

Argyllshire Advertiser

Incorporating Campbeltown Courier



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95p

Merry Christmas

Christmas messages from all your favourite local businesses

More of your personal Christmas messages to friends and family, near and far

FREE INSIDE
2022 Calendar



• MORE ON PAGE 10

A pre-Christmas community event which started in lockdown last year to cheer everyone up has been held for the second time at Inverneill. A fantastic day of fresh-air fun was enjoyed by children of all ages.

Christmas accolade for apprentice plumber Iain

by Fiona Ross
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

The UK award for best plumbing apprentice has been won by a young plumber from Ormsary.

Iain Winnard, who now lives in Ardrishaig, won top prize at the building engineering industry's annual prizegiving earlier this month.

The 27-year-old employee of Lochgilphead-based Blair Plumbing and Heating Solutions received the accolade at the BPEC Awards for Excellence, delighting his employer Graeme Blair.

'Iain works really hard at his job and strives to be the best at what he does,' Graeme said.

'Iain is a credit to himself, his family and his employer; I'm very proud of Iain's achievement at winning this national award.'

The apprenticeship award which Iain received during the online ceremony recognises an apprentice who has adapted

• Turn to page 7 for more.

Mid Argyll Hospital and Integrated Care Centre

COVID 19 (BOOSTER) VACCINATION DROP-IN CLINICS

Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd December 9am to 6pm.

These are drop-in clinics for all eligible patients please do not call for an appointment.
Please check NHS Inform for further information and eligibility.

There may be times when you will be expected to wait but this wait will be kept to a minimum.



Campbeltown rallies round after A83 tragedy

Police inquiries continue into a crash on the A83 in which 33-year-old Campbeltown man Roddy McAllister lost his life.

Mr McAllister was pronounced dead at the scene following the collision which involved a black Seat Leon on the A83, half a mile north of Tarbert, around 6.35pm on Saturday December 11.

A 30-year-old woman was taken by air ambulance to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow with serious injuries and was said by police to be in a stable condition. A five-year-old girl was also taken to hospital and released after treatment.

In a statement released through Police Scotland, Roddy's family said: 'Our funny, caring, hardworking, loving daddy and husband Roddy McAllister has gone far too soon.'



'Summer beach trips, barbecues, camping trips, garden days, holidays, film days, Christmas days, festive days, every day in general will never be the same without you.'

'We miss you so much

already. Lots of love, from your loving family, wife and children.'

Sergeant Nicola Taylor, of Police Scotland's Dumbarton Road Policing Unit, said: 'Our thoughts remain with

Roddy McAllister and his wife Emma.'

the family and friends of Mr McAllister at this difficult time.

'Police Scotland and Mr McAllister's family would also like to thank the members of the public who stopped to help at the scene of the crash.'

'Our inquiries into the circumstances of the crash remain ongoing and anyone with any information is asked to contact police on 101 quoting incident number 2891 of Saturday December 11, 2021.'

The people of Kintyre have

rallied round to support Mr McAllister's family after the tragedy.

A GoFundMe page has been set up and Johanna Duncan, who set up the page, wrote: 'Anyone who knew Roddy will know he was great guy who always had a smile on his face. His family was everything to him and to his family he was and always will be their world.'

'Let's come together and raise a few pounds to help his wife Emma and their five children not to have to worry about money for a little bit, even if it is a small amount I'm sure it will still mean a lot to them.'

Police assault

Police responded to a report of a man allegedly causing a disturbance at the Corner House, Tarbert, on December 6 at 7.15pm. A 43-year-old man was identified as acting in a threatening manner.

He then resisted arrest, assaulted police officers and was found to be in possession of a quantity of cocaine.

He was arrested and charged with the offences and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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Later spring completion for improved front green

The completion of work to improve Lochgilphead's front green will be delayed as the project approaches its final stages, writes Colin Cameron.

The green was expected to be reopened from January 2022 after the £1.5 million scheme was completed, but work by contractor Hawthorn Heights Ltd has been hit by material supply and other difficulties facing the construction industry.

In the seventh month of the Argyll and Bute Council project to turn the front green into an improved public space, so far a new public square with electrical connections to support community events has been constructed using local Achnaba stone; the green has been drained to create a more usable open space; new play equipment has been installed; and a new seating wall built.

The project was boosted by additional funding from the Scottish Government's Place Based Investment Scheme, which will enable the upgrading of part of the footpath between the front green and the A83 at Lochnell Street, using the same stone as that used in the new front green public space and on Colchester Square opposite.

In a statement, Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The project is making significant progress, though like other similar projects it is facing some challenges currently affecting the UK



This drone shot, taken at the end of October by Greig MacLeod, shows work starting on the new public square.
Right: The front green as it was - pictured after Storm Diana three years ago.



construction industry. These issues are impacting some of the work to the front green.

'The project is due to be completed in April 2022.'

Councillor Robin Currie, the authority's policy lead for the economy and rural growth, said: 'The improvement works are starting to take shape and, when complete, there is no doubt that this will create more opportunities for residents and visitors to use this important space in Lochgilphead.'

'While the delay in comple-

tion is disappointing, it does allow us time to extend the works to include new paving around the front green.'

Hawthorn Heights is currently working to complete surfacing of the public square area, levelling the site and turfing the majority of the green.

The much-anticipated front green improvement scheme was delayed for a number of years before finally getting under way on May 31, 2021 when contractors arrived on site.

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Tarbert man slams power giant amid noise complaint

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Power giant SSEN says it is 'exploring' ways to reduce the impact from construction work after a Tarbert resident was forced from his home by noise.

Ray Naughton, a 52-year-old semi-retired tunnelling and mining equipment technician, claims the work near his home – to build an access road for the Inveraray-Crossaig power line – has affected his health.

As he left his home on Monday December 6 to get away from the sound of rock breaking and heavy excavation equipment '11 hours a day, five days a week', Mr Naughton said the work was around 300 metres from his home at the head of West Loch Tarbert – and getting closer all the time.

His complaints, he claims, have been treated 'with disdain' by SSEN (Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks).

Mr Naughton explained: 'The contractor for SSEN, Balfour Beatty, is installing an access route to enable construction of five towers [pylons].'

'Already the constant noise from the 22- and 33-tonne excavators is causing me problems.'

He added: 'I'm semi-retired and all my work is at home; I also have a chronic condition which is not being helped by

the constant repetitious rock breaking, loading/tipping of lorries and audible warning devices.

'I bought this property in December 2020. The first I was aware that such a large scheme was about to take place was at the beginning of October when the contractor arrived on site.'

'SSEN has basically treated my complaint with disdain.'

He continued: 'I have spent 35 years in the heavy engineering industry worldwide, many times working at contract and residential interfaces.'

'I have never witnessed such disregard for such a legitimate complaint. Every reasonable request I have made has been met with obstruction and scorn.'

'Since making some inquiry into this matter, it has become evident that many residents in the area are unhappy at the way SSEN has handled this particular section of its scheme.'

'It would appear that SSEN at no time contacted my property directly during the planning application stages. Considering the proximity of the project to my home, this is scandalous.'

A spokesperson for SSEN Transmission said: 'These essential works are required to break rock in preparation for the installation of temporary access tracks to support the



construction of the replacement Inveraray-Crossaig overhead electricity transmission line.

'The tracks are due to be complete in March 2022, with noise levels significantly reducing upon completion of these works.'

'We remain in close contact with the local resident and continue to explore ways in which we can further reduce the impacts of these essential works.'

'We have already altered

Ray Naughton - 'I have never witnessed such disregard for such a legitimate complaint'.

our working practices on site, reducing the time spent breaking rock during our permitted working hours between 8am and 6pm, and whilst noise monitoring has demonstrated that our works are within the limits set out in our planning consent, we have asked our contractor to explore the possibility of erecting noise barriers to further reduce the impact of these works.'

'We will continue to work closely with all stakeholders and community members as we take forward the replacement of this critical national infrastructure, essential to maintain network reliability and security of supply in the area as well as supporting the growth in renewable electricity

generation and the transition to net zero emissions.'

Councillor Anne Horn also contacted SSEN on Mr Naughton's behalf.

Councillor Horn said: 'There appear to have been some issues with communication to people who live in close proximity to the pylons and the company was either unable or unwilling to share the evidence that communication had gone to residents of these dwellings.'

'I will continue to work on behalf of Mr Naughton to identify some mitigation that would alleviate some of the noise pollution and intrusion on his privacy, and bring him the comfort he should enjoy with his home.'

'Hopefully SSEN will become more understanding of the impact their major projects can cause.'

Christmas is coming

Santa's bus

Thanks to Mid Argyll Round Table and West Coast Motors, the magical Santa 'bubble' bus will tour the region, stopping at specific locations.

With Covid still around, organisers ask that you view Santa from homes, gardens or a socially-distant location along the route.

The Santa bus will be at Ardrishaig today (Friday December 17); Lochgilphead tomorrow (Saturday December 18); and Kilmichael to Inveraray on Sunday December 19.

Tarbert patrol

Today (Friday December 17) Santa will depart from

Tarbert fire station at 5.30pm and head for Lady Ilene Road, stopping at the monument. Then it's on to the church car park, then the village hall. Next it will be past Market Place, Glenfield before the bottom car park at Oakfield.

Santa will then head back into the village turning in to Kingsway and stopping at Church Terrace before carrying on down Harbour Street to the ferry terminal then back up to Eastfield and Brucehill, stopping at the school car park.

Then for the final stretch, a run along Garval Terrace. Social Santa distancing will be observed.

Kelpies carols

A group of Mid Argyll singers will entertain from around 2pm on Sunday December 19 with carols round the kelpies at Pier Square, courtesy of Scottish Canals.

Polly's Coffee Stop will be there from 11-ish serving festive treats. The event will raise money for ACT at Blarbuie. Cars should be left at the car park off Chalmers Street in Ardrishaig. The Egg Shed is for disabled parking.

Festive singing

Everyone is invited to carol singing at the Stag Hotel corner, Lochgilphead, on Thursday December 23. Spread the festive joy between 4pm and 5pm, weather permitting.



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Wednesday 2.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.00pm

Thursday 2.00pm & 6.00pm

Encanto (PG)

Friday 5.00pm Saturday 4.30pm

A Boy Called Christmas (PG)

Friday 7.00pm

Elf (PG)

Wednesday 5.00pm

Miracle on 34th Street (U)

Sunday 2.00pm

Arthur Christmas (U)

Saturday 1.30pm

Thursday 3.00pm

It's A Wonderful Life (U)

Wednesday 2.00pm

Thursday 5.30pm

The Holiday (12A)

Saturday 6.30pm

Sunday 8.00pm

The Nightmare Before Christmas (PG)

Sunday 4.30pm

Thursday 1.00pm

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Argyll could have to export rubbish after landfill ban

Rubbish could be sent outside Argyll and Bute for disposal when the Scottish Government landfill ban is imposed, a council official has admitted.

But it was added that the possibility of doing so was 'hardly at the top' of the priority list for the authority as it bids to reach net zero carbon emissions.

Peter Leckie, project manager for the council's waste strategy review, addressed the concerns of councillors at a virtual meeting of its policy and resources committee on Thursday December 9.

The council currently sends waste from Helensburgh and Lomond to landfill in Alexandria, West Dunbartonshire. The landfill ban is due to come in during 2025, having been pushed back from 2021.

Mid Argyll councillor Douglas Philand asked Mr Leckie about the transporta-

Waste-to-energy system not an economic solution post-2025

tion of waste when the ban starts.

Mr Leckie replied: 'A large part of my job is looking at this problem. With the landfill ban coming in 2025, authorities have to move to a system of energy from waste.'

'We don't have the facilities in Argyll and Bute and lack the tonnage required to operate an energy-from-waste system economically.'

'So the only option is for us to send it to energy-from-waste plants in the central belt, which will have a huge impact.'

'There will be costs on top of the existing costs we have in terms of collection and in terms of a PPP management contract.'

'We are in discussions with the Scottish Government and looking for ways forward.'

'We are asking for support with this transition.'

Councillor Philand continued: 'I am thinking of lorries going into the central belt, and the carbon emissions for them. How are you going to offset that?'

'If we are going to be carbon neutral, that is a significant amount of carbon we are expelling, over a significant amount of time.'

Mr Leckie replied: 'We would expect to see a significant drop, based on the current calculators agreed with the Scottish and UK governments.'

'There are actions we can take, such as shredding materials, so we are looking to mitigate as many trips as possible – not only for CO₂ purposes, but for overall costs.'

Councillor Alastair Redman

also voiced concerns at transporting waste out of the area.

He said: 'Zero waste is one thing, zero landfill is another. I am anxious to know if our authority pays other areas to put landfill somewhere else.'

Mr Leckie said: 'When the landfill ban is enforced in 2025, we don't have any energy-from-waste facilities in Argyll and Bute, or in immediate proximity except in the central belt.'

'So we will have to send waste to those facilities, because we lack the sufficient tonnage to maintain such a facility within Argyll and Bute.'

'That is the position as it currently stands.'

'I imagine most councils would have no issue with energy from waste,' added Councillor Redman, 'but my concern was zero landfill, and that when the act comes in, we may pay authorities outside

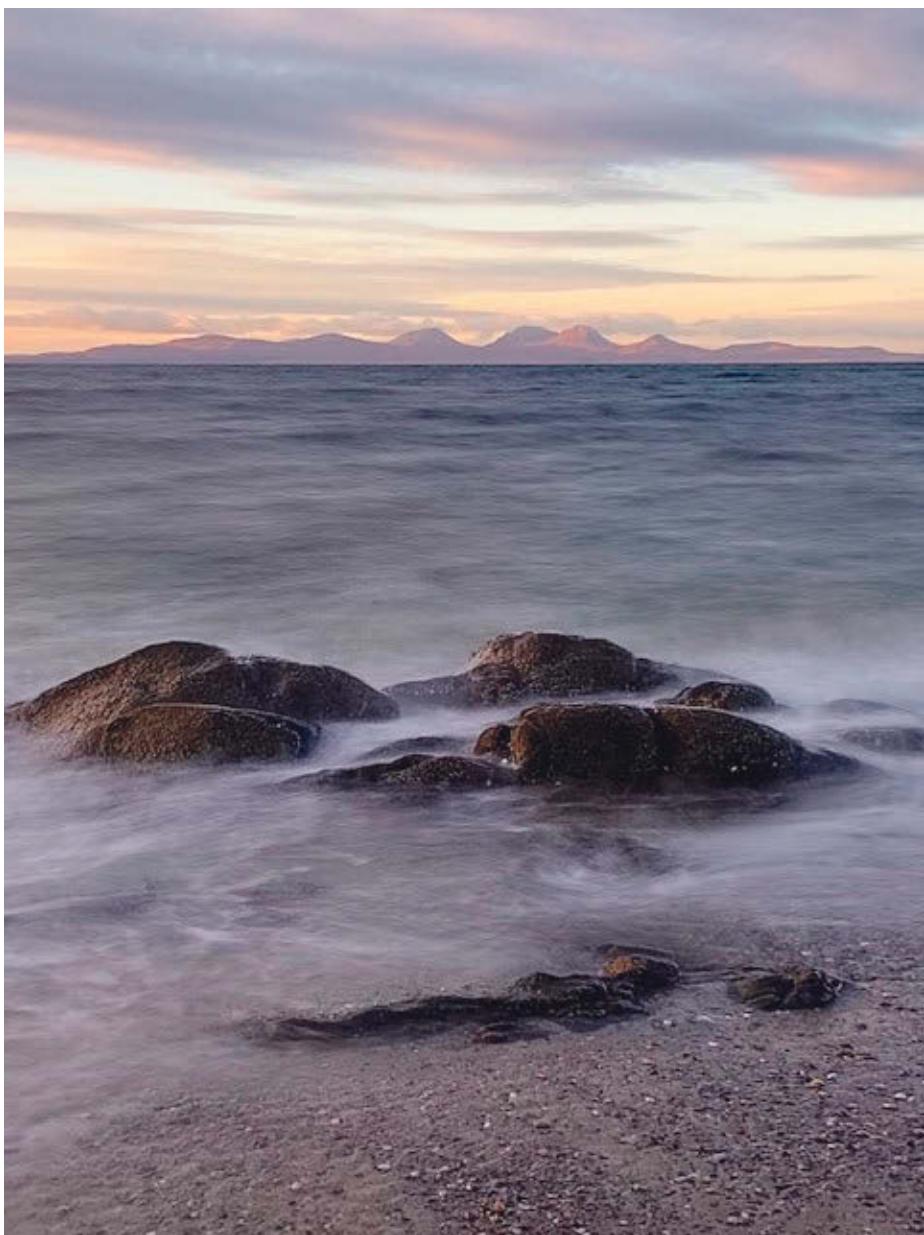
Scotland to landfill.'

Mr Leckie responded: 'The Scottish Government is on record as saying that it does not want waste going outside of our borders, or to energy-from-waste abroad.'

'But if there is insufficient national capacity, we will have to look at options outside the immediate area.'

'I would not say that is top of the list of things we are considering.'

YOUR PICTURES



Mairi Henderson from Lochgilphead sent us this gorgeous photograph of the hills of Jura, as seen from Kintyre.

'I took it from the shoreline at Ballochroy just beyond Ronachan on November 28,' explained Mairi. 'I was pleased with it, and what amazing results just from an iPhone.' Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

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The gorgeous tree decorated by Fyne Families after-school care charity. 51_a51ChristChurch_trees07

Christmas trees lit up by kindness

Words and photographs by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

In these stressful times a church in Lochgilphead offers an important Christmas reminder that we are surrounded by kindness.

Some 15 community groups and charities have taken up the offer of a festive display in Christ Church, showcasing their services as part of the church's annual Christmas tree festival.

Reverend Canon Simon P M Mackenzie explained: 'Alongside old favourites like Mid Argyll Marie Curie Fundraising Group, the Dochas carers' centre, the MS Centre and Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers we have some new groups this year.'

'I'm delighted that the Mental

Health and Addiction Services have a tree this year. They were very enthusiastic when I contacted them.

'And their tree is beautiful with big red hearts. It is so important to highlight the huge need for mental health support in the pandemic and the toxic state of our society.'

'It is really interesting to welcome regeneration themes - Morsbags with recycled bags, the GRAB Trust with its emphasis on recyclable menstrual products, MOMA with their vital work with food support and WRENS - Women's Rural Enterprise Network Scotland.

'Achahoish Primary School is new this year. I think as ever it shows a wonderful vitality and commitment to support and engagement in what is quite a small population: a wonderful place to live.'

Also present in the Scottish Episcopal church building are some imaginative tree displays from Mary's Meals, The Scottish Book Trust with free books, Fyne Families childcare, Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, and Christ Church initiatives including toilet twinning and the craft guild.

The Christ Church Christmas tree festival is open to the public until Friday January 7.



The big-hearted tree by Mental Health and Addiction Services. 51_a51ChristChurch_trees03



Please take a book... 51_a51ChristChurch_trees06



The church offers a peaceful setting for the trees. 51_a51ChristChurch_trees02

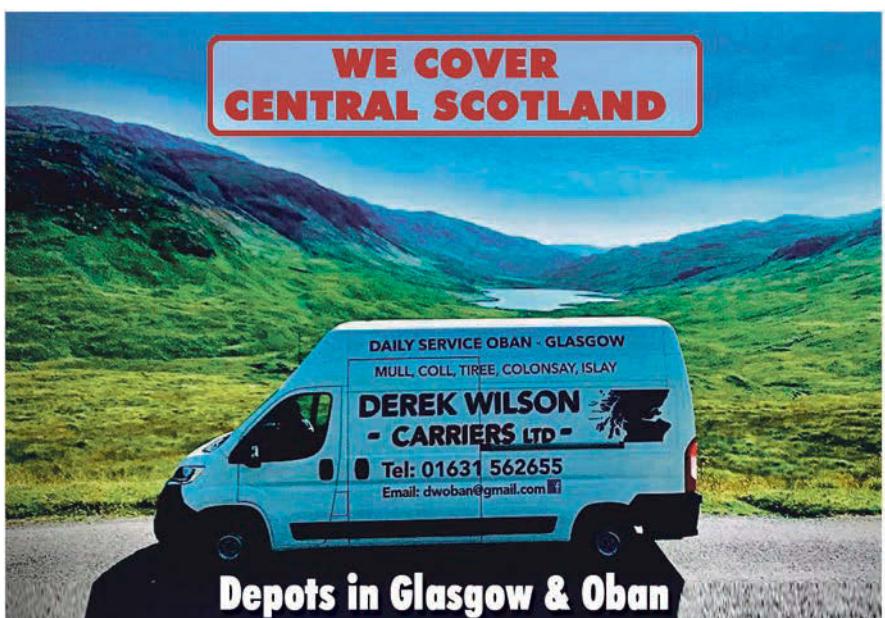


Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance is there with its Christmas tree. 51_a51ChristChurch_trees10

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More photos from the Christmas tree festival in next week's Argyllshire Advertiser.



The tree from school meals charity Mary's Meals. 51_a51ChristChurch_trees05

Festive accolade for UK's best plumbing apprentice Iain

Continued from page one.

to the challenges of learning during the pandemic and applied the learning to real work situations.

BPEC Group Chairman Duncan Wilson explained why Iain came out at the top of all the nominated apprentices: 'The quality of all the nominations was so high that it was difficult to choose the winners as all those shortlisted are excellent ambassadors for our industry.'

'Like many other apprentices Iain had to adapt to working during the pandemic and he excelled.'

'Not only has he achieved his modern apprenticeship in domestic plumbing and heating qualification, he has also been sharing and helping others to do the same by offering advice and support.'

During the pandemic Iain volunteered to do a week-long case study A Week in the Life of an Apprentice Plumber as well as talks to schools and businesses - all while doing his apprenticeship and working full-time.

Iain also spoke at an employer webinar attended by more than 50 employers in which he shared his apprenticeship journey, giving a talk on the benefits of recruiting plumbers.

Iain explained: 'I've been doing a lot of promotional events to encourage businesses to recruit more apprentices and to try and show what a great career it is for young people.'

He said: 'It's what I always wanted to do, but initially after leaving school there weren't apprenticeships available, so I did other jobs while continuing to try to break into a career



in plumbing.'

Four years ago Iain was taken on as an apprentice by Graeme Blair's company and he studied at the Cardonald campus of Glasgow Clyde College.

'My employers have been brilliant and the job is everything I hoped it would

be,' Iain added.

'I'm more than 100 per cent happy with it; the job's so varied and you're always learning.'

'We're working with the goal of hitting net zero carbon emissions so I've recently been doing courses on air source and ground source heat

pumps.'

Iain was nominated for the award by the Scottish and Northern Ireland Plumbing Employers' Federation (SNIPEF).

Chief executive of SNIPEF Fiona Hodgson said: 'Iain is a role model for the increasing numbers of people who value the opportunity that a plumbing apprenticeship provides. It not only sets them on the path to a well-paid and satisfying career but also one in which they can make a difference to the world we live in.'

'We anticipate big things ahead for this young man and he is a fine representative of both his employer and SNIPEF.'



Hebridean wool is for sale.

The gift of yarn

A special Christmas gift is now available for the knitter in your life.

Beautiful yarn from Hebridean sheep at Tarbert Castle is for sale from the Fyne Spinners craft group.

A limited quantity is on offer to Tarbert Castle Trust members for a special price of £11 per 100g skein of DK, which includes a £1 donation to the trust. Any remainder will go on sale at Tarbert's Earra Gael shop in the spring.

Yarn can be mailed out with the cost of postage added.

Find out more on the Tarbert Castle Facebook page.

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Winter stores and storms

There are fridges stacked solid with every conceivable cut of our pork, not just at home, but along at the pub too.

The belly and burgers, sausages and shoulders have their own section in our store, but there's also a good-sized corner that owes nothing to the sacrifice made by our porcine pals.

Our protein-fuelled winter also owes a debt of gratitude to the inhabitants of Loch na Cille and the Sound of Jura.

You can tell by the screams if a kid looking for a Calippo or a choc-ice has swung open the wrong freezer door.

A swarm of claws, antennae and googly eyes await the unsuspecting lolly-hunter.

Brown crabs were regular visitors to our creels this summer, joined occasionally by a couple of langoustine and, less often, the odd decent-sized lobster.

There's enough in there to break up the ham-fest and, along with the buckets of paté - whizzed up each time the loch bubbled with mackerel - we're pretty much set for a long, well-fed winter.

We lifted the pots for the last time weeks ago and tidied away the rods at the same time, yet the poor wee boat is still



A good catch of mackerel is now helping to fill the freezer.

out there bobbing nervously as each named storm rolls in.

Storm Arwen barely touched her. She's seen worse waves at the height of summer, but its easterly counterpart Storm Barra was a different kettle of fish altogether.

It's December, she should have been holidaying in the tranquil waters of Tayvallich Bay where she has a winter mooring, but there she was alone in the path of a storm; the tide was high and she was holding on - just.

Her captain had been rounding up pigs, pickling veg

and cooking vats of chutney and, somehow, just hadn't got round to steering his wee boat out the loch and up Loch Sween to her holiday home.

We knew the storm was coming. The weather forecasts had taken on a Dad's Army quality. We were all doomed.

With no time to sail her to safety, the only option was to haul her out with the trailer.

The captain was home alone, his crew all elsewhere engaged with their land-lubber concerns.

The boat could only be rescued at low tide and, inevitably this was at 2am. So, in the kind of dark you only get on a thick winter's night in the furthest reaches of Argyll, he led the boat along the jetty to the shore and jumped into the car to reverse the muckle great trailer into the loch.

As the waves lapped the trailer it suddenly nose-dived, its support wheel shearing off and rendering the boat's only support vehicle entirely useless.

And so she faced Barra's wrath alone, tied back on to the jetty which, by the time I arrived home to help, was submerged by a combination of storm surge and high tide.

Wading thigh-deep along the



jetty armed with extra ropes we put on yet another show for the neighbours.

They've previously seen me push the boat off and forget to jump aboard, ending up fully dressed and fully immersed in the loch.

They've watched us lose oars, fall off paddle boards and sink kayaks, but the sight of me dangling horizontally in an easterly gale tying ropes to every cleat I could find struck a new level of entertainment.

They're our gift to the community, these hapless exploits.

I'm sure we provide a warm sense of wellbeing to neighbours who can rest assured that whatever the Argyll

weather throws at them there's something dafter going on at the wee croft along the road.



Some of the croft's inhabitants are dressed for the winter.

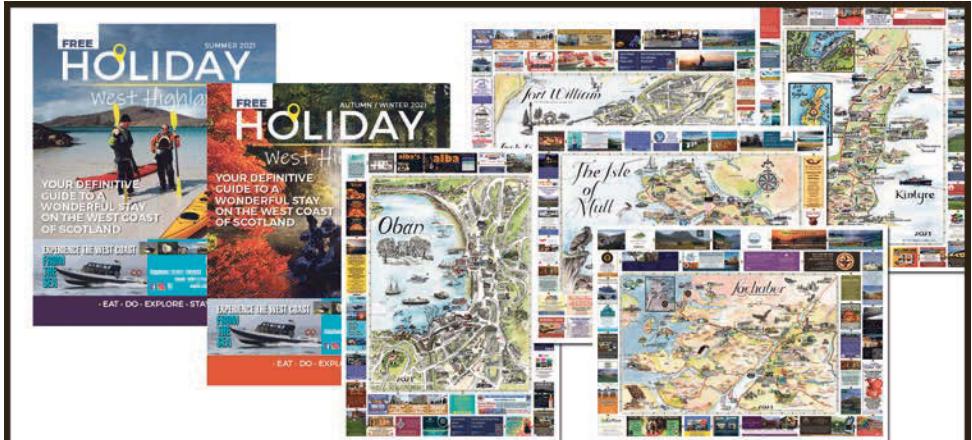
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Talented duo brings string music to Kilmory concert

Argyll and Bute Council kindly allowed the use of Kilmory Castle as the venue for Mid Argyll Arts Association's concert featuring violin and cello duo GAIA.

The event on Saturday November 6 was the second in GAIA's 11-concert tour, with Katrina Lee and Alice Allen delighted to be performing in Lochgilphead to such an appreciative audience.

Celloist Alice and Katrina on violin took it in turns to introduce the music they were performing with some very interesting facts about the composers and the music.

The concert opened with Sonata for Violin and Cello Op.5 No.9 by Corelli.

There are three movements in this work and we were told the second movement was a favourite of famous 18th century Scottish fiddler Neil Gow.

After hearing it there, you could sense the connection with the jigs that Neil Gow himself composed – it could have been composed by Neil Gow himself.

Ravel's Duo for Violin and Cello was the next offering,

which Ravel dedicated to his contemporary, Debussy.

With Ravel's Bolero being the only music by the composer that many of the audience knew, this was very different.

Katrina described it as 'a challenging workout for strings' with harmonics, pizzicato, double stopping, glissandos plus many different bowing styles included.

As GAIA are a duo who perform to an extremely high and exacting standard, all four movements were most definitely well-performed, with the last one beginning with an almost 'Western' film sound.

After the interval, there were two works by female composers, with Rebecca Clarke's Lullaby/Grotesque first.

Rebecca Clarke (1886-1979) was a violist, so she originally composed it for viola and cello before arranging it for violin and cello.

The lullaby was gentle, smooth and mesmerising while the Grotesque demonstrated a wide range of dynamics and numerous glissandos all ably portrayed by GAIA.

The final piece was a work by

Katrina described it as a 'challenging workout for strings'

Sally Beamish, commissioned by GAIA and premiered at the St Magnus Festival in May 2021. They worked closely with Sally Beamish during lockdown and the three move-

ments are all Orkney inspired.

Like the Ravel piece, it uses many techniques for strings but this work also includes the stamping of the performers feet to keep a beat in the opening movement.

The second movement showed an abundance of harmonics and trills, perhaps representing the wind on the waves. This was very apt as the wind was blowing outside

with the windows open due to Covid requirements.

The final movement was full of dramatic rhythm and percussive-style 'chopping' sounds from the cello bow and dramatic, rapid scales from both violin and cello which brought this Stone, Salt and Sky commission to a finish.

An extremely appreciative audience was rewarded with an encore of a traditional

strathspey and reel composed by Lady Stirling of Ardock, allowing GAIA to continue with their championing of female composers.

This concert was provided by two outstanding young musicians who have won numerous awards and, if this concert is anything to go by, there will be many more awards coming their way.

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Toddling with joy into Inverneill Christmas



Fresh-air festive fun for all ages at Inverneill - Niamh, Layla, Pierre, Carys, Oran, Connor, Callie, Amy, Maggie, Kyle and Edith.



Left: Raif couldn't be happier with sweeties.



Right: Four-legged toddling with Archie.

Christmas spirit is alive and kicking at Inverneill.

The second Christmas Toddle - which started in lockdown last year to allow people to enjoy a community event - was held recently in the

hamlet by Loch Fyne. With outdoor fun for kids and adults, the day was enjoyed by everyone as a pre-Christmas fresh air get-together.

Just another reason why Inverneill and wider Mid Argyll is a great place to raise your family.



The girls enjoy some refreshments - from left: Niamh, Amy, Maggie and Edith.

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In defence of the Brussels sprout

Turkey, roast potatoes, Brussels sprouts and gravy constitute the traditional British Christmas dinner.

And while you may prefer a goose to a turkey, and cranberry to bread sauce, when it comes to flavour nothing is more controversial than the humble Brussels sprout.

The vegetable, a member of the cabbage family (*Brassica oleracea*) and native to the Mediterranean, was first grown in northern Europe in the 13th century in Belgium somewhere near Brussels - hence its name.

On the positive side, sprouts are easy to grow, produce many per plant, mature in winter when fresh veg are scarce, and are labelled a 'health food', rich in fibre, protein, carotene and vitamins - what more could we want?

But the anti-sprout lobbyists are passionate, mainly because of the sprout's distinctive

flavour. Sprouts are described as having a bitter taste and a sulphurous smell, and these unfortunate properties are due high levels of compounds called glucosinolates, particularly a chemical named sinigrin and its breakdown products.

But these sprouty chemicals are not there just to annoy us, they are there for a purpose.

In fact, they perform an essential role for the sprout plant by way of chemical warfare.

They have evolved to protect the plants from grazing herbivores, be they snails, mice or cattle, who, like some of us, don't like the taste so leave well alone.

Breeding less bitter sprouts for our delicate palates just means that they will attract more pests, but still, there are many other ideas on how to make sprouts more tolerable.

Suggestions range from eating sprouts along with a glass

of red wine, serving them with cream cheese, frying or roasting them to accentuate their nutty flavour or masking the bitterness by combining them with another strong flavour like chestnuts or bacon.

All this is fine, but why not just admire the plants for their ingenuity, grit your teeth and eat the things; at least they're good for you!



Whatever you decide to do about the problem, have a great festive season and enjoy your Christmas dinner.

Brussels sprouts are a central part of the traditional British Christmas dinner.
Yum. Photo: CharmaineZoe's Marvelous Melange.

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A doormat with the words "DO THE TEST" printed on it sits on a tiled floor next to a glass door. To the right, large text reads "A wee reminder. Let's stop the spike." and "NHSinform.scot/testing".

Gardening tips – a new year for the growing season

It's almost the start of a new year and the start of the gardening season.

Time to plan your planting and how you want your garden to look over the coming months, stock up on seeds and service any essential equipment such as lawn mowers and tools.

It's also a time for New Year's resolutions, so here are a dozen - one a month - that will make your garden super diverse and environmentally friendly:

- Use less plastic
- Plant a tree
- Start sowing seeds
- Plant something for fun
- Grow more veg
- Go green and have a go at organic growing
- Learn to relax and enjoy your garden
- Be more water-aware
- Compost more of your garden waste
- Welcome wildlife
- Bring the outside in with houseplants
- Look after your tools

First on the list is using less plastic, something we are all trying to do in our daily lives.

The biggest 'bad boy' in any gardener's life is the plastic pot.

It's estimated that 500 million plant pots and seed trays are sold every year and the majority are sent to landfill or are incinerated.

But there are non-plastic alternatives such as biodegradable pots made using materials like coir, wood chips, bamboo and rice husks.

You can also make your own pots using newspaper or toilet roll tubes. And now is a good time to make your own supplies of biodegradable pots so you have stock for the planting season in a couple of months.

If you've got a supply of old newspapers to hand simply roll a 15cm-wide strip of newspaper tightly around a glass tumbler, leaving 5cm beyond the bottom of the glass.

Fold the excess paper across the bottom, then press the glass down to flatten the pot's base.

There is no need to fix your paper



One way to look after the environment is to replace plastic plant pots with paper.

pot with tape, just slide it off the glass. When ready to plant, just fill with compost.

Taking good care of existing plastic

is a good way to ensure you don't have to keep buying it – so reuse any plant pots you have again and again for new seedlings, cuttings and plants.

If you look after your propagator trays and lids, repairing them if they crack, they will last for several seasons.

The added bonus of recycling or reusing items in the garden is that it also reduces cost – as does growing from seed rather than buying established plants.

Even in winter you can grow something from seed, you just need a seed tray and a window ledge, or small cold frame or greenhouse – whatever space and budgets allow.

For anyone growing their own veg, this month is great for sowing onions.

If you sow onions now it saves the expense of buying onion sets (small bulbs) later and you can have a much larger crop of onions in the summer.

Onions seeds do not have a long shelf life, so it's best to buy new seeds each year.

Seeds will germinate between 16–

21°C one or two weeks after sowing. When large enough to handle, transplant to individual small pots and keep in a bright, frost-free place until April when they can be planted out.

Varieties to try include Setton - high yield, yellow skinned and good storage potential; Red Baron - a late maturing red onion with globe-shaped bulbs and strong taste; and Hybound - an early variety with bronze-brown skins which is excellent for long-term storage.

According to the Royal Horticultural Society, January might be the middle of winter but as the days lengthen the garden starts to grow.

Now is a great time to plan for the coming gardening year and to order seeds and plants.

Also put out food for birds and leave some garden areas uncut, a little longer, to provide shelter for wildlife in your garden.

Top three jobs this month - clean pots and greenhouses ready for spring; dig over empty or unused plots; and prune apple and pear trees.

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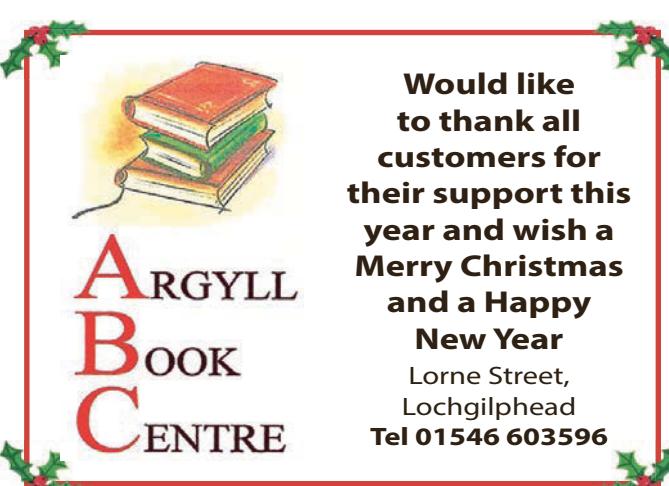
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2021 has not been easy! We have got through it because of the strength of our communities and we have loved reporting on all our local heroes: the NHS and healthcare workers, teachers, carers, delivery teams, transport hubs, food producers and food banks – the list is endless – and the incredible businesses that were able to stay open and work to the strictest restrictions, to serve the people of our communities. You have all done us so proud.

We thank you all and wish you a safe and happy Christmas, and a bright, positive outlook for 2022.

We would like to remind you of our Christmas/New Year deadlines:

Monday 20th December 4pm For the issue dated Friday 23rd December

Monday 27th December 4pm For the issue dated Friday 30th December

Monday 3rd January For the issue dated Friday 6th January

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It's nice recognition, too, for Iain's employer Graeme Blair, who made it possible.

No mean feat in the middle of a pandemic, and we wish Iain all the best in his future career.

Making a noise

The new power transmission line passing Tarbert is certainly 'critical national infrastructure' as SSE has pointed out.

The company has the privilege of carrying out the work on behalf of the consumers it serves, but there seems to be a systemic problem with communication.

SSE has already given the impression that decisions are pre-determined and public consultations are box-ticking exercises. It seems as if it fails to listen to the views of people living near its sites.

Its approach to complaints over noisy works near Tarbert, sadly, fits this pattern.

SSE appears afraid of being up-front. It feels remote from communities.

The contrast is stark between the openness of Scottish Water as it completed recent major sewer upgrade work in Tarbert.

As Councillor Horn says, SSE must have more understanding of the impact its major projects can have.

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Co-op food pricing policy

An open letter from deputy convener of Tarbert and Skipness Community Council Peter Bates to Steve Murrells, Co-op group chief executive officer; Scottish Co-op representatives; and copied to Argyll and Bute MSP Jenni Minto:

Dear Mr Murrells,
Tarbert Co-op is the main food shop for everyone in Tarbert and those who live nearby.

The next nearest Co-op, only slightly bigger, is in Lochgilphead which is a 29-mile round trip.

The other larger shops, Tesco etc, are in Campbeltown, a 76-mile round trip; or Oban, a 102-mile round trip where there is a Tesco and both an Aldi and a Lidl.

Tesco does not deliver to Tarbert.

The Co-op has a virtual monopoly in this area of Argyll.

Due to the distance and time involved, everyone in the village shops in the local Co-op. Not everyone has the ability to get out of Tarbert to do their shopping. The Tarbert Co-op is therefore a lifeline shop. It is not a convenience shop.

The prices in the local Co-op are exceedingly high in comparison to Tesco and others.

Is the Co-op willing to address the price differential between the Tarbert Co-op and Tesco?

I fervently hope you will.

I have been contacted by residents in Pitlochry, Bute, Mull, Skye and Lochgilphead and there will be many other places too in rural Scotland where the Co-op pricing structure is considered a problem.

Tarbert Co-op has de-stocked several items over the past year ie wholemeal brown flour. But you can get these in the Lochgilphead Co-op.

Three times over the last two weeks 'essentials' have not been on the shelves in the Tarbert Co-op but with a drive to Lochgilphead they are readily available on its Co-op shelves.

It is not green to have to do a 29-mile car journey for essentials. But that is what the lack of stock in the Tarbert Co-op is forcing myself and other residents of Tarbert to do.

The Co-op has also replaced many branded items with its own products which are nowhere near as good - bread and Brussels paté spring to mind.

The Co-op is not helping to keep the cost of living down and this is pricing rural living

out. It is particularly hard-hitting for those less mobile, non-car owners and the elderly.

To clarify my annoyance at the prices charged in the Tarbert Co-op and other Co-ops, the excellent hard-working local management and staff at the Co-op in Tarbert are a big part of our local community; they are all very helpful and kind.

They have no control over the Co-op's pricing and stocking policy of goods, this is decided by the board and executive in Manchester.

It is not my intention that the staff in the Tarbert Co-op be given a hard time regarding the prices of goods, as this is not something that is in their power to alter.

The Co-op bosses in Manchester need to realise that the Tarbert Co-op and other Co-ops in rural locations are not convenience stores. These Co-ops are often the only store for miles and are therefore lifeline stores.

If the Co-op board in Manchester does not understand this, then it does not understand the communities it is serving.

The Co-op's core values as stated on the Co-op website are:

- Principles more valuable than profits.
- No-one should profiteer out of a community's need to access basic foods.

Please address this problem.

Yours sincerely,

Peter M Bates, deputy convener, Tarbert and Skipness Community Council

sleep at night worrying about it.'

Even after the Scottish Child Payment increases and its extension to under-16s, too many children will be living in poverty and we will remain some way off achieving Scotland's statutory child poverty targets.

We will need a continued focus on children and tackling child poverty by putting money directly into parents' pockets next year and beyond.

Claire Telfer, Save the Children's head of Scotland

Scotland unfairly treated in 'levelling up' share

Sir,

It is striking to note the EU has awarded Ireland almost £850 million as compensation for Brexit, while Scotland has been given just £172 million from the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) by Westminster, which aims to replace previous EU funding from Brussels.

These 'levelling up' awards from the SPF go directly to local authorities rather than to the Scottish Government, which EU funds had previously done.

It has also been evidenced that two-thirds of authorities have received no funding at all.

Prior to Brexit, Boris Johnson and Michael Gove as part of the Vote Leave campaign promised that the Scottish Government would receive £1.5 billion to spend on Scottish priorities when the UK left the EU.

While we in Scotland are being short-changed, contrast this with Ireland which has received £850 million in funding under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve, making a significant difference to the Irish economy through economic support, job creation and training.

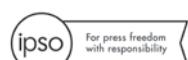
The economic impact of Brexit on Scotland has been disastrous and it is clear that the UK Government is not acting in our best interest.

Until we take full control over our own affairs, this is another example of the treatment we can continue to expect from Westminster.

Alex Orr, Edinburgh

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Wednesday 22nd December	07:30 – 17:00	Friday 31st December	07:30 – 13:00
Thursday 23rd December	07:30 – 17:00	New Year's Day & Sunday 2nd January	Closed
Friday 24th December	07:30 – 13:00	Monday 3rd January	07:30 – 17:00
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Thought for the Week

The New York Times once asked the various diplomats at the United Nations what they hoped for at Christmas.

The British ambassador eventually received the phone call.

'What do you want for Christmas?'

He replied that, no, really, he couldn't accept anything.

The reporter pressed him and eventually the ambassador made what he thought was quite a modest suggestion.

And so it was that, on Christmas Eve, the New York Times revealed the Russian ambassador's wish for greater cooperation among the nations of the world. The French ambassador hoped for an end to Third World poverty. The German ambassador hoped the countries of the world would come together to tackle climate change.

There were many others in the same vein. And then, at the end, was the sentence: 'The British ambassador asked for a box of chocolates.'

What do you wish for this Christmas?

I've made my annual request for a train set, but I don't expect I'll get it. Again.

I'm approaching this Christmas with mixed feelings. This has been one of those years when it seemed as if Christmas just couldn't get here soon enough.

I also find Christmas this year to be more challenging and difficult than usual. Perhaps we all do.

What I wish for this Christmas is that the promise of Christmas will not leave us unchanged.

It might take a while to recognise and live into this change, but the promise is trustworthy and true.

To us 'is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ, the Lord'.

And that is 'good news of great joy for all people' in every time, in every place, and in every life.

Reverend William Crossan, Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown.

MACHRIHANISH

A new golf course, clubhouse, shop, 75-bedroom hotel and a 50-lodge development have all been proposed for a site at Machrihanish.

The Kintyre Development Company has submitted initial plans to Argyll and Bute Council and announced that it will hold a public consultation meeting to discuss the project.

Councillors considered the application at a meeting on Wednesday December 15 of its planning, protective services and licensing committee.

As the plans are only at the proposal of application notice stage, planning permission was not awarded or refused, with the committee only providing feedback.

The Kintyre Development Company has confirmed that the consultation will include a public event on Wednesday January 19 between 1pm and 8pm at Campbeltown Town Hall.

The developers have also undertaken to notify local community councils and interested parties through a letter-drop to all residential properties within 2km of the application site.

In the report to the planning committee, a council planning officer said: 'A consultation event with community councils in the area has already been undertaken on November 24 by the applicant and the offer of additional events or provision of information has been made on an ongoing basis with these groups.'

Officers are content that the public consultation proposed is commensurate with the scale and nature of the proposals.'

KILMARTIN

Three years after vandalism forced it to close, a 4,000-year-old burial monument has reopened to the public.

Nether Largie North cairn is one of the five large burial monuments that form a linear cemetery along Kilmartin Glen, but in 2018 it was badly damaged when the cairn door was stolen from the site.

A spokesperson for Kilmartin Museum this week said: 'We are delighted to announce the reopening of Nether Largie north cairn.'

'The cairn has been closed for the past three years, after vandals decided to make off with the cairn door – presumably thinking it was made

Divers complete instructor training

HOLY LOCH



Divers learn their instructor skills on the Holy Loch.

'Also thanks to Swordfish Marine for our second vessel, and to the staff at the Holy Loch Marina.'

of lead or copper, although it largely consists of zinc.'

'A huge thanks to Historic Environment Scotland for its help on the matter.'

Nether Largie north is an extensive chambered cairn which was excavated in 1930 and found to contain a central cist from where a number of items and artefacts were recovered including items of ochre and charcoal as well as a human molar tooth.

The cist was covered by a large capstone featuring approximately 40 cup-and-ring marks and pecked carvings of two axe-heads.

ISLAY AND JURA

A climate action plan designed specifically for the needs of the islands of Islay and Jura has been selected as one of seven being supported nationally.

The plan drawn up in a partnership between Islay Energy Trust Ltd, South Islay Development, Jura Development Trust and Islay Development Initiative has been selected to participate in the

Community Climate Action Programme delivered by environmental charity Keep Scotland Beautiful.

The new programme will support seven communities throughout Scotland to produce tailored community climate action plans.

Keep Scotland Beautiful will support the partnerships to begin their actions, signposting them to sources of advice and funding relevant to their plan, and help them establish how they will evaluate impact, over the coming months.

A spokesperson for the trusts said: 'We appreciate being selected to work with Keep Scotland Beautiful over the coming months to develop our own bespoke plan to help tackle climate change in our communities.'

'We're looking forward to our first engagement workshop and will be reaching out to encourage everyone to get involved.'

The workshops will take place over the first few months of 2022 with the aim of helping the islands reimagine a low carbon future for their community.

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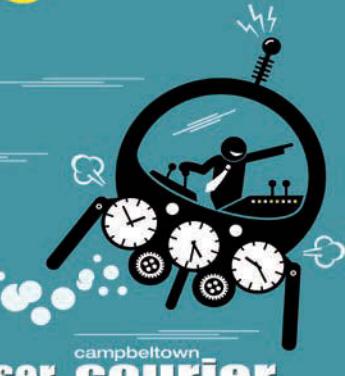


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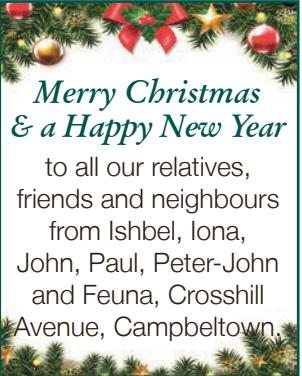
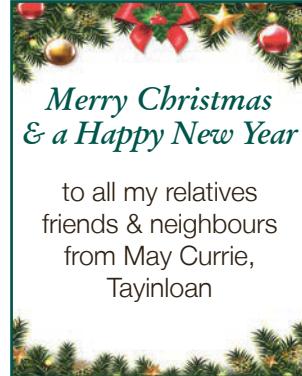
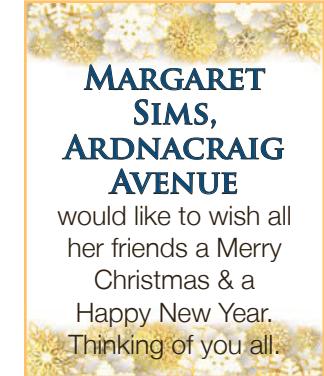
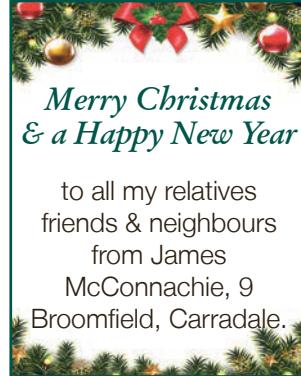
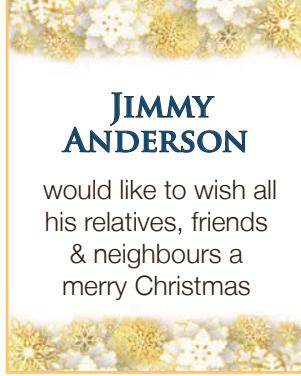
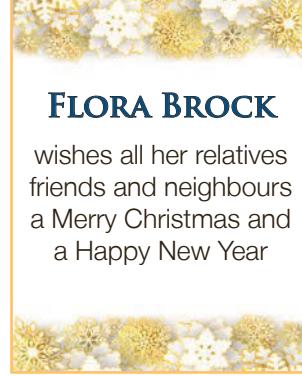
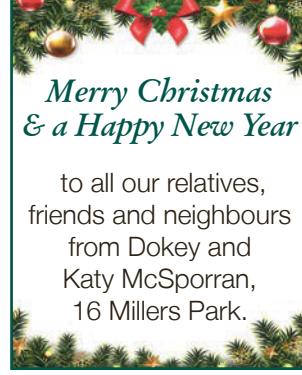
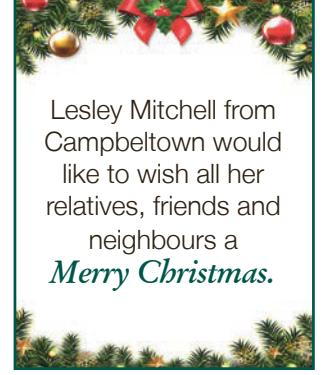
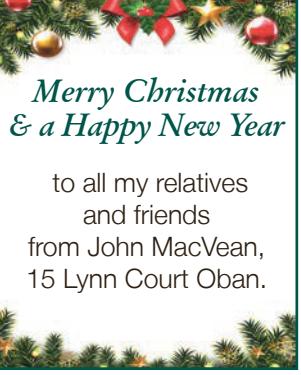
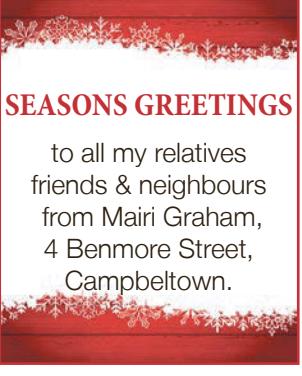
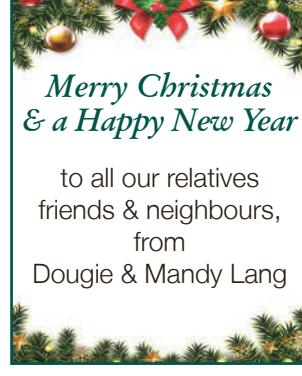
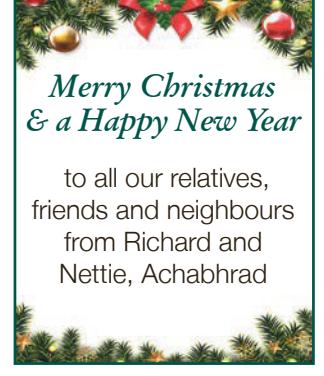
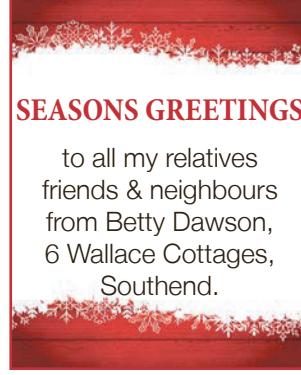
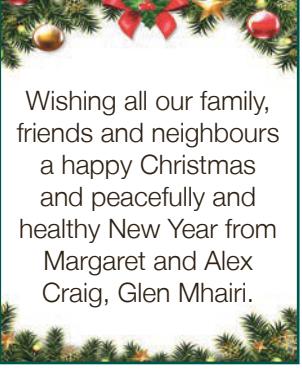
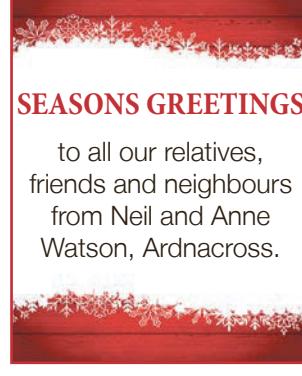


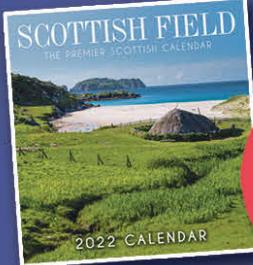
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Merry Christmas

Your personal Christmas messages for 2021

Alex and John Johnston would like to wish all our relatives, friends and neighbours a <i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i>	STEPHEN & ALISON KELLY, CAMPBELTOWN wishing all our family & friends a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from John MacMillan M.B.E., 8 Wallace cottages, Southend	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all our relatives, friends and neighbours from Fiona and Billy Bruce	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all family, neighbours and friends from Cathie Armour, Glebe Street	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours love from Catherine Lang and family
<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Cathie Mathieson	SEASONS GREETINGS from Flora Smedley, 17b John Street.	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all our relatives, friends and neighbours from Hector and Christine Duncan, Skeroblin Farm.	<i>Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2022</i> to all my family and friends from Margaret Barrett, 13 Burnside Cottages, Stewarton	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Neil, 7 Harbour View	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Christine, 99 Davaar Avenue
DONALD AND SADIE COLVILLE, KILKENZIE would like to wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a merry Christmas	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my family, friends and neighbours from Isobel Conley 7 Meadowpark Campbeltown.	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives and friends from Sally Conner	CHRISTMAS GREETINGS to family, friends and neighbours from Doris Newlands, 1 Castlepark, Campbeltown	TEDDY AND DOT RUSSELL would like to wish all family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Betty MacCallum, 115 Ralston Road
<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Elizabeth Semple, Southend.	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all our relatives, friends and neighbours from William and Ellen Armour, Ellen Lea, Machrihanish	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my family, friends and neighbours from Wilma Ellis	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives, friends & neighbours from Esther Thomson.	<i>Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year</i> to all my relatives friends & neighbours from Catherine Ferguson, 93 Tomaig Road, Campbeltown	Flora Gillespie, 33 Dalaruan, Campbeltown would like to wish all relatives, friends and neighbours a MERRY CHRISTMAS



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Carbon storage plans – all soils are not equal warning

Not all soils are equal when it comes to carbon sequestration, scientists are warning.

If plans to reward them financially for increasing soil carbon stocks are to be introduced, farmers face a 'postcode lottery' according to two leading soil scientists.

Speaking at the annual IFS Agronomic Conference at the University of Cambridge, crop research centre Rothamsted's Professor Andrew Neal and Professor David Powlson said geological history - which determines soil type - will make capturing more carbon in the soil 'nigh-on impossible' for some farmers.

Professor Neal said: 'If you farm on sandy soils, then you will struggle to increase the carbon content of your soil. You might be doing all the right things to increase the carbon flowing through your

soil, but it won't show up when they come to test your soil.'

Common ways to improve soil carbon include the addition of manures or crop residues, growing cover crops in the winter and the rearing of grazing livestock and crops together.

Under government proposals, farmers would be paid to manage their farms using environmentally-friendly practices, often termed 'regenerative agriculture'.

The problem, says Professor Neal, is that the potential for carbon sequestration is strongly influenced by soil type, particularly texture, and the starting carbon content, which will be a legacy of past farming practices.

'Changes in soil carbon in response to alterations in management practice occur slowly.



Professor David Powlson.



Professor Andrew Neal.

'It's also difficult to measure the likely small changes in soil carbon within a short time period; indicators such as soil microbial biomass are useful in showing whether organic carbon is increasing or decreasing in response to a change of management - but these measurements provide neither an estimate of soil carbon stocks, nor a prediction of absolute changes in carbon.'

carbon is to be instituted, we propose an alternative approach using carbon models to predict probable changes in soil carbon taking account of the farmer's soil type, local climate, cropping practices and starting soil carbon content.

'This could be combined with closer monitoring at a network of benchmark sites.'

Careful thought needs to go into designing replacements for current EU farm subsidies, added Professor Powlson, as there are formidable challenges to doing this in ways that are both fair and practical.

'There is much interest in sequestering carbon in soil as a means of mitigating climate change by making payments to farmers in return for the amount of carbon sequestered,' said Professor Powlson.

'There are several early warning methods that may be

successful in detecting whether or not a soil is increasing its carbon content, and this is helpful.'

'But they will probably not provide direct evidence of the absolute change in total carbon that has occurred.'

Soil organic matter contains about 50 per cent carbon and influences virtually all soil properties.

Recent research using Rothamsted soils by Professor Neal and colleagues has shown how the structure of the soil is affected by the processing of organic matter inputs by soil microbes as metabolites form associations with mineral particles.

The resulting structure in turn impacts oxygen diffusion through the soil and the microbial processing of carbon and other nutrients important for crop and livestock nutrition.

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Wishing you a happy retirement, Donald

It was the end of an era on Tuesday December 7 as Donald Morrison retired from United Auctions after a career spanning 48 years, serving the west coast since he was 17 years old.

Having stood down from his auctioneering role in 2018, Donald, who turned 65 in November, will pass on the baton for west coast sales to the existing team of Raymond Kennedy, Peter Wood, Ross Fotheringham, Murray Steel and Derek Anderson who have been in place since 2016.

Donald's last day as a director of Scotland's leading livestock auctioneers will be Friday December 31 but he will continue to be a familiar face at the sale rings at Stirling, Dalmally, Oban, Islay, Tiree and Uist markets to buy livestock on behalf of farmers and crofters.

During his time at the company as both an

employee and board member, Donald has been instrumental in helping to secure the long-term sustainability of the west coast markets.

The crofter's son from South Uist advocated for the company's investments to upgrade the United Auctions-owned Dalmally and Islay marts and the centre at Moleigh near Oban. He also played a major role working with the communities of Tiree and Lochboisdale to ensure their community marts were built.

Donald was also a key part of the team in securing the reappointment of United Auctions as operators at Oban Livestock Centre.

George Purves, right, managing director of United Auctions makes the presentation to Donald in the ring at Oban livestock market following the Christmas calf sale, watched by staff. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn



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Ask for Robert

WANTED MOTOR HOMES

Caravanettes and camper vans, all makes and models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.
Social distancing measures in place.

Contact William 07730 130284
email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com

WANTED 4X4 VEHICLES

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

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

WANTED ALL 4X4'S**All vehicles considered**

Landrover, Toyota, etc including all pickups
Old or new, any miles or condition

Tel 07703490572
or email balgowan4wd@gmail.com
Ask for Robert

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our customers

**RIVERSIDE FILLING STATION****Festive Opening Hours**

Closing 9pm Christmas Eve. Closed Christmas day and Boxing day

Open 7am – 10pm from 27th – 30th dec

31st dec 7am – 9pm. Closed new years day.

2nd jan – 10am – 5pm. Monday 3rd January back to normal hours 6am – 10pm

There for you Riverside Filling Station Oban Rd, Lochgilphead. Tel 01546 603858

NEW CAR INDEX

W.D. Semple
www.wdsemple.com
Inveraray Shore Street
Tel.01499 302150
Lochgilphead Highbank Park
01546 606767 / 606272



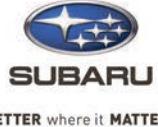
S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
01292 880080 01292 880440



S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
01292 880080 01292 880440



S & S Services
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr
01292 880080 01292 880440



S&S SERVICES

ISUZU
THE PICK-UP
PROFESSIONALS

SCOTLANDS NO1 DEALER

S & S Services ensure customers are still on the fastest route to an All-New D-Max

- 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 S&S Services 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. Customers looking to purchase a new Isuzu D-Max are encouraged to begin

discussions with S&S Services to ensure they remain on the fastest route to a new Isuzu D-Max. For more information on the Isuzu D-Max range please call on 01292 880080.



S & S - REGULAR VISITS TO ARGYLL FOR SALES, SERVICE & PARTS

GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES.

ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU PURCHASE THE SUBARU FORESTER E-BOXER.

UP TO
£3,000
OFF
A BRAND NEW
FORESTER*

3 YEARS
FREE
SERVICING**

3 YEARS
ROADSIDE
ASSISTANCE^



Supporting the people of Argyll for over 30 years

S&S Services, Heathfield, Ayr

Tel: 01292 880080 or John Spicer: 07831 808702

Merry Christmas
to all our customers

W.D. Semple

APPROVED RENAULT DEALER  www.wdsemple.com

Inveraray - Shore Street. Tel: 01499 302150
Lochgilphead - Highbank Park. Tel: 01546 606767

W D Semple would like to thank
all our customers and wish them
Seasons Greetings and a
Happy & Prosperous New Year.

*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year*

from

**HAZELBANK
MOTORS**

For all makes, Vehicle Sales and Hire Drive
CONTACT 01631 566476

KILMARTIN AUTO REPAIRS LTD

Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year to
all our customers,
Thank you for your
custom in 2021, hope
to see you in 2022

OPEN MON-SAT 9AM-5.30PM TEL: 01546 510373

Free MOT Text
Reminder
Service



CAMPBELTOWN MOTOR COMPANY 



**COMING SOON
& NEW FOR 2022**

The innovative way to rent a vehicle.
Smartphones at the ready!
More details very soon.

We would like to thank all customers
for their support throughout 2021
and we wish everyone a
Merry Christmas from all at
Campbeltown Motor Company.

Festive opening hours

Friday 24th December	08.00 – 14.00
Saturday 25th to Tuesday 28th December	CLOSED
Wednesday 29th December	08.00 – 17.30
Thursday 30th December	08.00 – 17.30
Friday 31st December	08.00 – 14.00
Saturday 1st January to Wednesday 5th January	CLOSED
Thursday 6th January	08.00 – 17.30

www.campbeltownmotorcompany.co.uk

Campbeltown Motor Company, Snipefield, Drumore, Campbeltown 01586 552030 REASSURANCE

BUILT IN



Merry Christmas
to all our customers

M&R Motors

Tyres (supplied, balanced & fitted)
4 Wheel alignment with full printout
Diagnostics
Engine Injector Cleaner Machine
(for Petrol & Diesel engines)

**Ronnie and Hamish would like to
wish all our customers a very Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year.**
Tomaig Road, Campbeltown. Tel (01586) 554675

KILMORY COACHWORKS MOTS GARAGE SERVICES

A Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
to all our customers

UNIT 10C, KILMORY IND EST, LOCHGILPHEAD, PA31 8RR
Tel: 01546 606922

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEERS

SAMBOREK

Unit 5, Kilmory Ind Est, Lochgilphead PA31 8RR
Tel: 01546 603158 URL: www.samborek.net

All forms of Heating Installations
Bathrooms supplied and fitted
Boiler & Cylinder Services



PUBLIC NOTICES

CLASSIFIED & PERSONAL NOTICES

PERSONAL NOTICES

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank all my family, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards, flowers and gifts received during my stay in hospital. To all the doctors and nursing staff in Campbeltown, Glasgow and Oban for their specialist care and attention, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Catherine Sym



The Ardrishaig Boat Club would like to say thank you to D. A. Macdonald Contractors for the placement of rock armour to protect our yard from the winter storms. Thanks also to MacLeods Construction for donating the stone for the job.

TIMBER KIT HOMES & CONSTRUCTION

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CONSTRUCTION LIMITED**



- TIMBER KITS
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- CONSERVATORIES
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Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

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

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION

20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
(AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No. Proposal

21/02379/PP Erection of dwellinghouse

Site Address

Plot 7, Land Between
91 And 93 Roading,
Campbeltown,
Argyll And Bute

21/02241/PP Erection of dwellinghouse, storage shed, installation of sewage treatment plant and formation of new driveway from existing private road

Plot 2 Land North
Of Rionnagan House,
Dunmore, Tarbert,
Argyll And Bute

21/02137/PP Erection of 25 metre high lattice tower, associated ancillary works and formation of vehicular access

Hillside At
Drumyeonmore Farm,
Isle Of Gigha,
Argyll And Bute

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

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



TECHNICAL SERVICES

Turn OLD PHOTOS Into NEW MEMORIES

Breathe life into your old photos & slides. Preserve the family album or create a personalised DVD Movie with soundtrack.

Find out more about our Digital Scanning & DVD services.



Contact: Colin on 07886661458 or

email colin@thedigiman.co.uk

100% Secure COVID-19 Process

GARDEN SERVICES



COMPLETE LANDSCAPE DESIGN
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL
GRASS CUTTING
HEDGE CUTTING
TREE AND SCRUB CLEARANCE
PAVING TO PLANTING
DRAINAGE AND FENCING
Wood chipper | Pressure washing
Moss removal | Mini excavator

CARRADALE GARDEN SERVICES

Tel: 01583 431362 Mob. 07432 158404
Working from concept to completion

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEERS

SAMBOREK

Unit 5, Kilmory Ind Est, Lochgilphead PA31 8RR
Tel: 01546 603158 URL: www.samborek.net

All forms of Heating Installations
Bathrooms supplied and fitted
Boiler & Cylinder Services



RECRUITMENT

IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS

Roadworker 1

Based on the Isle of Mull
37 Hours per week
£19,369 - £19,948
(Temporary until 29/04/22)

Closing date: 23rd December 2021

To apply visit
our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers

Ref: ARB09075

Roadworker 1

Based in Lochgilphead
37 Hours per week
£19,369 - £19,948
(Temporary until 26/08/22)

Closing date: 24th December 2021

To apply visit
our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers

Ref: ARB09103

Roadworker 1

Based on the Isle of Mull
37 Hours per week
£19,369 - £19,948
(Temporary until 26/08/22)

Closing date: 23rd December 2021

To apply visit
our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers

Ref: ARB09074

Roadworker 2

Based in Lochgilphead
37 Hours per week
£20,237 - £21,125

Closing date: 24th December 2021

To apply visit
our website



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers

Ref: ARB09102

Family Coordinator

We are looking to recruit a new Family Co-ordinator to contribute to the effective day to day coordination within our Home-Start Lorn Scheme. The successful candidate will be passionate about early years support for families, have excellent coordination, communication and interpersonal skills and ideally have experience of coordinating and working within a similar service as part of a team.

The post involves regulated work with children and protected adults. PVG Scheme membership is essential.

To apply for this job please send a cover email requesting an application pack to the admin@homestartlorn.org.uk

Closing date: Monday, January 3rd 2022.

Hours: Full time (Negotiable),
35 per week, Mon-Fri.

Salary: £25,293 - £28,359 depending on suitability
and experience.

**Campbeltown Medical Practice****GP Receptionist Vacancy**

(Permanent contract)

Bright, enthusiastic person required to join our busy GP reception team. You will be part of a very busy team, dealing with a high volume of telephone patient enquires. This is a demanding and challenging role in a constantly changing health environment. Applicant must have excellent IT skills, have exceptional communication skills and be able to work under pressure.

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

Salary: Band 2-3, £19,487 - £23,603
(dependent on experience)

Please email the practice on
campbeltown.practice@nhs.scot
to request a job description.

Closing date: 31st December 2021

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

Full time positions available
for the following:

Joiners

(Mid Argyll & Oban)

Bricklayers

(Mid Argyll & Oban)

Electrician

(Oban)

Labourers

(Mid Argyll & Oban)

Machine Operative

(Mid Argyll)

For more information call
01546602989 or email
jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk

MACLEOD
CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

oban



NHS Highland Estates
Department

Maintenance Plumber/Craftsperson

Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban

Applicants should have an appropriate and relevant trades qualification with significant experience in a maintenance environment.

Familiarity and use of computerised maintenance systems is desirable and a flexible approach to work is essential as is the willingness to work throughout Argyll & Bute.

The successful candidate will be required to participate on an on-call rota for Lorn and Islands Hospital, which normally will be 1 week in 4.

A full current driving licence is essential.

Starting salary is £23,709 per annum – 37.5 hrs per week, rising to £25,982. Payments for on-call are approx £180 per week on call. There is also currently long term retention and recruitment premium attached of approx £3900 per annum (although this is subject to regular review).

Annual leave entitlement starts at 27 days, rising to 33 days after 10 years service (+ another 8 days public holidays).

Informal enquiries to: Robert Wright, robert.wright2@nhs.scot
01631 789023

Applications can be made on <https://apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/>
search ref: 079322



www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk

WANTED

Cleaner required for busy self catering cottage in Tayvallich, sleeps 2

Changeover on Saturdays from 9.30am - 4pm , All year round bookings, cleaning must be to a very high standard.

For further information
contact Willie on 07831 697901 or
williamgfergusson@gmail.com

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Bonnar Sand & Gravel
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Full time Plant Fitter Mechanic
with HGV experience

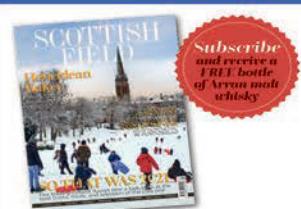
Daily transport between Cowal and Cairndow can be provided.
Applications by Phone to:

01499 600 268 / 01499 600 269

Out of office: 07342 248 628

Or by email to info@bonnar.com

For an informal chat on the position.



SCOTTISH FIELD
January Happy New Year...

*So that was 2021... Stephen Jardine's Credo...
The Hebridean Baker recipes... Quiz of the Year...
Stunning aerial photography... Seafront interiors...
Artist Mouse Macpherson... A Perth garden...
Rule, Britannia! writer... Book reviews...*

'Jesus - He's the reason for the Season'

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Christmas Services
(Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair
Churches)

Friday 17th December

Joint Ecumenical service All Saints church,
The Avenue, Inveraray,

Sunday 19th December

10.30am Service Cumlodden church
11.30am Service Inveraray Church

Friday 24th December

4pm All age Christmas Eve service
Cumlodden church, Furnace. All ages
welcome
Very family friendly, carols and fun.
Wear something festive.
11.30pm Watchnight service, Inveraray
church.

Saturday 25th December

10.30am Inveraray church, All age service
Bring your favourite toy and show it to us
all.
Family friendly.

Sunday 26th December

Songs of praise services
10.00am Cumlodden church
11.30am Inveraray
Request your favourite carol, and we will
sing them. Requests can be left in both
churches
in the run up to Christmas.

Sunday 2nd January 2022

10.00am Lochgair church
11.30am Inveraray church
Epiphany

ST MARGARETS RC CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD

Friday 24th Christmas Eve
9pm Virgil Mass

Saturday 25th Christmas Day

10am Mass
Lochgilphead

All Saints Inveraray
12.30pm

Saturday 1st January 2022

Saturday New Year Mass
10am

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

Sunday 19th December

Advent 4
"The Hope-filled Promise"
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm

Wednesday 22nd Dec

"It's not quite Christmas . . ."
Not looking forward
to Christmas?
This may be the Service for you.
It is for all
who have experienced loss
(whatever the loss)
and who feel their loss more
at this time of year,
in
Lochgilphead Parish Church
at 7:00pm

Christmas Eve Carol Services

in
Ardrishaig at 4:00pm
Achahoish at 7:00pm

Sunday 26th December

Ardrishaig at 11:00am
(No Service at Achahoish)

Sunday 2nd January 2022

Still Hopeful
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
Achahoish at 12:30pm

*Please note that Covid19
control measures apply
at all Services
(Distancing and masks
will be required)*

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND TARBERT AND LOCHGILPHEAD

Sunday 19th December 2021

Luke's Christmas: The angels' good news
10.00am Tarbert
11.30am Lochgilphead
6.00pm Carol Service in Lochgilphead

Sunday 26th December 2021

Luke's Christmas: The angels' praise
10.00am Tarbert
11.30am Lochgilphead

All services led by Dr Rodger Crooks

TARBERT PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 19th December

at 11.30am

Come along and join us as we tell the
Nativity story a bit differently

Christmas Eve - Friday 24th December

at 5.30pm

Join us for a quiet reflective service

Sunday 26th December

at 11.30am

Worship with carols and stories

Sunday 19th December

at 10am

Advent Week 4

Christmas Eve - Friday 24th December

at 7pm

Come along and join us as we tell the
Nativity story a bit differently

Sunday 26th December

at 10am

Worship with carols and stories

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES IN MID-ARGYLL

Friday 17th December 7pm
INVERARAY, ALL SAINTS
Ecumenical Carol Service
with ringing of the Bells
(SC025646)

Sunday 19th December 3.30pm
CAROL SERVICE
St Columba, Poltalloch
with compliant refreshments after
(SC031391)

Friday 24th December 11.30pm
CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS
Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Christ Church, Lochgilphead
(SC013787)

Saturday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY
9am Holy Communion
St Columba, Poltalloch
11am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 26th December
11am Holy Eucharist
Christ Church, Lochgilphead

Sunday 2nd January
11am EPIPHANY of Our Lord & God Jesus
Christ
Holy Eucharist
Christ Church, Lochgilphead
(none at St Columba's)

Sunday 8th January
11am BAPTISM OF OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST
Holy Eucharist with Baptism
Bp Keith of Argyll & The Isles to preside
and baptize

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 19th December
Carol Service
led by the Trustees

Friday 24th Christmas Eve
11.30pm

*Please note there will be no service on
Sunday 26th Boxing Day*

Our services from 2nd January will start at
11.15am



30 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Campbeltown Courier & Argyllshire Advertiser
Friday 17 December 2021

DEATHS

DOCHERTY - Peacefully after a short illness at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on December 14, 2021, John Duncan Docherty (John Doc), in his 85th year, of 7 Union Place, Union Street, Lochgilphead. Beloved husband of Joanne MacLennan, and much loved Dad of Joan, John and Alaster. Adored and Proud Papa and Great-Papa. Dearly loved brother of Kenny, and the late Maureen and Mamie. Much respected brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many in the Royal Mail and Bosnia Shop. Funeral service will be held in Lochgilphead Parish Church on Thursday, December 23 at 11am (restricted numbers in church), thereafter to Cardross Crematorium at 2.15pm. For those wishing to pay their respects, the funeral cortège will leave the church at approx. 11.30am, travelling down Argyll Street, turning along Union Street en-route to Cardross Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations can be made in John's memory to Chest, Heart and Stroke Foundation.

MABON - Peacefully at the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, on December 3, 2021, Anne Mabon née Urquhart, in her 79th year, formerly of Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late James Mabon (Jim) much loved mum of James, Kenneth and Caroline, mother-in-law of Sheena and Kenneth's partner Myra and loving gran of Claire, Jennifer, Kenneth and Kieran. A cremation service will be held in West Lothian Crematorium, Livingston on Tuesday, December 21 at 3.00 p.m. To which all friends are respectfully invited.

MACDOUGALL - After a gradual decline over a period of time, on December 6, 2021, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Mary Jean MacDougall, aged 77 years, of Torgortan Cottage, Tayvallich. Retired Postwoman. Beloved sister of John; aunt to Peter and Jessica and great-aunt to Sadie, Jake and Jenna. A dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held at Cardross Crematorium on Thursday, December 16, 2021. Donations can be made in memory of Mary directly either to Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital or British Heart Foundation, or via Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors Ltd.

MARTIN - Peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, on December 12, 2021, surrounded by his family, David McNaughton Martin (Davie) in his 67th year, 27 Smith Drive, adored husband of Wilma, loving dad to Iona, Iain and the late David, amazing granda to James, Craig, Scott, Kian, Robbie and Ethan, great-grandas to Ivy, respected father-in-law to Sheena and Gareth, loving brother to Fay, Isabel and the late Ronnie. Davie's funeral will take place today, Friday, December 17. The cortège will leave the family home at 1.00 p.m. following a short prayer. We will travel along Smith Drive, Ralston Road, Main Street and round the Cross on

our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone is welcome to attend the Service alternatively you may pay your last respects to Davie along our route. Family flowers only please. Black ties are optional.

MCEACHRAN - Suddenly at home, 65 Davaar Avenue, Campbeltown, on December 11, 2021, David McKendrick McEachran (Davie) in his 72nd year, dearly beloved son of the late Dougie and Charlotte (Dolly) McEachran and a loving uncle. Davie's funeral will take place on Monday, December 20. The cortège will leave the home address at 1.00 p.m. after a short prayer. We will travel along Davaar Avenue, The Roading, Longrow, Aqualibrium Avenue and past the Cross on our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone is welcome to attend the service alternatively you may pay your last respects to Davie along our route.

MENZIES - Frances. The funeral for Frances will take place at 4pm on Monday, December 20, 2021 in Perth Crematorium. In lieu of flowers we kindly ask for donations to be made to PDSA <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/frances-menzies>

MITCHELL - Peacefully at Lorne Campbell Court, Campbeltown, on Friday, December 10, 2021, Margaret Moore Mitchell née Campbell, in her 85th year, formerly of Gardale, 31 High Street, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Dougie Mitchell, much loved mum of Carol and Alexander, loving granny of Graham and Hannah and great granny of Brody and Mason.

WILKINSON - Peacefully, after a long illness, at home with her beloved son, Brian, on December 14, 2021, May Wilkinson, née Darroch, in her 84th year, of 2 Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig. Dearly loved wife of the late Tommy Wilkinson, and much loved and loving mother of Brian. Dear sister of the late Margaret, and a much respected sister-in-law, aunt and cousin to all the family. Funeral service will be held in Ardrishaig Parish Church, on Monday, December 20, 2021, at 12noon. Numbers are restricted for the church. Additional mourners can pay their respects as the funeral cortège makes its way en-route to Achnabreac Cemetery, at approx. 12.45pm, or to attend at the graveside committal. Family flowers only please. Donations can be made in May's memory directly to Alzheimer Scotland or via Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors Ltd.

MARTIN - Peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, on December 12, 2021, surrounded by his family, David McNaughton Martin (Davie) in his 67th year, 27 Smith Drive, adored husband of Wilma, loving dad to Iona, Iain and the late David, amazing granda to James, Craig, Scott, Kian, Robbie and Ethan, great-grandas to Ivy, respected father-in-law to Sheena and Gareth, loving brother to Fay, Isabel and the late Ronnie. Davie's funeral will take place today, Friday, December 17. The cortège will leave the family home at 1.00 p.m. following a short prayer. We will travel along Smith Drive, Ralston Road, Main Street and round the Cross on

Alex. Grateful thanks to the ambulance staff in attendance and a special thanks to Lorne McArthur. Thanks to Rev P Wallace for his comforting and personal service at Cardross. Thank you to Kenneth, Rhys and staff for their support and handling of everything. Heartfelt thanks to all who came out for Alex's last journey, it brought us much comfort.

MCCALLUM - The family of the late Margaret would like to thank everyone for the many expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers received on the sad loss of their beloved mum. Special thanks to Rev W Crossan for a personal and uplifting service. To all who attended the church service and everyone who lined the route of her cortège. To Kenny, Rhys and Kelly of TA Blair, Funeral Directors for all their help and support. Thanks to all the staff at Lorne Campbell Court, Campbeltown Social Work Department, Lochgilphead Dementia Team, the Community Nurses and all NHS Campbeltown Staff. Finally thanks to the Ardsheil Hotel for purvey.

MCLACHLAN - The family of the late Helen McLachlan (Ella) would like to sincerely thank everyone for the many kind words, cards and expressions of sympathy received following their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Auchinlee and Kintyre Care Homes for excellent care over the last few years. Thanks also to Rev William Crossan for his dignified, professional services. Special thanks to all the staff at the Kintyre Care Home who looked after mum with compassion and great kindness and to all other medical staff who helped her during the latter years of her life.

REPPKE - The family of the late Catherine Reppke would like to thank everyone who paid their respects to mum along the route to the cemetery; to the Rev William Crossan for his comforting service at the house and graveside and to Kenneth Blair for his dignified, professional services. Special thanks to all the staff at the Kintyre Care Home who looked after mum with compassion and great kindness and to all other medical staff who helped her during the latter years of her life.

SCALLY - Craig and Hazel would like to thank everyone for their kind messages and gifts following the recent sad loss of Craig's mum, Mary Scally. We would like to thank Kintyre Nursing Home staff for their care over the past five years, the Reverend Stephen Fulcher for an uplifting service, Katrina Macdonald for playing the organ and everyone who supported us at the church or along the route to Kilkerran. We would also like to thank Kenneth Blair funeral services for a dignified service, the Argyll Hotel for their excellent purvey and finally all my mothers friends for their friendship over the years.

IN MEMORIAMS
GATNER - In loving memory of Andy, who died December 22, 2005.

Sadly missed, loved and remembered always.
- Love Sarah, Rita and Andrew.

HATTON - In loving memory of Jim, a dear husband, father, father-in-law and papa, who passed away on December 20, 2019.

Forever in our hearts.
- Bell, Allan, Ailsa and family. Xx

MACIVER - Billy. Can't believe another year since you had to depart and the pain of losing you still breaks my heart.

Time doesn't heal, that's just a lie, inside you still hurt and want to cry.
- Love you my Daddy, Trina.

MCMILLAN - Mary passed away December 12, 2017. Those we love don't go away They walk beside us every day Unseen, unheard, Still loved, still missed

And very dear
- Your loving husband James.

ROBERTSON - In loving memory of my dear wife Barbara McNicol, who died in Inverness, December 22, 2011, aged 67. Much loved mother to Bob and Julie in Inverness and Glasgow.

- Inserted by Cecil Robertson.

WATSON - In loving memory of our dear parents, June, who died December 24, 2006 and Duncan, who died December 13, 2016.

Loved and remembered every day
In our hearts you will always stay.
- Duncan, Morag, Joanne and families.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



JESUS – is the reason for the Season

Join us in Springbank Church on Sunday, 19th December 2021 at 10.45am for our special Christmas

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF START TIME

Wednesday, 22nd December at 7.30pm Prayer and the final advent Bible Study To join either of these events on Zoom send your email address to offices@springbankchurch@gmail.com and you will be sent a link.

Next week on Saturday, Christmas day - A Christmas Celebration - will start at 10.30am.

There will be no service on

Sunday 26th December
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch>
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



South Kintyre Team Ministry CHRISTMAS SERVICES

19th December

10am at Campbeltown Highland

10am at Carradale

11.30am at Southend

Christmas Eve

8pm at Carradale

10pm at Southend

11.30pm at Campbeltown Highland

Christmas Day

10.45am United Service at

Episcopal Church

Boxing Day

10am at Carradale

11.30am at Southend

All welcome: Covid restrictions

apply.

Revds Steve and Christine Fulcher

01586 830504

ST. MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilphead

Holy Mass Sunday 10AM

ALL SAINTS INVERARAY

Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm

Fr Henry Nkob

01546602380

All Welcome

Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood

A Parish of the R.C. Diocese of Argyll and the Isles; Charitable

Trust, a registered Scottish Charity, SC002876

Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 19th December

11.15am Worship Service

Rev Finlay MacKenzie

11.15am Sunday School

5.00pm Carols by Candlelight

All welcome

www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk

Scottish Charity Number:

SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christ Church, Lochgilphead

Sunday 11am

Holy Eucharist

St Columba, Poltalloch

1st Sunday Holy Communion

9am

3rd Sunday Evensong 3.30pm

(SCO13787, 31391)

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 19th December

Morning Worship 11.15am

Triple C Gen 1

Rev W Crossan

Everyone welcome

COVID Guidelines apply

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

Sunday 19th December

Advent 4

"The Hope-filled Promise"

Ardrishaig at 11:00am

Achahoish at 12:30pm

Please note that Covid19

control measures apply

at all Services

(Distancing and masks

will be required)

LOCHGILPHEAD PARISH CHURCH



Sunday 19th December

11.00 am

Carol Service

More info at

www.lpchurch.co.uk

Lochgilphead Parish Church

of Scotland - SC016311

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor, Kilmartin

Sunday 19th December 11am

Our Congregation Carol Service

December 24th

December Watchnight Service

11.30pm

Please note that there is no

service on 26th December

All very welcome

Please remember to wear a mask

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Sunday 19 December

Tayvallich Church

10am Morning Worship

Carol service

Booking required

Tel 01546 870635

Covid restrictions apply.

Further information can be found on the church website

www.northknappdale.org

Argyll and Bute Olympic sailors announce retirement

Two sailing stars with Helensburgh roots have called time on their Olympic careers. London 2012 silver medallist Luke Patience and two-time Olympian Charlotte Dobson - both from Rhu - are among a number of British sailors making the decision.

British Sailing Team boss Mark Robinson heaped praise on the sailing stars after they announced their retirement from Olympic campaigning.

It follows a stellar performance from Team GB's sailors at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, at which the team secured the top spot on the sailing medal table for the fifth time in six Olympic Games with three golds, a silver and a bronze.

'These individuals have made such a huge impact on our sport, their achievements speak for themselves, and they've inspired countless youngsters to follow in their footsteps,' said Robinson, the Royal Yachting Association's Olympic performance manager.

'I feel very proud to have led a team full of such great athletes, and those retiring will be sorely missed.'

'However as a team we are well-prepared. Lots of our Tokyo team are going again, plus there are a whole host of talented sailors who've been waiting patiently in the wings to get their time to shine.'

Luke Patience was just 25 when he won a silver medal alongside Stuart Bithell in the men's 470 class at London 2012.

After winning a spot with Team GB at Rio 2016, his campaign was turned upside



Charlotte Dobson flies the flag.

Photo: Nick Dempsey/RYA.

'It's the most incredible sport, and so wide-ranging. You can sail fast boats, slow boats, complicated boats, simple boats, with people, on your own.'

down when crew partner Elliot Willis was diagnosed with cancer, and they were deselected.

Chris 'Twiggy' Grube had been part of the British sailing team for almost a decade when he got the last-minute call-up to join Patience, with whom he had raced alongside in the mid 2000s.

The pair went on to finish an incredible fifth, and took that partnership into the Tokyo cycle - and all the way to Tokyo 2020 itself.

They enjoyed a strong start to the Olympic regatta, and de-

spite slipping down the leader board slightly in the lighter winds through the week, only the Aussies bettered them for the lowest discard.

A consistent series had them into the medal race as one of only five boats who could take home an Olympic medal.

With Sophie Ainsworth, Charlotte Dobson won her spot in Team GB for Rio 2016 in the 49erFX skiff.

She then joined forces with Saskia Tidey and the duo quickly established themselves as a powerhouse of the 49erFX fleet, backed up by string of podium results with silvers at the Olympic test event and the 2020 World Championships.

The pair led the Tokyo 2020 regatta in the windy early stages, eventually finishing sixth.

Charlotte, who married Dylan Fletcher a few weeks after returning from Tokyo, is now looking to work in banking.

Luke said: 'It's the end of a

long, wonderful 17-year jour-

ney. After many long weeks thinking about it and talking to many different people I feel like I've made peace with that decision and that it's the right one for me now.

'Success is a wee drug and so to walk away from a life-long journey feels a bit weird. It won't stop overnight and my heart still longs to continue, but my head is winning the battle. There must be something in the water on the west coast of Scotland because we've produced some phenomenally good sailors today and in years gone by.'

Looking ahead, he added: 'I'm giving my mind and body a bit of time to wind down. I'd love to lead a team in the Ocean Race when the time's right; I'd like to start a whisky

I'm a sailor in my heart and I doubt I'll ever be that far from the British sailing team in some shape or form.'



Luke Patience, right, with Chris Grube.

Photo: Lloyd Images

brand and do bits like that.

'I'm looking forward to spending a bit more time with family and enjoying the things in life that I've had to put on the sidelines for a very long time. I'm a sailor in my heart and I doubt I'll ever be that far from the British sailing team in some shape or form.'

'It's been an amazing period of time, and now I'm going on to work out what the next thing is,' explained Charlotte.

She added: 'It was a pretty easy decision, to be honest. I genuinely felt in the couple of years before Tokyo that Saskia and I had given ourselves the best chance of winning a medal in Tokyo.'

'We'd worked with some incredible coaches and support staff, and had some amazing

sailors in our training groups. We gave it a really good crack but it wasn't enough at the end.

'It's a huge honour to wear the Team GB top - it's something I've thought about since I was tiny. The first time I got to pull it on in Rio was quite a shock. I wasn't expecting it to hit home quite so much with Tokyo, but it totally did.'

'Sailing has brought me all the way from the west coast of Scotland to Portland island and I love it. I won't be completely disappearing.'

'It's the most incredible sport, and so wide-ranging. You can sail fast boats, slow boats, complicated boats, simple boats, with people, on your own. Anything is possible when you set a goal, put your mind to it and crack on.'

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Mull rally drives consultation

50th anniversary event organisers look for feedback on way forward

Mull Rally organisers are carrying out a consultation while next year's event is still 10 months down the road.

Richard Crozier was at the island's community council meeting on Zoom to share early proposals and dates for the 2022 rally which will take place between Thursday October 13 and Sunday October 16.

Next year's rally will be the 50th running of the rally and feedback so far from people is that they want organisers to 'try and mix things up a bit', said Mr Crozier.

Thursday December 30 was originally set as a deadline to hear back from people so all the information can be collated and shaped into proposals – that date has now been extended to Friday January 7.

Residents and businesses on and off the route are invited to have a say by emailing consult@mullrally.org.

Community council convener Tom Nelson had asked at the meeting how organisers

were driving forward the consultation. Word has been put out through the Round and About newsletter on the island and Facebook, he was told.

Mr Nelson had questioned whether December 30 gave people enough time to respond.

A change of personnel among organisers means they have their 'L' plates on, community council members were told.

'It is critical that the island continues to love the rally and vice-versa.'

'We are absolutely committed to that,' added Mr Crozier.

The Mull Rally, a closed-road car rally, started out as the Tour of Mull in 1969.

It was the first event on 'mainland' UK to get an Act of Parliament to be able to close public roads.

The iconic event is considered as one of the toughest on the British rally calendar.

To see more details on the rally plans so far go to <https://bit.ly/mullrally22consult>.



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'It is important to us, as the event organising team, that we understand what implications

our proposed event format, road closures and route have on the businesses and resi-

dents of Mull,' said the rally's Facebook post on Everything Mull.

Mull Rally 2021 winners
Daniel Harper and Chris Campbell

Kyles Athletic players make list of top 2021 shinty players of year

Shinty reporter Alasdair Bruce selected his 2021 South shinty players of the year.

With so many excellent players to choose from, only those who played most of the season were considered.

Andrew King (Kyles Athletic)
Andrew King, pictured, seems to get better with each passing season. He can break up an attack and set up an attack with equal ease. Andrew covers a

lot of ground and has all the attributes of a modern-day defender.

Roddy MacDonald (Kyles Athletic)

Roddy MacDonald scored six goals in 11 games as Kyles lifted the Scottish Sea Farms Glasgow Celtic Society Cup. He is equally at home playing in defence or attack and has maintained a high level of form for a number of seasons now.

Daniel Cameron (Oban Camanachd)

Oban Camanachd boasted arguably shinty's best defence last season, only losing six goals over 11 games. They weren't always tested to the same extent as in the Premiership but the statistics are still impressive, keeping

clean sheets in seven of their 11 matches and only losing one goal in three of the other four matches. Scottish international Daniel Cameron is a leader whose skilful defending has been a key component in the Oban side's back line. Daniel captains this select team.

Daniel Sloss (Oban Camanachd)

Daniel Sloss is one of shinty's most talented youngsters who can be a mainstay of the Oban Camanachd side for at least another 15 years. He is usually given a man-marking role on the opponents most dangerous forwards which speaks volumes of the trust placed in him.

The pandemic probably

robbed him of the opportunity to captain the Scotland U17s at a time when he was already an established Scotland U21 international.



The Argyllshire Advertiser: 95p

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