matt for his awesome sound and light control throughout - it was spot on; Tizianna and the hall committee for support, particularly around Covid rules; Brian for Facebook support and poster work; to our MOJO music support man on the radio, Steve Tyler at Oban FM for interviews; Bruce for all the masks and copious amounts of gel; to all the outlets for selling tickets in their great local shops - Saffron at Millstone Wholefoods in Oban, Rebecca at Ardfern Stores and Eli at the Argyll Book Centre in Lochgilphead.

A special extra thanks to Rebecca at Ardfern Stores for the booze, among many other things.

A big thanks also to everyone who came along. We had 78 ticket holders alongside our 20 or so volunteers/musicians in attendance. And one dog.

Everyone was such great support, particularly in adhering so well to the often confusing Covid rules.

HAVE YOUR SAY

email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

This was a great night we won't forget. Here's to more original music in the future. Meanwhile, rock on and stay safe.

Dan and the crew at MOJO Argyll.

Look out for respiratory infections in babies

Sir,
At Bliss, Scotland's leading charity for babies born premature or sick, we know this winter is likely to be a difficult one for parents in Scotland due to the risks caused by Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) infections.

RSV is a common virus that causes cold-like symptoms but can cause critical illnesses such as bronchiolitis in babies born premature or sick.

Like other seasonal coughs, colds and flu, RSV is usually most prevalent in Scotland between October and March.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions in social contact meant that cases of RSV were reduced.

Since people began mixing again, there has, however, been a steady increase in cases ahead of the usual winter seasonal trend, mainly in children aged under five.

As part of a major new campaign, Bliss will be working to provide information and support about RSV and respiratory infections directly to families of premature and sick babies at neonatal units across Scotland.

We also want to make sure we reach Black, Asian, Eastern European and other ethnic minority communities, as well as those who are socio-economically disadvantaged.

If your baby was born prematurely, is prone to lung infections or was born with a congenital heart problem, they could be at greater risk of becoming seriously ill if infected with RSV.

We are urging all parents to know the warning signs of respiratory conditions and to contact their health care professional when they need to.

In the early stages, RSV symptoms are similar to a common cold - runny or blocked nose, cough, sneezing and high temperature.

Symptoms usually last between one and three weeks. If the lungs are affected, one or more of the following symptoms will develop or worsen: a cough; wheezing - a whistling sound when breathing out; difficulty or distress when breathing; reduction in feeding and drinking

because of breathing difficulties.

To find out more please visit bliss.org.uk/RSV
Caroline Lee-Davey, chief executive, Bliss
Scotland

Register your defibrillator to help ambulance services

Sir,
A new campaign has been launched urging defibrillator owners to register their devices on a national database to help save more lives from cardiac arrests.

Leading charities and health organisations have come together calling for defibrillators to be registered on The Circuit - The national defibrillator network, which connects defibrillators to NHS ambulance services across the United Kingdom.

Every minute that passes without CPR or defibrillation reduces the chances of survival by up to 10 per cent in some instances, but immediate CPR and defibrillation can more than double the chances of survival.

When someone calls 999 to report a cardiac arrest, the call handlers in our control rooms are trained to provide the location of the nearest registered defibrillator within 500m of the call.

Studies show that using a defibrillator within three minutes of collapse, along with starting CPR, can greatly increase chances of survival.

This swift action can make a real difference, and The Circuit is a vital tool in helping increase bystander action to help someone in cardiac arrest.

Over the last five years, the Save a Life for Scotland partnership which includes the Scottish Ambulance Service, the Scottish Government and Scottish Fire and Rescue has equipped more than 640,000 people with CPR skills, and the survival rate after an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest has doubled to one in 10 people. We would urge everyone to register the defibrillators they are responsible for on The Circuit so that they can be easily located and accessed when needed.

It's free to register your defibrillator onto The Circuit and you only have to do it once. You can also register multiple defibrillators if you are the guardian to more than one. Visit TheCircuit.UK for more information.

Pauline Howie, chief executive,
Scottish Ambulance Service

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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...

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Thought for the Week

October holidays over? Back to the usual routines?

Although the autumn marks the end of summer, for many looking ahead, it's filled with excitement and anticipation as Christmas approaches. The countdown begins!

There are many good things in life we look forward to: a sunny day, a bike ride, the weekend, holidays, retirement or a new job. At different times we look forward to different things, but behind them all is a common search.

The French scientist and mathematician Blaise Pascal said: 'All people seek happiness. This is without exception...'

He said that whatever our idea of how to reach it, our desire never takes the smallest step except towards the goal of happiness; it is the desire behind every ambition.

But from time to time we recognise our search is misleading, happiness doesn't last, the clouds come, the ride ends, Monday morning always follows...

Three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker said: 'I had won Wimbledon twice before, once as the youngest player. I was rich; I had all the material possessions I needed. It's the old song of movie stars... they have everything, and yet they are so unhappy. I had no inner peace, I was a puppet on a string.'

Where, then, is lasting happiness to be found? The bible teaches us that every wonderful thing we enjoy is both a gift and sign pointing us to the giver, our creator God who loves us.

If we hope to find ultimate happiness in His gifts, we expect too much...

We were designed through those gifts to enjoy the God who gave them and to find true joy in Him.

'I have come [said Jesus] that you may have life and have it to the full.'

Reverend Mark Jasper, Campbeltown Community Church.

ISLAY

Plans for nine new whisky warehouses to be built on Islay have been put on hold after environmental officers raised concerns.

The proposal for the maturation facilities at the Ardnahoe Distillery at Askaig had initially been recommended for approval by an Argyll and Bute Council officer.

However, after the publication of a handling report, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) said it felt more information was needed.

At its virtual meeting on Wednesday October 20, the council's planning, protective services and licensing committee unanimously agreed to continue consideration of the plans.

An updated report to the committee said: 'Since the publication of the officer's report of handling, SEPA has provided comment in relation to the potential storage of hazardous substances and a lack of detail on the procedural, design and modelling that needs to be addressed prior to the commencement of works.'

'Although these matters would ordinarily be addressed under a separate application for hazardous substances, consent and building warrant, discussions with SEPA have confirmed that the resolution to their concerns could result in necessary material changes to the planning application.'

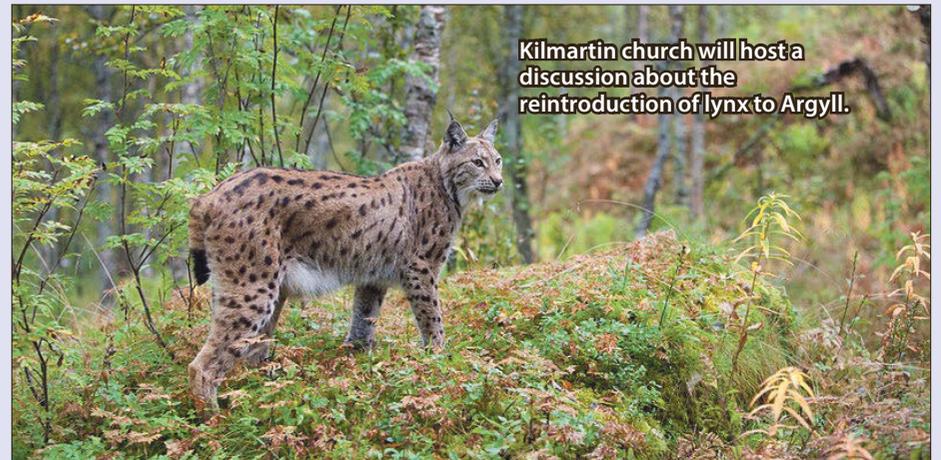
'For example, the building layout may need to alter to provide sufficient distance in the event of a fire, or the sustainable drainage systems scheme may require an amendment to the layout to ensure sufficient levels of treatment to contain a pollution event.'

'Therefore, officers consider it expedient to delay the determination of the application to allow the applicant to liaise directly with SEPA to resolve this issue.'

The committee unanimously agreed that the application process should continue until at least the committee's next meeting on Wednesday November 17.

CRAIGNISH

A consultation of Craignish residents has resulted in the cancellation of plans to upgrade Lunga track to a public road.



Kilmartin church will host a discussion about the reintroduction of lynx to Argyll.

KILMARTIN

An event aiming to open conversations around the reintroduction of lynx in Argyll is to be held in Kilmartin Parish Church.

Wildlife conservation group the Vincent Wildlife Trust will host a discussion about the Lynx to Scotland study on Friday November 19 from 6.50pm to 9pm.

The study aims to assess people's views about the possible reintroduction of Eurasian lynx to the Highlands.

The study was conceived by Trees For Life and Scotland: The Big Picture which approached Vincent Wildlife Trust to undertake the study which aims to engage with stakeholders and communities in the Cairngorms and Argyll

to explore the potential opportunities and challenges associated with living with lynx.

A trust spokesperson said: 'The study is not attached to a proposal to reintroduce lynx but is an exploratory exercise to inform the conversation and to provide some baseline information from which a decision can be made as to whether feasibility should be further investigated.'

At the Kilmartin session, discussion will be based around the results of investigations already carried out with stakeholders as well as the views and comments of those in attendance.

Details of the free event and the link to register can be found on Dunadd community council's Facebook page.

Craignish Community Company asked residents to respond to a proposal from Colin Lindsay-MacDougall of Lunga Estate that would have involved improving the track that links Lunga, Craobh and Ardferrn to a standard that would be acceptable to Argyll and Bute council's roads department.

Funded

The community company had estimated the cost to be around £400,000, of which Lunga Estate would have contributed half with the remainder funded by the community.

A community company spokesperson this

week said: 'The consultation process has now been completed. The outcome was that virtually all the respondents were in favour of the track being maintained as it is and usable by walkers, cyclists, horses and movement of livestock but only a small minority supported improving it as a road for vehicles.'

'There is therefore no prospect of the community raising significant funds for the project and, since this was a key element of the plan, Colin Lindsay-McDougall has dropped it.'

'The community company thanks everyone who took the time to let us know their views.'

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Call for government to help farming

In his latest blog, NFU Scotland vice president Andrew Connon says rising input costs and a labour crisis threaten Scottish agriculture at a time when consumer demand for locally produced food and drink is on the up.

Mr Connon writes: 'In recent months, some sectors have seen stronger prices - in particular beef, sheep and combinable crops - while milk prices have firmed slightly. It is about time such commodities have seen price inflation after a long period of depressed values.'

But he adds: 'In recent weeks fertiliser prices have gone into orbit - some products have more than trebled since June 2020. Nitrogen is currently being quoted in excess of £680/tonne. Issues of availability and delivery in time for



NFU Scotland vice president Andrew Connon.

critical application also exist. Such cost inflation can impact food supplies, animal welfare standards and business survival.

'Add in rising machinery and fuel costs and the gross margin analysis looks grim.

'This situation is causing

massive concerns across the agricultural industry which has a vital role to play in helping drive economic recovery while also addressing the climate crisis and increasing biodiversity.

'Farmers cannot be expected to shoulder the burden of these costs and neither can processors. Food prices will have to rise if supply chains are to remain viable.

'At a time when consumer demand for locally-produced farm goods is at a high, a lack of skilled permanent labour across all sectors is posing huge problems.

'Vegetables are getting disced in, fruit and flowers have had to rot unpicked and the pig industry is in a perilous state.

'The UK Government is in complete denial to this situation. We have made clear to

governments that 12-month Covid recovery visas need to be made available instead of the three-month Christmas visas scheme.

'We have pushed for the shortage occupation list to include workers in the field-to-fork equation. The Seasonal Workers Pilot failed our industry - it was rolled out too late and relied on a domestically-available workforce that does not want the work.

'Scotland's farmers and crofters are desperate to feed a nation that in the last 18 months has demonstrated a demand for locally-produced, sustainable, quality food.

'The unprecedented input costs and labour crisis require immediate government intervention to ensure we have a viable agricultural sector going forward.'

Dalmally sale draws Welsh buyers

United Auctions sold 2,072 sheep of all classes at Dalmally Auction Mart on Friday October 22.

Lambs sold to £87.50 from Couston Farm to average £59.09 (+£5.99).

A spokesman for United Auctions said: 'A good attendance of buyers from as far afield as Wales, which resulted in a buoyant trade throughout, and more could have been sold to sellers' advantage.'

Leading lots and prices per head:

LAMBS - SUFFx - £85, Glenbrooke; £75, Ardsheal; £67.50, Glenbrooke; £62.00, Balvicar Farm. TEXx - £87.50, Turnault; £82, Innischoeroch; £81, Lephinkill; £79.00, Colquhalzie; £74, Achnacone; £74, Couston; £70.50, Lephinkill; £70, Braglenmore.

CHEV - £77, Ardsheal; £70, Ellary; £66, Glenbrooke; £65, Ardsheal. CROSS - £87.50, Couston; £85, Brackley; £69, Auchroech; £67, Brackley; £66, Balvicar; £65, Ederline; £64.50, Birchfield. HAMPx - £70.50, Glenbrooke. BF - £77.50, Raera; £76, Turnault; £72.50, Tullochcan; £72.50, Raera; £71.50, Lephinkill; £70, Raera; £69.50, Castles Estate; £68.50, Couston Farm; £68.50, Duncroisk; £68, Achnaba; £68, Acharonich; £66, Achalic; £66, Acharonich.

EWES - TEXx - £88, Lephinkill; £62, Achnacone. CHEV - £56, 1 Savary. CROSS - £48, Brackley; £44, Drumclach Croft. HAMPx - £50, Glenbrooke. BF - £60, Floors; £57, Raera; £56, Dunans; £55, Castles Estate; £54, Tullochcan; £53, Lephinkill; £49.50, Tullochcan; £46, Raera; £46, Achnacone.



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- All hurdles are 6 railed x 1.75m high
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- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
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We're here to tell you about working in social care for an organisation like Carr Gomm, and the challenges we face in delivering our essential services.

Like many organisations, the pandemic has hit us hard; impacting the services we provide and the health and wellbeing of our staff and people we support.

So it's even more important than ever that we continue to provide the vital services we deliver to many people with varying needs throughout the Oban area - many of whom are elderly and vulnerable in some way.

We also want to ensure that we have enough staff to be able to provide the future supports required by everyone in our community - for friends, family and neighbours - whenever they need it.

Oban has a strong and caring community spirit and it's those qualities we need in new staff - even if you've never thought of a career in social care. If you want to make a difference, we may have the job for you.

Working in social care

By working with Carr Gomm you can help people achieve their individual hopes and dreams every day.

Our work is challenging, but very rewarding. Our staff go home at the end of a shift knowing they've made a difference in many people's lives. We ensure you come to work every day informed, inspired, and determined to make a positive impact.

We require people with a flexible and inspirational approach, able to find innovative solutions with people - not for them.

You need to be patient and flexible, so if someone is unwell you may need to stay a little longer and possibly take a bit more time. You need to get to know the people you support and learn to read their body language - as not everyone communicates with words.

No two people we support are the same so you need to adapt, use your training and clear guidelines to ensure people are safe and well, and find ways to support them to live as independently as possible.

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Every day is different - and every interaction creates a new opportunity for you to make a difference.

You may start the day seeing someone who lives with their husband or wife. You might support them to get up, wash, and choose what to wear. You might spend a short time with them to enable them to spend the rest of their day being independent at home, such as setting them up to use digital equipment.

Next, you might visit someone with dementia. You know they forget your name every morning - but you also know that as soon as they see your face, they will recognise you and smile. They might tell you the same story every day. But you also know their favourite song and you play it every morning while you make their breakfast - and when they hear it, they sing and reminisce.

Next, you might see someone who needs reassurance that they've taken their medication and that they are safe and well.

Our services

Our Oban Home Care service provides support to people to lead a good quality of life in their own homes. The service aims to help people sustain, recover or manage their health, skills, and abilities to lead independent and fulfilling lives. Our role is not to do things for people, but to work with them. The service also provides support to those approaching the end of their lives in their own homes, where this is their choice.

Our Oban Day & Overnight Responder service provides an effective and efficient way to respond to known risks that occur on an unplanned basis, such as falls and other accidents. The service also provides planned support, including supporting people coming home from hospital, ensuring that they

remain safe and well in their own home and supporting them to move through a planned process towards greater independence and improved health and wellbeing.

We are looking for staff with a range of backgrounds, knowledge, skills, and experiences.

You may have never worked in the sector before. You may want to gain experience with us before moving into another role in health or social care. You may be retired and looking for part time work. You might be leaving education and looking for your first job. You may want a career change. Or, you may just want seasonal or regular holiday work.

Whatever your background, if you have the passion to make a difference in people's lives, then we want to hear from you.



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Other social care providers in Oban are also recruiting, so if you're looking for a new career locally, now could be the right time.

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VACANCIES

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SCOTTISH FIELD November



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MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

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(WGS84)

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Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email to: MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot, quoting reference: **00009345** and **BEAR Scotland Ltd**.

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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 or Marine Scotland - Licensing Operations Team, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB.



Rowan Wind Farm

Energiekontor intends to submit an application to Scottish Ministers to develop a wind farm of up to 13 turbines and other ancillary development located approximately 4km north-west of Tarbert. Following feedback from the first round of consultation held in August 2021, we are holding a second round of consultation to outline how the proposals have evolved and importantly gain further feedback. A dedicated project website has been created, with the updated second round consultation material able to be viewed from MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER at the following address:

www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/rowan

The website contains detailed information relating to the proposals (Public Exhibition Material) and importantly both an electronic and printable comment form so that feedback can be provided to the project team on the proposals.

An online public consultation, where members of the project team will be available for a question and answer session via interactive text, will take place on Wednesday 10th November 2021 (6-8pm) via our project website (see web address details above). All feedback received at this event will be responded to directly by the development team within 7 days.

Due to ongoing Covid 19 restrictions, you will appreciate that we are unable to carry out traditional open public events at this time. However, we will be holding a Public Exhibition, but note that attendance is strictly by prior appointment with the project team (contact details below). The Public Exhibition will be held on Tuesday 16th November 2021, 4pm to 8pm at Tarbert Village Hall, Campbeltown Road, Tarbert (PA29 6TX). If you are unable to view the material online, would like further information, would like to attend the Public Exhibition on the 16th November, or organise a telephone or video call with a member of the project team during the consultation period please contact the Project Manager, Craig Potter at:

Email: Craig.Potter@energiekontor.com

Mobile: 07538 958151

Comments and feedback should be returned no later than 5pm on Monday 29th November 2021.

Please note that any comments made to Energiekontor are not representations to the consenting authority. If an application is submitted, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority.



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winter motoring

Are you winter weather ready?

Motorists are urged to get set for safe winter motoring, as new research reveals that up to 28 million* cars across the country could be kitted out with tyres that aren't ideal for the conditions.

With temperatures frequently dropping below 7°C, the new Censuswide data shows that only 14 per cent of British motorists own a set of cold weather tyres.

When fitted with the appropriate tyres for winter weather, vehicles benefit from improved grip which can stop drivers getting stuck in the white stuff or losing control in cold conditions. Braking distances are greatly reduced as well.

Tyres are not all you should think about. "With winter not too far away, Scottish motorists have had it relatively easy with mild temperatures and only small pockets of bad weather", said Ken McCall, Managing Director, Europcar UK Group. However that also means that we've been lulled into a false sense of security – so when bad weather does arrive we could be more easily caught out. Here are some useful tips on Winter driving.

Winter Driving Advice

- > Allow plenty of time for journeys and make sure you have a full tank of petrol before starting off
- > Make sure all the windows are clear of snow, properly de-iced and de-misted before you set out
- > Remember your sunglasses to avoid glare from low winter sun
- > Be aware of black ice – most commonly found in areas that are shadowed from sun
- > Don't hit the brakes if your car starts to skid, ease back on the accelerator and try to steer the car in the direction of the skid
- > Allow for a greater braking distance
- > Watch your speed and remember that cyclists and pedestrians will be less visible
- > Ensure the windscreen washer is topped up
- > Always keep a bottle of water and food, such as chocolate, just in case you breakdown

We have a wide range of garages and dealers available to assist, so whether you are looking for servicing or a new car capable of these conditions and area, keep reading!



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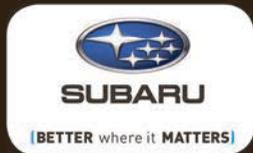
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• A worldwide shortage of semiconductors, key components and shipping delays are resulting in longer production lead times

• All-New Isuzu D-Max demand currently outstripping supply

• Customers urged to begin new vehicle discussions with us as soon as possible

Isuzu UK, along with the entire automotive industry is facing increasingly complex trading conditions because of the worldwide shortage of components, semi-conductors, and key materials, which is having a detrimental impact on vehicle production and availability.

Isuzu UK is working hard to meet the high demand from customers for the All-New Isuzu D-Max, however, the global component shortages and shipping delays are currently resulting in longer lead times than normal.

William Brown, Managing

Director, Isuzu UK said "The success of the All-New Isuzu D-Max has been both rewarding and challenging, with demand currently outstripping supply. As the pick-up professionals, we are committed to providing the most transparent process possible and urge any customers who may wish to purchase an Isuzu D-Max in the near future or perhaps later in 2022 to start discussions with your local Isuzu dealer as soon as possible."

He added, "Although not impacted as severely as most manufacturers, we are still working tirelessly with the vehicle production facility in Thailand to minimise customer waiting times and we will provide as much information to dealers as we can to ensure our customers are always on the fastest route possible to a new Isuzu D-Max."

The All-New Isuzu D-Max, which launched earlier this year, combines smart, bold, and

aggressive styling and improved off-road performance with class-leading safety technology. Not only does it deliver the capability and durability you would expect from an Isuzu pick-up truck, but this tough workhorse has also now added superior levels of comfort, refinement, and next-generation technology.

Appealing to a wide variety of drivers, from fleet operators to families, the Isuzu D-Max model range is structured into three segments: Business, All-Purpose and Adventure, resulting in an Isuzu D-Max to suit every customer's requirement.

Customers looking to purchase a new Isuzu D-Max are encouraged to begin discussions with your local dealer, S&S Services, to ensure they remain on the fastest route to a new Isuzu D-Max. Please call us today to secure your discounts and price. Tel: 01292 880080.



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SCOTLANDS NO1 DEALER

Subaru UK fastest growing SUV brand in UK

Subaru UK reported an increase in the 2021 Q3 performance of 19.82% over Q3 2019, in a market that was down 31.54%, delivering pre-pandemic performance levels and looking to increase sales further in 2022. A key part of this success was down to the performance of the improved dealer network which helped Subaru UK become the fastest growing SUV brand in the UK with a record year to date sales increase

of 143.45% year-on-year. This performance was predominantly due to the number of conquest sales with the introduction of a new 2.9% APR PCP offer which we are delighted will continue into Q4. Pat Ryan, Managing Director of Subaru UK, said: "The last few months have been very successful for Subaru UK and we are very proud of both our dedicated dealer network and our latest sales campaign which has

driven the performance. I would like to thank our dealer partners for their drive and passion for the brand which has contributed to this sales success. We have a clear plan and a 5-year road map which will see new and exciting products launching in the UK which provides us with confidence for our ambitious growth plans." Better Where it Matters A car's grip on slippery roads matters. How safe your car keeps

your family. That really matters. Reliability, year after year. That matters too. Subaru make cars for people who understand what really matters and that's why Subaru build them better, where it matters. Consisting of three SUVs, the core Subaru range includes Forester e-BOXER, new XV and all-new Outback; embodying safety, capability and reliability at their core.

Since 1954, Subaru have been making cars for everyday life and every challenge. Whether it's a hiking holiday or the school run – capability, safety and reliability is engineered into every part. Subaru has earned a reputation for engineering excellence; we're proud to build cars that are better, where it matters. For more details on the Subaru range contact S&S Services on 01292 880080



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DEATHS

CLARK - On October 25, 2021, peacefully at home, Dugald (Dougie) MacMillan Clark, aged 80 years, beloved husband of Mary and dearly loved Dad of Jacqueline a dear brother and uncle of all the family and a much respected former work colleague. Funeral service at Cardross Crematorium, on Thursday, November 4 at 2.15pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

GRAY - Suddenly but peacefully in her sleep after a long and difficult illness borne with great courage and dignity Waltraut Gertrud Gray, aged 93, formerly of Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig, passed away on Monday, October 25, 2021 at Ardfenaig Care Home, Ardrishaig. Beloved wife of the late William Jaffray Gray (Dingwall). Beloved mother of George, Maureen, Shirley, Evelyn and William. Sister of the late Elli Wulff and Tante to Heike. Grandmother and great-grandmother. Will be sadly missed by all. Funeral service will be held in Ardrishaig Parish Church on Friday, November 5 at 1pm. All

welcome to attend. The interment will take place at Fodderty Cemetery, Strathpeffer, Dingwall at a later date.

HOLDEN - On October 20, 2021, peacefully at Northwood House care Home Helensburgh, Annette Gold Holden, in her 84th year, beloved daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Holden and a dearly loved sister and aunt of all the family. Funeral Service at Lochgilphead Baptist Church, on Wednesday, November 3 at 12 noon, interment thereafter at Achtnabreac Cemetery, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Baptist Church. For those wishing to pay their respects, the cortege will leave the church at approximately 12.30pm and travel up Argyll Street, Bishopston Road to the Cemetery.

JOHNSTON - Walter George. Peacefully at home in Falkirk, after a short illness, on October 23, 2021, Walter aged 77 years. A devoted husband and best friend to Anna. Former husband to the late Roberta. Much loved brother and brother-in-

law to Malcolm, Marwyn, Janice, Malcolm, Patsy, and the late Victor. For funeral arrangements please contact Central Funeral Services Falkirk on 01324 620520. You will live forever in our hearts.

RENNIE - Peacefully at home Lorien, High Airs, Carradale, on October 23, 2021, with his family by his side, James Tait Rennie, in his 72nd year, cherished husband of Caroline, much loved father of Doreen, Allan, James Lee and Siobhan, loving papa of Ross, Gregor, Blayre, Eva and Max, great-papa of Ross and Thea and a close friend to Ellen. Tait's funeral will take place on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 12.00 noon in the Saddell and Carradale Church. The cortege will leave the Church at 12:30 pm. We will travel through the village, down to Carradale Pier and back to Brackley Cemetery. Anyone is welcome to attend the service at the church, alternatively you may pay your last respects to Tait along our route.

RISBY - Peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital on October 23, 2021, after an illness borne bravely, Mary Christine Risby, née Malcolm, in her

78th year, of 9 Port Ann, Lochgilphead. Beloved wife of Philip, much loved mother of Andrew, John, Kirsteen and Gillian. Adored Granny of Iain, Eoghan, Alasdair and Christopher. A much respected mother-in-law. Dear sister of the late Evan Malcolm. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. A private family funeral service will be held at Lochgair Parish Church on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 11am. Please note additional mourners are welcome to join the family at Achtnabreac Cemetery, or as the funeral cortège leaves Lochgair Parish Church at approx 11.45am. Family flowers only please. Donations to SSPCA.

IN MEMORIAM

ARKELL - In loving memory of a dear husband, dad, granda and great granda (Eck), died October 28, 2012. It broke our hearts to lose you, But you did not go alone, For part of us went with you, The day God called you home. Loved and missed so very much. - From Maggie and family, home and abroad.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



He will not let your foot slip — he who watches over you will not slumber... —Psalm 121:3 Join us on Sunday, **31 October 2021** at 11am when Rod Sharp will Zoom in from USA and bring the message
If you cannot make it in person, you can still join us online. To join the Zoom service, send your email address to officespringbankchurch@gmail.com and you will be sent a link to join us on Sunday via Zoom.
Covid restrictions will apply in the building – masks and social distancing
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch>
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



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 31st 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
Lochgilphead
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ALL SAINTS INVERARAY
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr Henry Nkob
01546602380
All Welcome

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH



George Street, Campbeltown
Sunday 31st October
11.15am Worship Service
Mr Campbell Brown
11.15am Sunday School
7.00pm Bible Society Meeting in Highland Parish Church
Mr Norman Liddle (Scottish Bible Society)
Wednesday 3rd November
12 noon Prayer and Bible Study
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christ Church, Lochgilphead
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
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pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
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SC043322

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 31st October
Morning Service
11. 15am
Triple C Gen 1
Rev W Crossan
Kirk Session Meeting
10.45am New Hall
Covid 19 Guidelines apply

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

There will be a weekly service at Skipness 10am - Dr John L Morrison
Tarbert 11.30am - Rev David McLachlan
Monday 1st November
Church Guild - 2.30pm
Tarbert Church Hall
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

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campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk
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"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
and
Achoahoish at 12:30pm

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH



Sunday 31st October 2021
11.00 am
WORSHIP SERVICE
Rev Jim Malcolm.
Covid restrictions will apply including social distancing.
More info at
www.lpchurch.co.uk
Lochgilphead Parish Church of Scotland - SC016311

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor
Kilmartin
Sunday 31st October
11am
Rev Robert MacLeod
All very welcome
Please remember to wear a mask

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 31 October
Tayvallich Church
10am Morning Worship
Rev Robert Macleod
Please bring your Blythwood Shoe Boxes
Achnamara Hall
2pm Songs of Praise led by the Elders
Booking required for both services
Tel 01546 870635
Covid restrictions apply. Further information can be found on the church website
www.northknappdale.org

WESTLOCH FYNESIDE CHURCHES (Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)

Sunday 31st October 2021
There will be a service in Inveraray Church at 10.30am led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace at the end of which there will be the Annual Business meeting.
Masks must be worn when attending either church.
Charity No: SC016665

GRADUATION

Carly Robertson



Carly Robertson recently graduated from The University of Edinburgh with an MA (Hons) 2:1 in Business and Geography. Carly is the daughter of Jean and Kirsty Robertson and the granddaughter of Derek and the late Lawrence Robertson and James and Ann Smith. Carly is currently working for the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust.

PERSONAL NOTICES

Thank you

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for all the lovely cards, gifts and flowers received on my 80th birthday and a special thank you to Iain, Elspeth and Jim.

Moira Currie



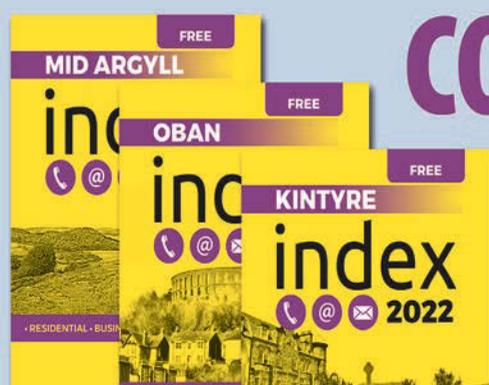
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WYVEX MEDIA



Kyles lift junior trophy on home turf after winning penalty shootout

Kyles Athletic	3
Lochside Rovers	3
Bullough Cup Final	

The Kyles Athletic second team came from behind three times before eventually beating Lochside Rovers 3-1 on penalties to lift the Bullough Cup at Kames Playing Fields, with a big crowd looking on.

Due to a soft pitch, the sides agreed beforehand to forego extra-time and go straight to penalties if the score was level after 90 minutes.

Innes Jackson put Lochside ahead on six minutes.

Finan Kennedy equalised a



The victorious Kyles junior team with the Bullough Cup.

Photograph: Kevin McGlynn

who regained the lead through David Cameron with a well-worked goal on 57 minutes.

Finan Kennedy levelled for a second time on the hour when Lochside failed to clear a low, hard ball from the right and Kennedy netted from just outside the 'D'.

There was a delay in play when the pavilion end goals blew over, away from the pitch.

The final was end-to-end and

Lewis Buchanan looked to have won it for Lochside when he made it 3-2 with just three minutes remaining, but after Lochside conceded an unnecessary free-hit in midfield, Kyles played the ball short and Luke Thornton was at the back post to fire into the roof of the net.

There were only a few seconds gone following the restart before referee Graham Fisher took the final to penalties.

Kyles Athletic captain Cairn Limbert stepped forward to be presented with the Bullough Cup by south shinty stalwart, Colintrave's Alex McNaughton.

New project to secure the future of caman making

A new project aims to secure the future of camans, or shinty sticks.

Currently made by a small number of independent carpenters, caman production has been identified as a critically endangered craft.

The Camanachd Association plans to work with Inverness College UHI to address the issue, implementing modern business processes to develop a manufacturers' co-operative. The five-month initiative has received funding from the Scottish Government's innovation voucher scheme which encourages collaborations between organisations, businesses and academia.

Business and management lecturer David Jack is leading



the project at the college. He explained: 'Shinty is one of Scotland's most ancient and historically significant sports and camans are a vital part of the game.'

'Our main goal will be to

support caman makers to work together so they can share expertise, ideas and realise the benefits of greater co-operation.'

The caman project is part of a wider collaboration

Celebrating the new partnership are, left to right: Mark Whitehouse of sponsor cottages.com; Camanachd Association chief executive Derek Keir; Dr Iain Morrison, and Professor Todd Walker, University of the Highlands and Islands; Steven MacKenzie, president, Camanachd Association; and Stuart Walkden, cottages.com.

between the University of the Highlands and Islands and the Camanachd Association. The two organisations have signed a memorandum of understanding to work together to explore opportunities around volunteering, work experience, education and training,

coaching and community awareness.

Chief executive officer of the Camanachd Association Derek Keir said: 'This project is a fantastic example of our partnership plans with the University of the Highlands and Islands and highlights the benefits of partnership working to grow the support network for shinty and our respective communities.'

'Shinty is the cornerstone of many Highland communities and the caman making support project is just one way that our communities are going to be able to reap the benefits of our new academic partnership with the university.'

'We also hope to progress work to include further ex-

change of expertise as well as a greater connection to teacher training in the Highlands and Islands.'

Dr Iain Morrison, University of the Highlands and Islands' dean of students, added: 'The caman project is a great example of the synergies that exist in this new relationship. We share similar geography, socio-cultural roots and a strong desire to support communities across the Highlands and Islands.'

'Our partnership is inherent in the success of our communities and our communities are fundamental to our strategy and operation, so we are proud to be working closely with Scotland's most iconic team sport.'

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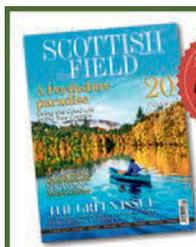
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Red Star youth football receives a SFA accolade

Lochgilhead Red Star Youth Football Club has been recognised by the Scottish Football Association as Best Community Football Club for Strong Growth in Participation for West of Scotland region.

The SFA Grassroots 2021 award reflected efforts by the club to grow the number of players and volunteers, invest in coach education and further embed the club within the community.

Former chairperson Bruce West played a key role in establishing a three-year development plan to achieve these objectives.

He said: 'The club was already in a good position when I came on board as chairperson and I was keen to see what I could do to move it forward.'

'There is no doubt the involvement of Ardrishaig Community Trust was very important to supporting our objectives and the growth in participation has exceeded my greatest expectations.'

Ardrishaig Community Trust provided significant funding – £15,000 over three years – to help the club meet its aspirations.



Its funding was essential to replace old equipment and purchase match strips for all players.

Arthur Barclay of Ardrishaig Community Trust said: 'We have seen first-hand the

work they are putting into supporting young people in sport, which is the reason we selected them as a partner as we share the same objectives for young people in the area.'

In the past five years the club has doubled the number of young people participating, from around 100 to more than 200, and increased the number of volunteers to around 50.

To date, the club has also provided more than 250 matching training strips for all participants.

In season 2020/2021 – despite Covid restrictions – the club delivered more than 700 hours of youth football across all age groups (mini-kickers to under 18s).

Demand for training is such is that there is now pressure on having sufficient pitch space on Friday evenings, which the club describes as a 'nice problem to have'.

Thanks to support from the

Scottish Football Association's recovery fund, the club, for the first time, continued football over the summer school holidays to help children catch up on development missed during lockdown.

After more than a decade of involvement with Lochgilhead Red Star Youth Football Club, vice chairperson Ben Tustin reflected: 'It is great that we have managed to continue the development of this great club. We had a steady number of players – around

the 100 mark – for quite some time and to double this number shows the demand for youth sport in the correct environment.'

Club chairperson Stuart Green said: 'All our volunteers and parents have very busy lives, yet continue to turn out in all weathers and games all over the country week after week to ensure that our young players participate.'

Anyone wishing to get involved can contact Stuart directly on 07795 800570.



Stuart Green and Ben Tustin at Hampden to receive the award on behalf of Lochgilhead Red Star Youth Football Club. Photograph: Craig Foy/SNS Group.



The point of it all – Red Star youth players enjoying playing football at a recent tournament near Oban.



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