

Love is in the air with Spring weddings
pages 13-15

Pothole forces pregnant driver to walk dark A83



The Severn Sea on stand-by in Loch Fyne. Photograph Kevin McGlynn.

Waiting patiently on Loch Fyne to raise Nancy Glen

IT WAS very much a waiting game this week as teams were on hand to start raising the Nancy Glen fishing boat lost in Loch Fyne last month.

Research vessel Severn Sea with an ROV (remote operated vehicle) was on stand-by in Loch Fyne earlier this week awaiting the arrival of a barge from Plymouth to begin the operation.

It is believed Tarbert fishermen Duncan MacDougall and Przemek Krawczyk went down with the boat and the primary purpose of the operation is to recover their remains for their families' sakes.

A massive campaign for government support to raise the Nancy Glen culminated last week in an offer from the Scottish Government to help recover the wreck.

Emily Jamison
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A HEAVILY pregnant woman, who was forced to walk along a main road in the dark after her car hit a pothole, says she no longer wants to drive as she fears for her unborn child.

Tarbert's Kirsty McDougall had no mobile phone signal when she burst her tyre on the A83 and had to walk for 10 minutes to ring for help.

Kirsty, 26, was driving between Tarbert and Lochgilphead on the A83 at 8pm on Wednesday February 14 when she hit a large hole in the road.

She said: 'The roads are disgraceful. Where my car was damaged, there was no avoiding it. There was a car coming towards me so I had no option but to drive over the hole.'

'It's only a matter of time before someone has an accident because of the roads around here.'

After realising she had burst a tyre, Kirsty, who is due to have her baby in two weeks, pulled over into a lay-by only to realise she had no phone signal.

Kirsty continued: 'When I realised I had no signal to call for help I got in a bit of a panic, knowing I was going to have to walk along the side of the road in the dark. I had a dark jacket on too, which was not ideal.'

'All I had was my torch light on my phone, and my car, which is a Mini, does not come with a spare tyre. Even if it did, I am heavily pregnant and would have struggled to change it on my own.'

Kirsty claims despite reporting the hole and

what happened twice in one day to BEAR, she has received no response. I feel extremely annoyed,' she said. 'I have a burst tyre and a cracked alloy that needs to be fixed, all at the worst possible time, as I am trying sell my car as it's not big enough for a baby. It now cannot be sold until I can get it fixed. Things could have been a lot worse, but it was a very dangerous situation for me and my baby to be in.'

'Even if you complain, you don't hear back - well, I haven't - and I complained twice to BEAR the following day. I don't want to drive any more because of this. I am too pregnant to risk something like this happening again.'

A BEAR Scotland spokesperson said: 'We're sorry to hear of this road

user's experience and thank her for reporting the defect. The day this defect was reported, a team was dispatched to carry out a temporary repair. We didn't receive any further requests relating to this report. That said, we are happy to liaise with her further. We are doing all we can to carry out repairs on the A83 as quickly as we can. Permanent repairs are planned for Ardrishaig, Erines, Inverneil and Lochgilphead in the coming months as part of our ongoing £650,000 urgent programme on the A83. Our teams are carrying out temporary repairs where possible. We encourage all road users to report any defects through our website or via the Transport Scotland trunk road customer care number 08000 281414.'

More roads and pothole news on page 2.

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Petitions and politicians focus on crumbling roads

EXTENSIVE repairs are under way through BEAR Scotland on the A83 trunk road as sections at Argyll Caravan Park, Drishaig, Dunderave, Killean and Furnace are gradually resurfaced.

But almost as quickly as they are repaired, other stretches of road are crumbling and this has led to an online petition being set up addressed to BEAR Scotland, Argyll and Bute Council, local politicians and Transport Scotland. Its title is 'Fix the A83 road surface and pretty much every other road in Argyll and Bute' and it has gained around 800 signatures in just a few days.

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell has, meanwhile, suggested to Argyll and Bute councillors that they

dip into council reserves to establish a fund which can start to deal with the 'emergency' of potholed roads which are damaging vehicles.

Work

Mr Russell said: 'I have been pressing Transport Scotland and BEAR Scotland since the new year to take forward a much increased programme of repair on the trunk roads in Argyll and Bute and I am glad to say work has now started on the A83, the A82 and the A85.'

'Transport Scotland did another inspection last week on the A83 and are insisting BEAR accelerates its work and devotes more resources to it.'

'I will continue to monitor that situation but I hope the worst of the problems will

be sorted within a few weeks.

'Of course the bulk of the local roads are the council's responsibility and I have received many complaints about those roads as well.'

'Local road users must report these problems to the council whenever they experience them because only when a pothole has been reported and not acted on can individuals claim compensation for damage.'

Emergency

'But it would be better if the council accepted that the current situation constitutes an emergency given the severe deterioration caused by adverse weather, first of all in terms of extreme wet weather in the summer and autumn, then very cold winter conditions.'

'They could then

meet that emergency by dipping into their reserves and establishing a fund to take forward urgent repairs across the area, starting with the worst affected routes like Jura but covering everywhere over the next few months.

'The council cannot simply go on saying that its current budgets

are constrained. They have reserves and the reality is that such reserves are, in part, about putting aside resources for times when special circumstances require special measures.

'This is one of those times and accordingly I have suggested to the council that they set up a new fund, with mon-

ies from their reserves, immediately.'

The *Argyllshire Advertiser* approached Argyll and Bute Council for a response to Mr Russell's points, but no reply had been received as we went to press.

Any response from the local authority will be published in our next edition.

They said line the hole road...

CONTRACTORS for BEAR Scotland were hard at work renewing white lines through Muasdale on the A83 on Tuesday.

Locals were left mystified, though, as the lines carried on through the potholes.

A BEAR Scotland spokesperson explained: 'We immediately contacted our contractor for a full explanation as to what occurred on the A83 in Muasdale once it was brought to our attention.'

'We had instructed our contractor to carry out 600m of white lining on the A83 through Campbeltown between Dalaruan Street and Aqualibrium Avenue on Tuesday.'

'The contractor prepared their material that morning and carried out the work through Campbeltown as planned.'

'As the work did not require use of all of the material that had been prepared, the contractor located a section of road in need of refreshment and used the re-



mainder of the material here. The material needs to be fully used up in the machine as it will solidify if left.

'The additional lining the contractor carried out in Muasdale was not instructed by

BEAR and was carried out entirely at the contractor's own cost. There is no additional cost to the public purse. A temporary repair is also set to be completed to the pothole in Muasdale.'

POLICE FILES

Checks reveal no MOT

AT 4.30PM on Tuesday February 13, a vehicle was stopped by police on Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig.

Checks revealed the vehicle had no MOT and the driver, a 28-year-old man, was charged and issued with a £100 fixed penalty.

Possession of drugs

ON WEDNESDAY February 14 at 9.45pm, a car was stopped by police for a routine check on Poltalloch Street, Lochgilhead.

Checks revealed there was no insurance for the vehicle so it was seized. The driver, a man aged 24, was charged with the offence and issued with a £300 fixed penalty ticket and six points.

The man was also found in possession of cannabis and he was issued with a recorded police warning in relation to this.

Abusive behaviour

ON OBAN Road, Lochgilhead, at 1.45am on Sunday February 18, police arrested a man aged 32 for behaving in an abusive manner. The man was issued with a £40 fixed penalty notice.

Driving while using a mobile

POLICE stopped a car at 10.30am on Monday February 19, on Poltalloch Street, Lochgilhead, after a 41-year-old man was allegedly driving while using his mobile phone.

The man was given a £200 fixed penalty ticket and six penalty points were issued.

□ If any member of the public has information in relation to the above, or to any incident, they can contact their local police office on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Staff and services under council budget pressure

COUNCILLORS met yesterday (February 22) to agree another Argyll and Bute Council budget aimed at slashing costs.

At the Kilmory meeting, members from across the region heard Argyll and Bute Council is facing a funding

gap of between £5m and £27m over the next three years.

The ruling Argyll, Lomond and the Islands group – comprised of Conservative, LibDem and Independent councillors – went into the meeting proposing a range of

cost-saving measures. These included the merging of roads and amenity services into a single team.

A paper before councillors stated that, while combining the departments would ‘retain specialisms within the different disci-

plines, it will reduce the number of technical staff in the area teams’. Changes to staffing would save £240,000, while ‘the reduction in service delivery’ would save £790,000. Roads and winter maintenance would, however, suffer.

According to the officers’ analysis, the roads department’s reduced workforce and deteriorating roads could risk ‘increased complaints’, ‘structural failure/collapse of bridges and retaining walls’, increased disruption for traffic and ‘a detrimental effect on the economy through business connectivity and tourism’.

Other risks listed in the report include a ‘reduction in the frequency of grass cutting, litter picking and sweeping’, ‘untidy streets’ and a deterioration of the region’s 131 cemeteries.

Ahead of the budget meeting, Argyll and Bute Council leader Aileen Morton said two of her priorities were ensuring the council’s internal computer (ICT) systems were up to scratch and on capital investment on the road network.

She said: ‘The council’s capital plan has been a big focus for us as the funding allocated in 2018/19 just isn’t enough to meet our priorities, or the priorities

local people have been talking to us about.

‘While we have been looking at the whole capital plan, roads and ICT are the most obvious areas for us to consider as every single service the council delivers is dependent on those two areas.

‘As for roads, the exceptionally poor condition of the main trunk roads maintained by Transport Scotland may be attracting a lot of attention at the moment, but we are well aware the council needs to do more too.

‘That is why we’ll be looking to allocate substantially more funding to these two areas as we finalise the administration’s budget proposals.’

Councillor Morton added: ‘One of the administration priorities agreed by council last September was to support individual and community wellbeing. So that’s why we will be looking to allocate additional funding to this area, as well as rejecting the proposed £725,000 cut to social work services.’

Committee kicks out Screen Machine plans

SAFETY concerns have led to councillors overturning an earlier vote to site a mobile cinema in an Inveraray car park.

Last December, councillors on the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee voted to site the Screen Machine at Fisher Row. The HGV lorry would take up to eight parking bays, which could mean £72 per day in lost parking revenue during its three- to four-day stay.

The proposal, by councillors Douglas Philand and Sandy Taylor, was referred for approval to last Thursday’s Budget, Policy and Resources Committee.

In a vote by 11 votes to five, committee members noted ‘the substantial safety concerns roads officers have regarding the use of Fisher Row, including encroachment onto the public road and pedestrian safety’.

The majority preferred to locate the Screen Machine either at the hard-standing near the Winterton or at Inveraray Castle car park, following officers’ recommendations.

Tarbert charity single set for release

A CHARITY song produced and performed by Tarbert musicians is set for release next week.

TT100 – Please Bring Our Boys Back Home will be available on iTunes from Monday March 5.

The song was written and produced by Silvio Gigante and Simon Greatbatch with support from a host of local musicians, including Loch Fyne Pipe Band, Beatrice Catherine, Tarbert Academy Choir and Beth Atkinson.

The song is a tribute in memory of Duncan MacDougall and Przemek Krawczyk who were lost on Thursday January 18 in the

Nancy Glen tragedy. All sales from the record will go towards the families and a memorial of their choice.

Producer Silvio Gigante said: ‘We understand no amount of money can replace the lives of those lost, but hope they can see that they are not alone.’

‘All sales will be going to Clyde Fishermen’s Trust, who have been amazing so far.’

There will be a preview of the song on Argyll FM at 12.30pm on Saturday February 24.

Right: Beatrice Catherine recording the song at the TALC in Tarbert on Sunday February 11.

06_a08nancyglensong



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Inveraray marks end of five-year refurb project

INVERARAY Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) celebrated the conclusion of the scheme at the Nicoll Hall, Inveraray.

The informal event, on Thursday February 15, was attended by local residents and included an informative presentation of historic photos by Inveraray's Ken MacTaggart, as well as information and displays on the project.

Archivists from the Written in the Landscape project also attended and showcased records relating to Inveraray.

Guests were invited to submit comments on their experiences, which will be included



Inveraray resident Ken MacTaggart displayed historic photos of the town and photos of the completed works at the Old Temperance Hotel and Relief Land.

ed in a final report to Historic Environment Scotland.

The CARS scheme, which has been running since April 2013, will officially finish on

Saturday March 31. The five-year project was funded by Historic Environment Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council and saw the refurbishment of

the Arkland, the Relief Land, the Chamberlain's House and the Town House.

The project also included traditional craft skills training events for residents, building contractors, professionals and school pupils.

The final training event will be an introduction to stone masonry for Lochgilphead High School students at Kilmory Castle on Tuesday February 27 and Wednesday February 28.

For more information on the training event and to submit a comment on the CARS project, email Feargal De Buiteleir on Feargal.De_Buiteleir@argyll-bute.gov.uk.

Cairndow charity quiz tests the grey matter

NOW in its 18th year, the great annual Cairndow quiz raised money for two worthwhile causes.

Cairndow Village Hall, as ever, was packed for the evening on Friday February 16, with 23 tables set up for teams of four eager quizzers.

Doing his Bamber Gascoigne was quizmaster Roddy MacDiarmid, who conducted proceedings with his usual mix of wit and efficiency.

Keeping tabs on the scoring was Lochgilphead's Karen McLarty. Greta Cameron, Morag Keith and Renata Medonova helped May MacPherson with the tea and raffle. The raffle was immense – featuring 134 prizes. The draw went smoothly, helped by Cara, Megan and



Roddy MacDiarmid, centre, presents the Nancy Glen cheque to Tarbert couple Joe and Arlene Scott. Arlene is originally from Cairndow.

Heidi, who presented items to the lucky winners as well as collecting quiz sheets.

In the customary special raffle, competition was fierce to win a three-foot-tall panda and a brown bear standing five foot two from paw to ears. Special mention goes to Deanne Hagan from Inveraray for her efforts selling tickets for this.

After 10 gruelling rounds of 10 questions each, three

teams were tied in top place with 81 points. On a cut of the cards, it was Bill Nelson's Inveraray team which retained its crown from last year.

The quiz was sponsored by Clachan Flats Windfarm Trust and raised £1,400 for Prostate Cancer UK.

An additional £200 was given to the Nancy Glen appeal, aimed at supporting the families of the two Tarbert fishermen lost last month.

ACHA tenants voice views at Royal Burgh conference

TENANTS of Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) grilled officials at a tenants' conference in Inveraray.

The event, on Saturday February 17, was designed to select points for discussion at the association's strategic planning days on Tuesday February 27 and Wednesday February 28.

Delegates from all over Argyll took part in a presentation and a question and answer session on the history of ACHA and the achievements and challenges of its first 10 years. This was followed by a review of the association's current objectives.

Your Voice, ACHA's consultative forum,



Delegates take part in the question and answer session at the conference.

Scottish Fire and Rescue, money advice, Home Argyll and Argyll and Bute Council's Amenity Services

team also provided information. ACHA chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'The geography of

Argyll and this week's awful weather can challenge events like this so I thank everyone who has participated.'

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Festival of Performance breaks down

THIS summer's Argyll Festival of Performance, an annual motorsport festival starting at Inveraray Castle, has been cancelled.

The inaugural two-day festival, billed as a celebration of Scotland's rich heritage in motorsport, was due

to bring cars and drivers from Formula 1, Le Mans, Indy Cars, Touring Cars and International Stage Rallying to Mid Argyll, in the grounds of the historic seat of the Clan Campbell.

The 'stellar lineup' included Scot-

tish debuts for the 'fire-breathing Fiat S76 known as the Beast of Turin', Jackie Stewart's Tyrrell 001 and Jim Clark's Lotus 32B marking 50 years after the F1 world champion's death, as well as supercars built by McLaren, Ferrari, Bentley, Lamborghini, Maserati and Porsche and a vintage bus rally and WWII Spitfire aerial display.

Event director Bill Telford said at last year's launch with the festival's patron, the Duke of Argyll: 'Scotland has an enviable reputation in motorsport but, as yet, there

has never been an event that celebrates this success. The Argyll Festival of Performance has been created to do just that with a theme each year to really allow the stories to be told.

'In year one, it will be Formula 1 and Scotland boasts some of the biggest names in the sport from the legendary Jim Clark and Jackie Stewart, to multiple race winners like David Coulthard and local star Susie Wolff, the first female to be involved in an F1 weekend in 22 years at the British Grand Prix in 2014.

'The Jim Clark Trust



Some of the vehicles parked outside Inveraray Castle at October's launch.



The Beast of Turin.

will be our chosen charity for the Festival in 2018.'

But the festival's website recently announced: 'On behalf of festival organisers Argyll Motor Club (Ecosse) Ltd, it is with the deepest of regret we announce that Argyll Festival of Performance scheduled for

June 2-3 2018 is now cancelled.'

Organisers told *The Argyllshire Advertiser*: 'A number of factors have now combined which make it unachievable to deliver the festival to the standard and format we had planned and as a result, we have made the very difficult de-

cision to cancel the event. We would like to thank everyone who has shown their support for the festival and apologise for any inconvenience this cancellation may cause.

'Those that purchased tickets have already been contacted by the ticket agent and issued with a refund.'

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Campbeltown man Ciaran Norris, took Childcare as a taster course at school and is now well

on his way to realising his dream of becoming a primary teacher.

Ciaran says: 'I've loved it from Day One, and the fact I can potentially go from zero to qualified early years teacher without ever leaving my home town is fantastic.'

'I knew I'd probably be the only male in the class, but it didn't worry me and I couldn't have asked for a more positive reaction from everyone I've come across - my fellow students, tutors, staff in my placements and also the parents of the kids I've been involved with.

'I'm so thankful I opted for Childcare, because I've discovered a real passion for it. I can't recommend it strongly enough. If you're even slightly interested, go and find out more about the options open to you. That's what I did, and I've never looked back.'

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Editorial

An accident waiting to happen

THE STATE of the A83 is shocking. Whatever the reasons, it is a national disgrace.

Fair enough, there is work going on to resurface the road piecemeal, but it is too little, too late. We in Argyll are clearly not being taken seriously. But the case of a pregnant woman coming to grief in one such pothole might easily have had more serious results and, if nothing else, this must focus minds in both Transport Scotland HQ and in Holyrood. This road is a serious accident waiting to happen.

Changes ahead

WHATEVER the outcome of yesterday's budget, we are guaranteed to see changes in the quality of service provided by Argyll and Bute Council.

The local authority has been cutting costs for a decade now and we are very, very near the bone.

Difficult time

OUR THOUGHTS are with the families and friends of Duncan MacDougall, Przemek Krawczyk and with John Miller as they wait for the Nancy Glen to be raised. It is a difficult time for everyone, eased perhaps by the huge kindness witnessed in recent weeks around Tarbert.

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Tall masts in nature reserves

Sir,
I have serious concerns about the erection of tall masts by telecoms company EE in Argyll.

In Tayvallich, the works are causing extensive damage to the local environment with trees uprooted, mud slurry and flooding and litter over the area.

As this is on a national nature reserve, it should not be allowed to go ahead but I understand that EE has numerous applications in Argyll and the Isles.

Nick MacIneskar
by email

Look at predator impact first

Sir,
Your article headlined Big predators for the Small Isles? (*The Argyllshire Advertiser*, Friday February 16) was interesting and would be marvellous if successful.

We must not forget, however, that many predators can swim. In modern times, regrettably, it may not be practical or wise and lead to sad solutions in the future.

I point out to you the situation in respect of Norway. Two years ago, a guide there told me that in the summer sheep are moved to the high pastures but have to be accompanied by a shepherd because of attacks by predators. This increases the cost. Some wolves are shot, some are trapped and moved.

Last year my son, who lives in Sweden, sent me details of a news item. The Norwegian government had decided to cull the wolves by two thirds, reducing their numbers from more than 60 to 20-plus. I have no idea how this is progressing but I believe it was a sad decision.

Those advocating the re-introduction of certain species should first look at the impact they have in

modern countries where they still exist, and make an honest and practical comparison before their introduction in Scotland.

Tom Cullen,
Dunskeig,
Ardfern

Desperate need for roads spend

Sir,
We have a desperate need for infrastructure spending across Kintyre and the Islands, along with the rest of Argyll and Bute.

All of the numerous requests for roads, drains, pavements and street lighting repairs I have been receiving from across my council ward have been issued directly to Jim Smith, the council's head of roads and amenity services.

While speaking to Mr Smith, I pointed out the long wait we have all had to put up with before any even rudimentary road repairs are completed.

Councillor
Alastair Redman,
Islay

The value of volunteering

Sir,
This week is Student Volunteering Week. As many young people strive to get ahead in the world of work, I'd like to explain how volunteering can be a great way to inspire development and provide an insight into your chosen career.

In recent years we have conducted research of our student volunteers and found evidence of some remarkable development in the young people that we welcome, both personally and professionally.

Of students we asked, 93 per cent said that their volunteering experience improved their self confidence, with 95 per cent saying it made them more tolerant towards others.

It is also clear that pledging time to charity can often inspire young people to

increase their participation in wider society too. 79 per cent said that their time as a volunteer inspired them to take a more active part in their communities.

Revitalise is a charity providing respite holidays for disabled people and carers from all across the UK.

We are also blessed with the largest residential volunteering programme of any UK charity, welcoming thousands of vibrant volunteers from around the world every year. In many ways, our volunteers are our magic ingredient, helping to create the lively, social atmosphere that so many of our guests know and love.

Stephanie Stone,
Revitalise,
London

Importance of charity work

Sir,
The news of the abuse of

vulnerable women and children by charity workers is deeply disturbing and shocking.

If it wasn't for the work done by the vast majority of people employed by these agencies, however, many people – especially children – would be receiving no support in disaster zones or war torn countries across the world.

These agencies are, of course, funded by the taxpayer with the UK government spending £13 billion – 0.7 per cent of GDP – on overseas aid.

The danger, of course, is that arising from these incidents not only do people limit their charity giving, but so, too, does the UK government.

It is only right that those charities who fail to co-operate with the UK government over safeguarding lose money, but it would be a travesty and a gross der-

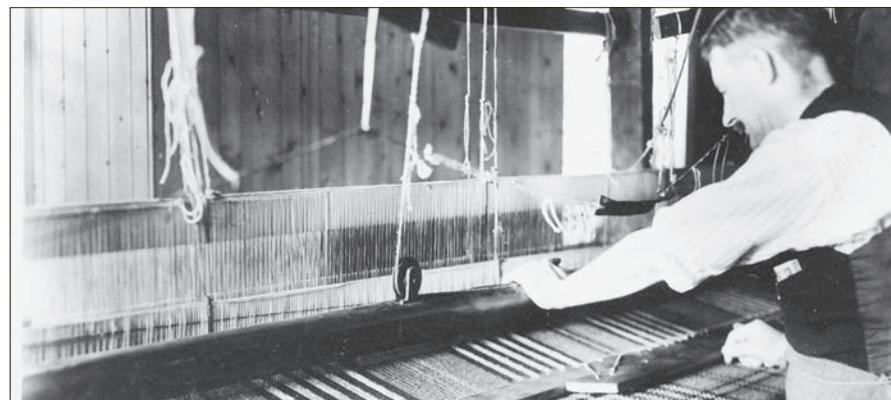
eliction of duty if the Tory government, under pressure from its right wing fraternity, reduced funding.

We have already had the sight of MP for the 18th century and Tory leadership hopeful, Jacob Rees-Mogg handing in a 'charity begins at home' petition to Downing Street, demanding that foreign aid be slashed.

It would be an utter disgrace if the right wing, already buoyed by its success in delivering tax breaks for the very wealthy, were to succeed and we were to reduce our aid budget, abandoning our duty to help the poorest and most vulnerable.

What is almost certain is that if this were to prove successful, it will be poorer people closer to home that will be next in line to have their support cut.

Alex Orr,
Edinburgh



Weaving using a handloom at Cairnbaan.

Weaving through history at Cairnbaan camp

A POSTCARD dating from around 80 years ago continues to generate interest among readers of the *Argyllshire Advertiser*.

Published earlier this month in the paper, Lochgilthead's Archie McAllister brought in the postcard showing Cairnbaan labour camp. Originally owned by Archie's father, the postcard is believed to date from the late 1930s, shortly before the start of the Second World War when it was converted to a Prisoner of War camp.

The photograph last week prompted memories for Inveraray man Niall Iain MacLean, who told the *Advertiser* tales of his Kilmartin childhood and an escaped Italian prisoner who evaded the Home Guard only to be defeated by the Argyll weather.

Since then another reader, Dai West of Ardrishaig, has called into the *Argyllshire Advertiser* offices with another postcard – this time featuring a scene from the inside of the camp.

A collector of postcards since he was a child, Mr West these days focuses on cards with scenes from Ardrishaig and the Crinan Canal. This particular example was found on Ebay a number of years back and has the title 'Handloom weaving Cairnbaan' on the front.

'I don't know when the picture would have been taken, but I believe it's the camp at Cairnbaan,' explained Mr West.

Can you shed any more light on the story behind this photograph?

Let us know at the *Argyllshire Advertiser* using the contact details on this page.

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602345 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Cran-nog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.



THE EDITOR welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Please write to: Letters, The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilthead, Argyll, PA31 8NB. Fax: (01546) 602661. Email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

MORE POWER AND SPEED FOR ALL-ELECTRIC RENAULT ZOE – EUROPE’S BEST-SELLING EV



Renault has introduced a new 80kW electric motor on ZOE

New R110 motor provides ZOE with extra power and greater versatility

2018 model-year ZOE features Android Auto compatibility and the addition of an exclusive new body colour

ZOE was Europe’s best-selling electric vehicle in 2017

RENAULT has revealed its new 2018 model-year ZOE, featuring the new R110 electric motor, Eu-

rope’s best-selling electric vehicle. This will be the first Renault EV to feature the new 80kW powerplant which combines extra power with even greater driving enjoyment.

Despite being the same size as the R90, the R110 is 12kW (16hp) more powerful than its predecessor.

Drivers will benefit from stronger acceleration performance when travelling at higher speeds as the new motor shaves almost two seconds off ZOE’s 49.7-to-74.5mph (80-120kph) time. This is a significant improvement which provides even greater peace of mind at higher speeds.

At lower speeds the R110 packs the same punch as the R90 from which it is derived thanks to the instant availability of peak torque of 225Nm, making

ZOE as nimble as ever in urban areas.

Elisabeth Delval, assistant programme director, Renault ZOE, said: ‘Thanks to this power boost, ZOE is even more responsive and versatile when used for journeys out of town. In addition to being able to enjoy the pleasure of driving a ZOE, drivers will also benefit from the longest range available for a mass-market electric car.’

The new R110 motor is the latest in Renault’s electric motor development and production strategy and is further evidence of its expertise as Europe’s number one electric vehicle manufacturer.

The R110 has been created specifically by Renault – an evolution of the R90, developed in just two

years – and is made at the Cléon plant in Normandy having been designed by engineers based at both the Renault Technocentre and Cléon.

In addition to carrying over the R90’s outstanding energy efficiency, the R110 packs a combination of electrical machine – and power electronics-related innovations that have yielded an extra 12kW with no increase in either weight or volume.

The introduction of the R110 takes the number of variants of the Renault-designed and – produced motor available for Kangoo Z.E., Master Z.E., ZOE and Daimler’s smart electric drive up to five (44kW, 57kW, 60kW, 68kW and 80kW).

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE EV RANGE PLEASE CONTACT

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- 16 Renault Kadjar Dci SIG-NAV, 4WD, ETRAS 19,000 Miles £16,750
- Renault Megane Estate car, 6 T-Line, gray, 15,000 miles £11,250
- 15 Ford Fiesta zetc 1.2 blue 13,500 Miles £8,950
- 15 Renault Clio Dyn Nav 1.2, 18,000 miles £7,950
- 64 Nissan Qashqui DCI Tekna brown, lthr upholstery, 21,000 miles.... £14,850
- 64 Ford Ka Edge 1.2 Gray 31,000 miles £5,500
- 14 Nissan Note Nectar 1.2 5dr, blue, 9,000 miles..... £8,500
- 14 Dacia Duster AMB, 1.5 DCI, blue, 4x4, 6,800 miles..... £6,750
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'Pristine' Loch Sween reveals a CO2 threat

SCOTLAND'S marine ecosystems may be more sensitive to carbon dioxide 'flash floods' from man-made and natural causes than previously thought.

The discovery came after scientists from Heriot-Watt University and the University of Glasgow conducted a four-day experiment at Loch Sween to measure the response to short-term carbon dioxide (CO2) exposure.

Until now, scientists had only tested the effect of high CO2 on individual plants and animals, meaning very little was known about how whole marine ecosystems respond to sudden influxes of CO2.

The team pumped

water enriched with CO2 into chambers placed over the coralline algal ecosystem and monitored the community's response before, during and after CO2 exposure. The experiment revealed that acute CO2 exposure led to net dissolution - meaning calcified organisms like the coralline algae and starfish were dissolving.

Dr Heidi Burdett, a research fellow at Heriot-Watt University, said: 'Coralline algal ecosystems can be found in all the world's coastal oceans and are particularly common along the west coast of Scotland. Since coralline algae are highly calcified, we knew

they would probably be quite sensitive to CO2.

'These beds have significant ecological and economical value. In Scotland, they act as nurseries for important catches like scallops, cod and pollock.

'We found there was a rapid, community-level shift to net dissolution, meaning that within that community, the skeletons of calcifying organisms like star fish and coralline algae were dissolving.

'If you think of pulses of carbon dioxide being carried on the tide to a particular site, it's like a flash flood of CO2.

'Our continued monitoring of the site directly after the CO2



The site of the experiment in Loch Sween with Dr Heidi Burdett in the water. Photograph: Heidi Burdett.

exposure found recovery was comparably slow, which raises concern about the ability of these systems to 'bounce back' after repeated acute CO2 events.'

Dr Burdett and her team believe more research is necessary to understand how ma-

rine ecosystems respond to short and long-term CO2 exposure and that it should be taken into account by policy makers.

'If a local authority or government agency is deciding the location of a new fish farm, forestry or carbon capture site, we should be

looking at what marine ecosystems are nearby and the potential for those ecosystems to be impacted by the new activities as a whole, rather than focusing on the impact on individual organisms.'

Loch Sween is a site favoured by scientists for marine research.

'We carry out quite a lot of research in Loch Sween,' explained Dr Burdett.

'Aside from the fact it is a beautiful area, as a protected area the loch hosts really diverse communities and ecosystems.

'It's as pristine as you get nowadays.'



The coralline algal ecosystem - or maerl bed - in Loch Sween. The pink spiky balls are maerl. Also seen are black and yellow/blue brittlestars and different seaweeds. Photograph: Nick Kamenos, University of Glasgow.



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Great pancake event raises cash for Malawi

DESPITE rain and hail earlier in the day, the sun shone for the first ever Malawi Twinning Group pancake relay on Wednesday February 14, which raised £597.50.

Brave traders and a large audience came out on the sunny but cold day to witness the event, which took place on Argyll Street in Lochgilphead.

The event kicked off outside KC Fashions with Kirsten MacNeill flipping a pancake to the Miller Stewart office.

Competitive streaks began to show with a bold run from Finlay at the Post Office to the Bargain Zone and Cameron Gilthorpe from The Sweetie Jar towards Lloyds and onto RS McColls.

Meanwhile, Vicky Lyons flipped her pancake on behalf of Mary's Meals towards The Stag Hotel.

A bit of traffic delayed Fern, representing the hotel, pushing the lower street a short flip ahead.

Community police officers were present to ensure everything remained in order, while also joining in with the tossing.

Colin MacFarlane from the Round Table also lent his expertise as a marshal for the relay, ensuring a fair competition.

The crowd that gathered to witness the entertainment were then treated to plenty of hot pancakes, coffee and tea on offer after the relay at the Baptist Church.

Heart-shaped biscuits to represent Malawi, known as the warm heart of Africa, were also available for visitors to enjoy.

Following the tea, the winners of the quiz were drawn by Mr Malawi Ngira, a guest from the Scotland-Malawi Partnership.

The first prize of £20 went to Mrs M Annan, with three runners-up prizes donated by Ferguson's Butchers and Murray's Smoked Products won by M McGlynn, A Pearson and F MacFarlane.

Ruth Carruthers, who organised the event, thanked the traders for their support. She said: 'I'm just so glad we were able to go ahead with it.'

'This morning you would not have believed that anyone would venture out at all, but we've had a great bit of fun and hilarity, with people all being such great sports and enjoying the event.'

'I can't say enough in praise of the Lochgilphead traders who have been so willing to take part in a crazy community event, even on a day like today.'

'Thanks are also due to James Ross in the council roads department, and to the local police who facilitated the event for us.'



Sergeant Iain MacNicol 'keeping pancakes safe'. 06_a08pancakerace07

Kirsten MacNeill from KC Fashions kicks off the pancake relay. 06_a08pancakerace01



Colin MacFarlane from the Round Table with organiser Ruth Carruthers. 06_a08pancakerace06



Nick Jackson of RS McColls dashes up Argyll Street. 06_a08pancakerace04



Joanna Day, Malawi Twinning Group member, creates a perfect pancake flip. 06_a08pancakerace03

OFFERS & competitions

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 March 2018. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize draw to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve whisky.**

WIN

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kitchen garden or sourced from a rich larder of Scottish produce and trusted local suppliers.

One lucky reader will win a prize that includes dinner for two at Seasons restaurant, overnight accommodation and full Scottish breakfast.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: What is the name of the new restaurant at Rufflets? a) Roots b.) Forresters c.) Seasons

Package includes dinner for two at Seasons Restaurant (excluding drinks), overnight accommodation in a double or twin feature room and breakfast for two. Prize must be taken between 1 April and 31 May 2018. The prize is subject to availability and non-transferable or refundable and no cash alternative will be offered.

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. Information will be shared with promoters and sponsors.

History-making money boost for youthful dreams

DO YOU go ape over archaeology? Are you wild about wildlife?

If that describes you – and you happen to be under 21 years of age – then a new scheme might help to fulfil your dreams.

The Natural History and Antiquarian Society of Mid Argyll attracts people with passion, and now the society wants to share some of this through a grant of up to £250. This is available to any young person or group aged under 21 to help

them to pursue a project that falls within the society's sphere of interest.

It might be that you would love to spend time on an archaeological dig, or maybe join in an RSPB survey. Always wanted to visit the neolithic sites in Orkney?

What about voluntary work with the national park ranger service or National Trust for Scotland?

Applicants simply need to tell the society about their idea and

how the bursary would help them.

Successful applicants will be asked to produce a written report of their experiences, which will be published in *The Kist*, the society's twice-yearly journal.

The Natural History and Antiquarian Society of Mid Argyll attracts some 160 people locally, nationally and internationally who are passionate about the natural environment and all matters archaeological or historical.

The society meets monthly throughout the winter for talks from experts in these fields and over the summer months visits are organised to a number of local landmarks.

Further details of the bursary scheme are available on the kist.scot website. Application forms can be completed online or sent to: Jim Malcolm, Courtyard Cottage, Kilmartin PA31 8UN.

The closing date for entries is March 31.



You could be part of a recognised archaeological dig. 06_a32Auchindrain04

MARCH ISSUE OUT NOW

ALAN TITCHMARSH
How his role at Castle of Mey sparked a love of Gaithness

NICK NAIRN: KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL

Plus
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www.scottishfield.co.uk

Fundraiser flies at Lochgilphead school

SPIRITS were soaring as Lochgilphead High School pupils and staff looked forward to a well-deserved February break.

But before that could happen, there was the small matter of a special non-uniform day and coffee afternoon on February 9 to raise funds for the Butterfly Trust.

The Butterfly Trust is an organisation which offers support for both individuals and families affected by cystic fibrosis to deal with

many of the daily and long-term struggles they may encounter. The trust is made up of volunteers who can offer mentoring and stress relief solutions, including professional massage.

Money donated to the Butterfly Trust is used to help arrange housing, as well as providing those suffering from cystic fibrosis with grants for essential household items. The trust also supports breaks or holidays which may help pro-

vide a better quality of life for the individuals.

Mouths were watering at the school during the fundraiser – organised by the secondary school's charity committee – as a wide range of baking was generously donated from pupils and the home economics department.

The event

raised more than £1,000 – all of which will be donated to the Butterfly Trust.



A tempting array of delicious home baking was on offer.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

To advertise in the community noticeboard call 01586 554646 or 01546 602345

SCDA Kintyre Argyll District KINTYRE DRAMA FESTIVAL
Victoria Hall
Friday 23rd February
Curtain up 7.00pm
Please arrive early - strictly no entry during plays
Tickets £8 (£4 concession for primary children)
from Yorkshire Building Society or on door at night.

Masonic Live presents CHARITY RACE NIGHT
Lodge St John's Recreational Club
Saturday 24th February
7.00pm - 1.00am
Stalls open 8.00pm
Over 18s only
Entry by donation at door

Lochgilphead Parish Church
Coffee Morning
Saturday 24th February
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Clochkeil will welcome nursery sheepdog finals

Mark Davey
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

YOUNG sheepdogs from across Scotland will flock to Clochkeil farm next weekend.

Shepherds with 45 dogs, aged under two-and-a-half on Octo-

ber 1 last year, from the nation's nine regions, will compete in the Scottish nursery finals, judged by Cairndow's Roddy McDiarmid, on Saturday March 3.

Kintyre Sheepdog

Trials (KSDT) in conjunction with the Arran region is hosting the event, which last came to the area nine years ago.

During the winter months, each region of Scotland tries to run five or six trials for nursery dogs. The best five dogs from each region go forward to the finals.

KSDT's Andrew Ronald said: 'We have shepherds coming from Lochaber to run in our area, which we need for numbers.'

'In the final, Kintyre region will enter three

dogs from Lochaber, one from Arran and Skipness's Alex McCuish.

'As well as the dog's age regulation, they are not allowed to have won a prize in an open trial in the previous year.'

There will be refreshments, a raffle, a marquee supplied by Kintyre Agricultural Society and, for the first time at a Kintyre trial, a portable disabled toilet supplied by Jim Martin.

To offset the cost of the disabled toilet, Campbeltown Com-



A competitor in the August 2015 KSDT trial. 25_c35sheepdog06



Sheepdog trialling is thirsty work. 25_c35sheepdog09

munity Council granted KSDT £300 from its Scottish Hydro Tanga fund.

The evening before the event Scottish Nursery Trials will hold its AGM at the Argyll Hotel. Organ-

isers expect the trial to attract many and that it will fill Kintyre hotels that weekend.

Action opens at 8am on the venue regularly used for the Kintyre trials in August, given courtesy of the Barr

family, on fields immediately opposite Mach Dunes golf club.

Mr Ronald said: 'It is a very dry field because of the sandy soil so cars and vans should have no trouble parking.'

Caledonian Marts hold successful sale

CALEDONIAN Marts Ltd had forward 411 store and breeding cattle, and 549 store sheepat Stirling on Monday February 19.

Store bullocks averaged 231ppkg selling to 275ppkg from AG & ME Bateman, Langholm, Campbeltown and to £1210 for a 550kg Aberdeen Angus from J Brownlie & Co, Inchgall, Glencraigs.

Store heifers averaged 211ppkg selling to 251ppkg (twice) from H Millar & Son, Glenhead, Falkirk, and A Ferguson, Kinburn, Braco, and to £1290 for a Limousin from R Graham & Son, Airthrey Kerse, Bridge of Allan.

Bulls sold to 230ppkg for a Charolais from Rob McMurrich, Ballater Drive, Plean, and to £1040 from R Clowes, Newhall, Dollar.

Black and white bullocks averaged 143p selling to 166p from M/s Patterson,

Stenhouse, Kirkcaldy, and to £940 from J Brownlie & Co, Inchgall.

Bullocks per head: £1200 and £1190 East Kerse, £1150 Balcachie, £1120 Inchgall, £1110 and £1100 East Kerse.

Bullocks per kilo: 271p Glenhead, 268p West-er Whin, 265p and 264p Gartnagrenach (Tartbert) 258p offers. Heifers per head: £1230 Middlerigg, £1070 Greenhead, £1010 East Kerse, £1000 Stenhouse, Greenhead, and Low Peninver (Campbeltown).

Heifers per kilo: 248p Kinburn, 243p Turdees, 240p Easterton (Purdon), 237p Glenhead

Breeding cattle: sold to £1650 for a cow with calf at foot from Mid Auchencarroch.

Also sold 549 store hoggets, feeding ewes and grit ewes.

All classes of store hoggets

were sharper on the week, selling to £91 for a pen of Tex X from W Cook, Balcachie, Girvan.

Grit ewes were topped at £125 for a pen of Tex X from A McMaster, Springfield.

Leading prices: Suff £89 Balcachie, Tex £87 Knockdaw, Cont £77 Goldenlea Farmers, Suff X £77 Bowshiel, Char £75 Pendreich, Cross £75 Bowshiel, Cont X

£69 Newhall.

Feeding ewes: Tex £64 Murrayshall, Mule £60 Gartincaber, Cross £48 Murrayshall, Cont £46 Craigmad, BF £34 Gartincaber.

Grit ewes: Tex (Twins) £116 Springfield, Tex (Single) £106 and £104 East Mains.

Grit gimmers: Tex £80 East Mains and Suff £72 East Mains.

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Mitchell NFUS
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& Blackface
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AGMS

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at 7.45pm
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Speaker: D Armour
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Best of the West Festival announces 'exciting' line-up

THE BEST of the West Festival has announced a line-up including New York Celtic rock band Seven Nations and popular four-piece Tide Lines.

The family friendly, end-of-season festival will take place in the grounds of Inveraray Castle from Friday September 7 to Sunday September 9.

Saturday's line-up includes local bands Heron Valley and Dr Hop and the Blue's Operation. A special guest

will also be in attendance to close the evening.

Edinburgh indie band Bwani Junction will perform on Sunday, followed by Scots Live Trad Act of the Year winners Skipinnish, who will close the 2018 festival.

Main

Other main stage acts and performers for the Loch Fyne Whiskies Stage will be announced soon.

The best food the west has to offer will

also be showcased by the Food of Argyll group.

The Duchess of Argyll, Eleanor Argyll, BOWFest chairperson, said: 'This year's Best of the West Festival already looks exciting.'

'As well as a fantastic line-up of musicians, we have celebrity chefs, the best in Scotland's food and drink and a host of children's entertainment – something to keep all the family busy.'

Tickets go on sale on Thursday March 1 priced at £29.50 for adult weekend tickets and £14.50 for a child weekend ticket.

Friday and Sunday tickets will be £14.50 for adults and £7.50 for children and Saturday tickets are £19.50 per adult and £9.50 per child.

Tickets for children under the age of eight are free of charge.

For more information go to bowfest.co.uk.



Eddi Reader performs at last year's BoW Festival. 09_t37bow23



Students get in on the action during the music technology course in Tarbert.

Tarbert fèis goes high-tech

SECONDARY school students took part in a Fèis an Tairbeirt music technology workshop at the Templar Hall on Saturday February 17.

The workshop was part of the Templar Arts and Leisure Centre (TALC) creative digital media programme 'Soundjects and Resonant Spaces', funded by Creative Scotland's Youth Music Initiative.

More music technology courses have been planned throughout the summer holidays if the organisation receives funding.

A Fèis an Tairbeirt spokesperson said: 'We are aiming to offer a unique course that isn't currently available in any school in Mid Argyll or north Kintyre.'

'These workshops are open to anyone, whether you have a

background in music or not. It is the aim of the fèis to offer a variety of courses to suit everyone.'

TALC and Fèis an Tairbeirt are planning to host another workshop on Saturday March 17. The course is free, however, numbers are limited, so booking is advised. To book a place or for more information go to www.feisantairbeirt.co.uk.

Antarctica's unstable ice sheet

LATE last year, scientists at the Halley VI British Antarctic Survey station in west Antarctica were forced to abandon their premises.

An advancing chasm in the Brunt Ice Shelf nearby was threatening to cast them adrift on an iceberg roughly the size of Wales. This chasm, undoubtedly caused by global warming, is an alarming indication of ice-sheet fragility.

But does it have implications for the whole of Antarctica?

Several computer models predict that ongoing melting of the Antarctic ice-sheet will cause sea levels to rise by at least a metre by 2100 and three metres by 2300. So far, predictions from different models disagree on the details of this future catastrophic scenario. With an area of 14 million square kilometres,

Science matters

DOROTHY H CRAWFORD



Antarctica is huge - much larger than the US or Europe. So, like these continents, climatic conditions are likely to vary enormously between east and west coasts.

Now a team of US scientists has reconstructed the history of the Sabrina Coast continental shelf in Antarctica, 5,000 kilometres east of Halley VI. Using a method called

'seismic reflection profiling', they studied 1,300 metre deep sediments deposited by glaciers that have drained east Antarctica since the ice-sheet formed 34 million years ago. The strata within these sediments reveals that for the past five million years temperatures have been generally cooling, causing expansion of the ice-sheet. But in

older, underlying strata, massive tunnel valleys appear, carved out by huge volumes of meltwater flowing along the ice-sheet and depositing large packages of sediment in open water. These features indicate periods of relative warmth and show the ice sheet has undergone extensive advances and retreats at least 11 times since its formation.

When the tunnels and deposits were created, climatic conditions, including air and sea temperature and CO2 levels, resembled those predicted if today's global warming continues. But previously these conditions have naturally reversed and the ice-sheet has extended again.

So clearly, details of the response of Antarctica's ice sheets to past warming cycles are relevant to the present-day situation.



Antarctica is changing as a result of global warming. Photograph: Jason Auch.

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Love is in the air with Spring weddings

What better time for love to be in the air than Spring?

It has to be one of the most beautiful and most inspirational times of the year to get married with blossom coming out in bloom and signs of new life starting to show everywhere.

There will be an abundance of beautiful flowers to choose for bouquets and for the bride's hair.

Pretty pinks, yellows and greens from the springtime pastel palette make colour co-ordination for the big

day a dream.

Why not think about using Spring as the theme for your decorative focal points for the ceremony and the celebration afterwards.

Be fantastically floral with your invites and may be even your wedding dress and there is no stopping there - don't forget the cake.

Wedding cakes have moved on from three white tiers, dare to be different. Delightful berries, edible foliage, birds and even woodland creatures in fondant shapes perched on top would make a

show-stopping centre piece.

As we wave goodbye to winter, a hint of better weather breezes and longer days our way opening up possibilities of al-fresco weddings. The chance to party in a marquee or enjoy a beautiful garden or stunning grounds and venues across Argyll.

Anyone planning a wedding in this region is spoilt for choice when it comes to choosing hotels to bring together the special people in their lives for an unforgettable experience. Oban's register

office is also a popular choice for couples.

Gorgeous backdrops are essential for photographs that will grace the pages of the wedding albums or Facebook going global.

Vintage and chintz is still a firm favourite with Spring brides wanting to create a breath-taking wedding.

Regardless of season there is always so much planning to do and with so much to do, making an essential list should be one of a couple's first priorities - after naming the date and sending out save the

date cards.

Top of that all-important list should be budget. Work out the limit, go from there and try to stick to it.

Starting a wedding folder or binder with ideas is a great way to begin. Cut out pictures from magazines, look for colours, snatch ideas from anywhere you can and pop them in your collection to make it unique to you.

Talk to friends and family, search about for venues and make a visit so you are sure of finding the perfect place.

The guest list is often

about compromising so no one is left out but remember it is your wedding day so you should have a say on who you want to share it with you.

Research photographers, bands, florists, and caterers - putting in the hard work now will be well worth the effort and peace of mind later. Make sure all these people know exactly what you are expecting to make sure tying the knot will be one of the best days of your life and one to remember for all the right reasons.



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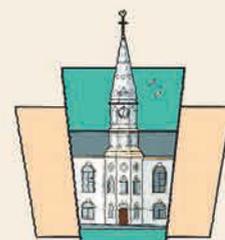
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Please contact our team for more information and details of our wedding packages.

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www.townhallcampbeltown.com



Argyll and Bute – civil ceremonies

‘It is your day so we do it your way’

That is the motto of Argyll and Bute registrars who are here to help couples make their special day the unique, magical experience they want. There is a lot more choice and freedom

now for couples getting married. Changes in legislation mean they are no longer limited to traditional venues such as registration offices or churches. In the past year, for example, couples have held civil ceremonies held in castles, gardens, yachts, beaches and their own homes. Our registrars focus is on making it possible for couples to have the day they are dreaming of. Getting in touch as early as possible helps to achieve this.

We encourage the inclusion of music and poetry in our ceremonies – which is not to say couples must have this – but we give couples as much choice as possible so their day is perfect from start to finish. In

addition, we can offer religious content and alternative ceremonies such as handfasting and candle ceremonies which are becoming really popular.

Having the ceremony where the reception is held, such as a hotel, castle or gathering hall, has become a popular trend, but there are several stunning council marriage rooms available throughout Argyll and Bute. These include a new facility in Helensburgh, Castle House in Dunoon, the Linda McCartney Garden in Campbeltown, Mount Pleasant House on the Isle of Bute and a room overlooking picturesque Tobermory Bay on Mull.

Increasingly, couples are going to the

registrar for ceremonies to renew their wedding vows, or a baby naming ceremony. These can even be combined for a special family day. Depending on the venue, council marriage rooms can seat from two to 80 guests. If, however, couples would prefer an intimate ceremony just for themselves, then we can also arrange witnesses for them.

There is no residency requirement to get married in Scotland, but every couple is required to give the registrar in the district they wish to be married at least 28 days’ notice.

We encourage couples to make contact with the registrar early, as different couples

will have different requirements. For example, if you are divorced or a surviving partner, you will need specific documents and there are different rules that apply for couples who are coming from outwith the EU. We take great care to assist couples and make sure that everything is in order and stress-free. Forms are valid for three months, but you can book ceremonies a year or more in advance.

The letters of thanks, emails and wonderful feedback we receive from couples is tremendous and greatly appreciated by registration staff – it is great to hear ‘You gave us the day we always wanted.’

It's your big day so we do it your way

Argyll and Bute Civil Ceremonies

When it comes to life's momentous occasions - getting married, reaffirming vows or naming a baby, choosing where to hold the ceremony plays a significant part.

Our team of registrars are here to help you plan this important day in your life.

You can contact the team by email: registrars@argyll-bute.gov.uk or call 01631 567908 to be directed to your appropriate point of contact.

Argyll and Bute Civil Ceremonies
Full of Perfect Places, for your Perfect Day.

Find us on Facebook

Argyll and Bute COUNCIL
Photo: David Grant Simpson

Lunga House - a Scottish Seaside Castle

A beautiful venue for Weddings and Special Parties

Lunga House, with its enchanting garden and seaside location provides the ideal setting for a dream wedding, where your guests can enjoy the stunning scenery, walking, fishing, horse riding or simply relaxing with a good book in the quiet retreat.

Egyptian cotton sheets, complimentary Arran Aromatic toiletries and bottled water...just some of the special touches you can expect. We will be more than happy to meet request for some extra luxuries be it champagne on ice, a special bottle of wine or perhaps flowers and fruit to welcome you

on arrival.

The Macleods are not new to the hospitality industry having built up a portfolio of self catering properties over the years in Edinburgh, Inveraray, Mull and Craobh Haven. In Craobh Haven village they also own the local bar & restaurant, The Lord of The Isles (www.lordoftheisles.co.uk) as well as the Mishnish in Tobermory (www.themishnish.co.uk)

‘We love hosting a good party and we thoroughly enjoy creating individual weddings and special occasions for our guests. Your wedding could

be in the ballroom with the backdrop of glittering chandeliers and a roaring fire or in the garden surrounded by garlands of beautiful flowers, or in a lovely marquee.. For that special occasion to be celebrated the house lends itself to candlelight dinner parties, champagne receptions with delicious canapés, a buffet of mouth-watering local seafood and meats, a hog roast on a spit or a traditional Scottish feast.

We look forward to welcoming you.

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Nothing else matters except ensuring that your day is everything that you would like it to be, right down to the smallest detail. A charming and relaxed remote setting beside the sea where anything is possible and the exclusive use of Lunga allows it to be the party you've always dreamt of!

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Serenity Spa at Mach Dunes

Indulge. Escape. Relax.

In 2018 you'll be returning for more hotel spa breaks in Scotland after your escape to Machrihanish with a visit to the full-service Serenity Spa at The Ugadale Hotel. Owner and operator Laura Kennedy has over a decade of experience helping her clients find their own calming oasis. She now leads Serenity's warm and talented staff as they take visitors and hotel guests alike through a few hours of complete tranquility and luxurious pampering. Top-of-the-line Germaine De Capuccini products and procedures administered by caring professionals means you receive the best facials and body treatments. Whether you're rejuvenating your mind to prepare for all Machrihanish has to offer, reinvigorating your body after a long

day on the course, or simply treating yourself to a bit of "you time", the Serenity Spa has everything you need to refresh your body, mind, and spirit.

Or if you feel your face is needing a boost after the festive season then why not book in for our newest facial, Excel therapy 02 - Two revolutionary masks work to repair and defend the skin against damage and external stress. Our oxygenating bubble mask releases pure Oxygen into the deep dermal layers of the skin. A second mask uses our Dual Matrix technology to activate the skin's immune system increasing its

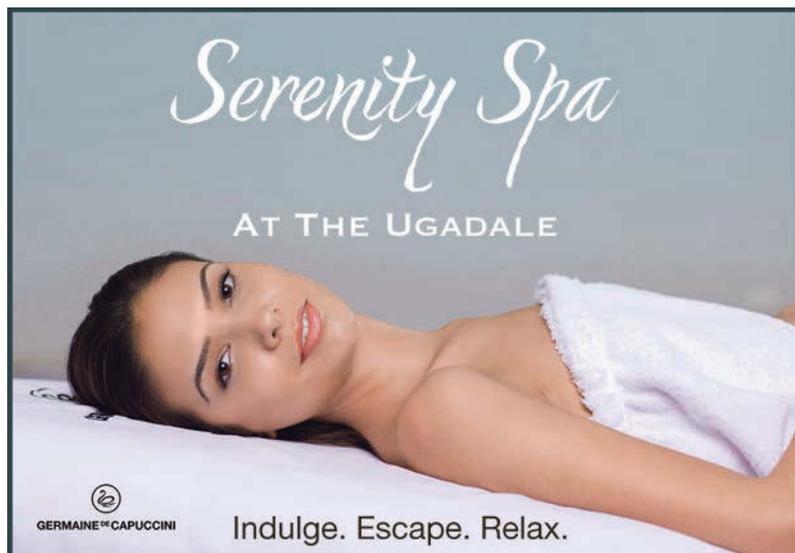
defence capability. This therapy also includes a highly relaxing, lymphatic facial massage to de-stress and detoxify the skin, perfect for dull, dehydrated skin. We have a special promotion running along side with the chance to receive a complementary gift set worth £49

We also have an infrared sauna and relaxation area which is a little cottage called Serenity Spa Retreat and can be booked out for exclusive use.

Join up to our loyalty card scheme which allows clients to build points every time you visit and we send out special promotions twice a month.

Open Monday - Saturday.

To book a spa treatment or for spa enquiries, please call +44 (0)1586 810025, email us at serenityspa@machdunes.com or log onto www.machrihanishdunes.com/spa



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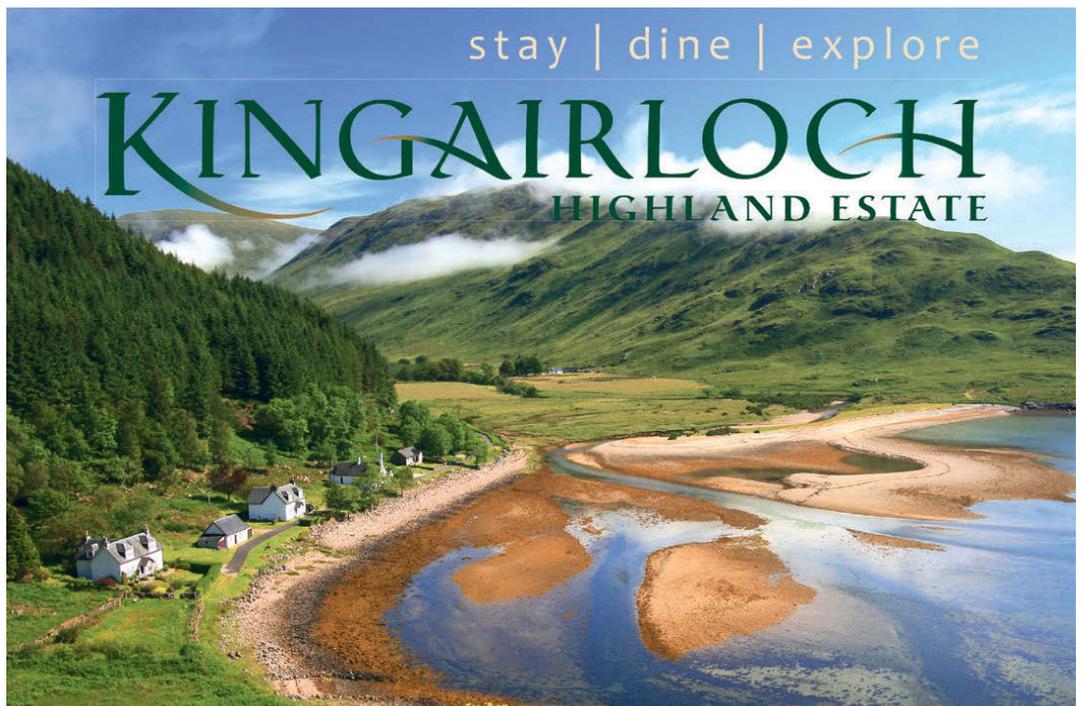
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Kingairloch Estate



For those considering a Highland wedding, ceremonies can take place in the charming Kingairloch church and Kingairloch House is also licensed for civil ceremonies. The Boathouse Restaurant at Kingairloch Estate is ideal for wedding parties of up to 40 guests. The hills and glens, rivers and lochs of the state provide a series of stunning back-drops for wedding photographs.

Call now to start your highland experience wedding. 01967 411232.



stay | dine | explore

KINGAIRLOCH

HIGHLAND ESTATE

KINGAIRLOCH HIGHLAND ESTATE

Kingairloch, a 14,000 acre family owned estate located on the Morvern Peninsula on the shores of Loch Linnhe, is only a three hour drive from Glasgow but a world away from the stress and strains of everyday life.

The estate offers a range of eight unique self catering properties ranging from remote cosy stone cottages through to the principal residence on the estate that is now a bed and breakfast.

Properties are open all year and pets are welcomed.

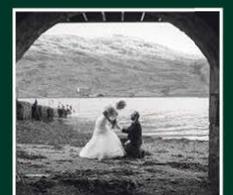
The popular Boathouse Restaurant located on the loch's edge champions locally sourced produce mainly from the estate and the sea around us. Open seasonally, by appointment.

Fantastic stag and hind stalking opportunities are available on fully catered or self catered basis in our properties.

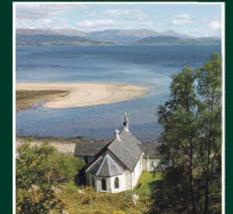
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Kingairloch, Ardgour, Fort William, PH33 7AE
Office 01967 411 242 The Boathouse Restaurant 01967 411 232



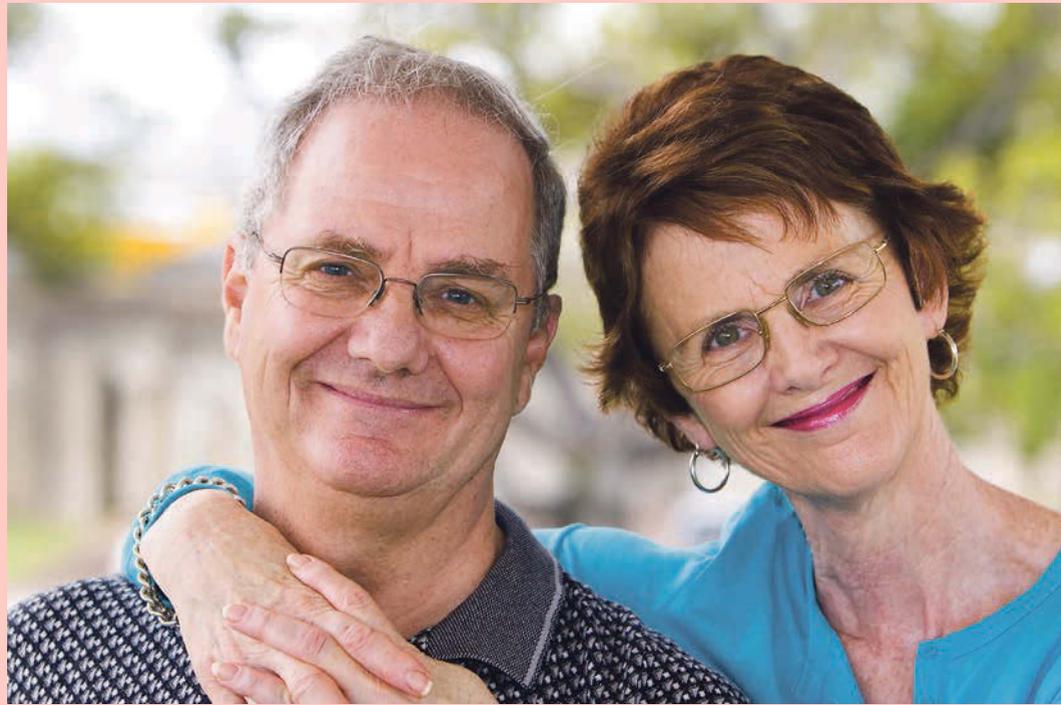
The Boathouse Restaurant



A happy couple underneath The Boathouse



The Church at Kingairloch



Preparing for retirement

RETIREMENT is a fresh start. Life is out there to live and love every minute thereof; you choose the retirement you want and your circumstances help steer the course.

MAC POOL LOCHGILPHEAD

Provides a focus for the community and is an essential leisure service, contributing to the quality of life for residents and visitors to Mid Argyll. Located in Lochgilphead, next to the Crinan Canal, the community pool services 26,000 admissions annually including pre and post-natal mums, pre-fives, children and adults learning to swim, school swimming, athletes, families and the 50-forward demographic as well as

holidaymakers and visitors to the area. Because swimming is with you all your life, we host classes, activities, challenges and competitions for all age groups. The community facility is unique in Mid Argyll as it is the only leisure facility to operate seven days a week and offers public swimming, fitness classes and swim teaching over an average 11-hour day. MACPool is accessible to people of all ages and

abilities. Swimming is an excellent form of low impact exercise with many health benefits, including weight loss, muscle toning and cardio respiratory improvement. It is also great fun. It is an 'all rounder' when it comes to health and wellbeing. Swimming boosts endorphins that increase feelings of wellbeing, and studies have shown that swimming produces the same relaxation response as yoga.

WILLIAM DUNCAN & CO

"What do you mean my pension is taxable.....!?"

This is the sort of "pub-talk financial advice" we sometimes have to respond to from people who believe that when they reach the blissful horizon of retirement they can draw down their state pension and any personal pensions and not worry about paying tax. Disabusing them of this notion sometimes requires the patience of Solomon and the diplomatic skills of Donald Trump who

would simply tweet – "Pensions are taxable – end of". My equally brief reply tweet would be "Not so!" There are several ways in which you can mitigate this position if you plan well in advance. For example income and capital gains from ISA's are not taxable and there are additional tax allowances available on dividend income and on savings income. If you

have investments and can lock in some capital gains each year then there is additional tax relief available. Income tax generally kicks in above the level of the personal allowance (£11,850 from 6 April 2018) but with careful structuring it is theoretically possible through a mixture of pension income, savings income, dividends and capital gains to earn just over £30,000 of taxable income in 2018/19 without incurring any tax – and that is excluding the ability to earn income and realise capital gains tax free through holding ISA's. However, to work towards this will require some very careful planning over a number of years working with both your IFA and your accountant. It goes without saying that it is rarely too early to start on that planning route.

Financial planners, Pina Colada would taste knowing that Messrs Hammond and MacKay were paying for it! Iain Webster – Director, William Duncan & Co

ally spend in later life by almost £100,000. People in later life like to spend more on holidays with multiple trips abroad as their aspiration. No-one has any desire to cut back on their lifestyle choices in retirement so to help meet the shortfall in their aspirations they will need to increase their after-tax income. The difference in tax payable between £30,000 earned all as pension income and £30,000 structured optimally as noted above could be as much as an eye-watering £3,630 per annum (possibly a little bit less if you live in Scotland). For a retired couple (who could each achieve that saving), that's a very decent overseas holiday and several long weekend European city-breaks each year (with a few cocktails thrown in) – all care of HM Treasury. And just think how refreshing that Pina Colada would taste knowing that Messrs Hammond and MacKay were paying for it!

MACPool LOCHGILPHEAD
OVER 50's SPECIFIC SESSIONS!

- Fit for 50!**
In water exercise class for those over 50.
- Young at Heart!**
In water exercise class. A mild cardio workout with information and guidance from NHS Living It Up and MACPool.
- Over 50s!**
General swimming for Over 50s only.
- Hydrotherapy!**
Health and Fitness Hydrotherapy session for people with additional needs or recovering from injury/illness.

As the body ages, many forms of exercise can become tricky and exacerbate existing injuries – especially high impact sports such as running or tennis. Swimming, on the other hand, ensures that the body's weight is supported by water, making it a great way to get fit without putting strain on your joints.

Mid Argyll Community Pool
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www.macpool.org.uk
 for more information on times and to book your spot!

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 T 01880 820277 F 01880 820722
iain.webster@wdargyll.co.uk

ment

If you enjoy working and are good at what you do, then don't stop until you want to. But, after working to build a career, pay the bills, raise a family and shoulder responsibility suddenly you can take delight in being, well . . . a bit selfish, but not in a bad way!

But whatever you decide there is one very important factor: money. It is never too early – or in some cases, too late – to get in touch with a financial advisor.

It might be you want to downsize, move closer to family or have them move to live near you. Or you just might want to spend more time living in, and enjoying, the home you have worked all your life

to pay for and now plan some major refurbishments.

Keeping body and mind healthy and active are keys to happiness in retirement and there is a wealth of clubs and courses available across Argyll and Bute – you will be spoilt for choice. If, in the unlikely chance you cannot find what you are looking for, then find some like-minded folk and start your own!

Some people retire and start working to help their families, be they decorating and repairing a younger family member's home or looking after grandchildren. Some grandparents, on the other hand, say 'Not likely' and reach for the cruise brochures.

Suddenly travel is no longer dictated by your leave entitlement.

We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth, where people save all year and come and spend their holidays! So when was the last time you packed a wee bag and hopped on a CaMac ferry to go visit an island? And if you live on an island when did you last pack your bag and book into a hotel on the mainland, visit old friends and go to the cinema? Or visit one of our historic landmarks, beauty spots museums, galleries?

Do not forget all the old clichés about retiring and swapping the office for the golf course or fishing. Haven't we got some of

the best golf courses and sea, river and loch fishing in the UK on our doorsteps? And if you have never done these things, then there are plenty of clubs and organisations where you can learn.

When you retire you become a valuable community asset, namely a volunteer with time, work and life experience plus the patience and sense of humour only age can bring. There are so many roles where you can make a difference, get out there!

And always remember the words of American writer Mark Twain: 'Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.'

SHOPPER AID

Shopper-Aide is a charity and limited company, established in April 2011, set up to provide a service which will benefit older people in Kintyre.

Our Aim is to support older people to live independently at home by providing a service: Shopping for their weekly grocery needs; Doing jobs around the house; Address the growing isolation that comes with weakening health.

Joan Stewart from Shopper Aide said "Through my experiences I have found out that through volunteering, you get back a lot more than you give." She stated that "By harnessing the skills and generosity of members of our local community we are providing those in need with help and hope."

We have Volunteering opportunities for Social care experience; Communi-

ty Work; IT Skills, Team Work and Delivery Drivers.

Our volunteers assist Kintyre's older people (over 60's) to remain independent in their own homes and feel more connected within the local community. All our volunteers are registered with PVG.

So what do I need to do to volunteer? All you need to do is to call us here at Shopper Aide for a chat and we will do the rest. Giving somebody who lives alone an hour of your time is making our community a better place and helping to improve the lives of others.

A G BARR OPTOMETRISTS

Just as our physical strength decreases with age, our eyes also exhibit an age-related decline in performance — particularly as we reach our 60s and beyond.

Some age-related eye changes, such as presbyopia are perfectly normal and don't signify any sort of disease process. While cataracts can be consid-

ered an age-related disease, they are extremely common among seniors and can be readily corrected with cataract surgery.

Some of us, however, will experience more serious age-related eye diseases that have greater potential for affecting our quality of life as we grow older. These conditions include glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

It is important to have routine eye exams and explore vision correction options.

Multiple eyewear solutions might be needed for presbyopia at this age.

Tell your eye doctor about medications (some can cause visual

side effects, including dry eye).

Besides regular eye exams, have annual physicals to identify underlying conditions such as diabetes that might cause eye problems.

Use brighter lights for reading. Allow more time to adjust to changing light conditions.

Looking after your eyes really will enable you to live your life to the full in retirement.

All eye tests in Scotland are free and in our practice we have all the specialised equipment required to examine your eyes thoroughly.

Pop in or call for a warm professional and friendly chat about your eye sight and how we can help.

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Argyll & Bute Consultants was formed in 2003 by Iain Reid to offer Independent Financial Advice mainly in Argyll & Bute.

The business offers the full range of financial services and is a small practice that focuses on service and personal relationship building generally delivered in a face to face manner.

The core area of expertise is in relation to retirement and investment planning and more details can be found by contacting us or on our website. www.a-bconsultants.co.uk

Introductory meetings at our offices in Campbeltown are conducted at no cost to potential clients.

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This post requires;

- Basic Disclosure Scotland check
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- Access to a vehicle insured for business use

For more information, please contact Robert MacKay on 01546 605927 or email Robert.mackay@acha.co.uk.

Interviews for the above post will be held in Oban on 14th March 2018.

AHFA Electrician **West Argyll**
£25,519 - £30,023 **37.5 hours (Mon – Fri 8:30am - 16:30pm)**
 Permanent

Argyll Homes for All require a qualified and experienced electrician to carry out repairs and periodic testing to our houses. Some multi-tasking may be required. Good salary plus additional on call premium and call out payments, overtime, and excellent package including holidays, sick pay, insurance and other benefits.

This post requires:

- Basic Disclosure Scotland check
- Full UK driver's license

For more information, please contact Lee Holness on 01546 605815

Interviews for the above post will be held in Oban on 12th March 2018.

**Closing Date for both posts:
 12 noon on Friday 2nd March 2018**
 To apply visit the recruitment section of our website at www.acha.co.uk. CVs are not accepted.
 If you cannot access the website, please contact the recruitment team: 01546 605817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

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 Closing Date March 16, 2018



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Send your CV to: info@bowmanskiphire.co.uk
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We are looking for our next advertising sales star and will offer flexible working patterns and working location for the right person.

Experience in advertising sales is not necessary, as full training will be given.

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Please submit CV and covering letter to ali@wyvexmedia.co.uk

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Vacancy: 1 x Full Time Freshwater Operative

Location: Furnace Smolt Unit, near Inveraray, Argyll

Cooke Aquaculture Scotland is a leading company in the Scottish Salmon Industry producing exceptionally high quality products for an increasingly demanding market. We have operations throughout Scotland, Cumbria and the Northern Isles of Orkney and Shetland, together; we pledge a strong dedication to achieving a sustainable aquaculture industry.

We are currently seeking candidates to take on the position of Freshwater Operative at our Furnace Smolt Unit. As part of a small team, you will assist your colleagues in building strong key relationships and ensuring a safe working environment for all.

The Role:

The successful candidate will find themselves reportable to the Management Team for Furnace.

Qualifications/Skills required but not essential as full training can be given:

- At least 2 years' experience working in an Aquaculture Recirculation Unit
- Ability to participate in an Alarm Duty rota system
- Good understanding of the aquaculture industry
- Candidate must be flexible with regard to hours worked, weekend working will be required
- Be a good team player but have the ability to work alone when required
- Inter-personal and excellent communication skills
- Clean UK driving licence

The ideal candidate will be committed to achieving the best results in a challenging environment and delivering the highest standards of performance possible. In return, we offer a highly competitive salary, employer pension contribution, company bonus scheme and salary sacrifice programmes.

If you feel you have the necessary attributes to successfully fulfil this position and contribute to a progressive, results orientated company, then please send your covering letter and CV to krystal.flett@cookeaqua.com by 08 March 2018.

NCN'EAN DISTILLERY

is seeking a

VISITOR MANAGER

Ncn'ean is a small independent distillery on the Morvern peninsula pioneering sustainable production and creating experimental spirits.

We are looking for an organised person with excellent communication skills, who has drive and enthusiasm, to join our small team.

Responsibilities will include -

- Managing the daily operations in relation to the visitor experience
- Develop, deliver and promote tours and events programme
- Managing the shop and refreshments including range, sourcing and stock control
- Organise booking systems
- Implement marketing and advertising plans

We offer an attractive salary for 40hrs per week Monday to Friday.

For full job description and further details please contact

Peter Gutierrez, Acting CEO peter@ncnean.com

Closing date for applications 5pm on Wednesday 28th February.

Oban Link club is seeking a part time project worker for 6 hours pwk, £12 p/hour (worked on average basis), to support those with mental health issues in a safe space at day/evening / weekend times. The postholder will work from the Link Club sessional premises in Oban focussed on group support and occasional trips. It may include some local engagement and communication to help raise awareness of mental health. This is a 3 year post supported by Big Lottery Scotland. For details please email developingpotential@outlook.com Closing date 5th March 2018.

Developing Potential SCIO, SC045456, 50A Union St, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8JS



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CARERS CENTRE MANAGER
LOCHGILPHEAD £29,841 – 33,573 p.a.**



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Your proven experience in developing, delivering and managing projects, as well as managing and supervising a team of people are key to this role.

You will require a good understanding of the issues and challenges facing carers: hence your experience and excellent interpersonal skills would be an essential attribute in managing the centre's services and raising awareness of our work.

For further information and application pack please contact 01546 600 022 or email wandida@dochasfund.org.uk

Closing date for applications 9th March 2018 **Interview date 26th March 2018**

See us at the Oban Jobs Fair

March 6, Corran Halls, Oban

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The Mellex Group Limited

Due to expansion and an increase in business we have the following full time positions available:

HGV Volumetric Mixer Driver / Operator

The ideal candidate should have a Class 2 Licence, a current driver CPC and have experience of driving and operating a volumetric mixer, but full training can be given to a candidate who is keen to learn new skills. The role may require you to help out in other areas of the business at times, so a flexible attitude to work is essential.

Typical hours of work would be 07:30 to 17:30 Monday to Friday, with some additional hours and weekend work if and when required. Salary dependent on experience.

Small Plant Mechanic

Based at our West Coast Tool & Plant Hire Depot in Ardrishaig, but on occasions may be required to work out on site. Applicants must be able to demonstrate qualifications and also hold a driving licence.

Hours – 07:30 to 17:30 Monday to Friday, with additional hours optional if and when required. Salary dependent on experience.

Hire Desk Controller

Based at our West Coast Tool & Plant Hire Depot in Ardrishaig. Applicants should be computer literate, but training will be given on our bespoke 'IT hire system'. Knowledge of tool and plant is preferable, but not essential if keen to learn. The role requires a strong commitment to deliver good customer service, and it is essential that the candidate has excellent communication skills, can multi-task, and is able to work on own initiative as well as with fellow colleagues. Applicants should also hold a driving licence.

Hours – 07:30 to 17:30 Monday to Friday, with additional hours optional if and when required. Salary dependent on experience.

For all positions please apply in writing and include a CV with previous work experience to – Fay Harris, Mellex Group Ltd., Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig, Argyll, PA30 8EU.

E-mail – fay@mellex.co.uk . Applications can also be handed in to the Ardrishaig Depot. Closing date for all positions Friday 23 February 2018.

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WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WINDFARM TRUST

Groups wishing to apply for funds from the above trust should contact Margaret Pratt for advice, details and application form by email to: margaretp Pratt@btinternet.com

Grants may be available for funding for projects, groups, halls, charities, churches etc operating within the West Kintyre Community Council area.

Completed application forms must be in the hands of the trust by Saturday 31st March 2018

for consideration at the disbursement meeting to be held on Monday 16th April 2018 at 7.30pm in Tayinloan Village Hall

Contact details: Margaret Pratt, 01880 730244.

Ardrishaig Boat Club

A.G.M.
Wednesday
14th March
7.30pm
Grey Gull Hotel
Ardrishaig

Argyll Bowling Club

AGM
Tuesday 13th
March
at 7.30pm
in the clubhouse
Members please attend.

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Macmillan Cancer Support ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 26th February 2018 at 7.30pm
Argyll Arms Hotel, Main St, Campbeltown
New members welcome
More info on 01586 552641.

Public Notices

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

These applications listed below together with other related documents may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 –13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD, at the alternative locations detailed below during their normal opening times or by logging on to the Council's website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk.

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

| Ref. No. | Proposal | Site Address | Location of Plans |
|-------------|---|--|--|
| 18/00141/PP | Formation of new 2.5 metre wide path and re-surfacing of existing path | Land Between Carradale Hall And Carradale Primary School Carradale Campbeltown Argyll And Bute | Sub Post Office Carradale |
| 18/00282/PP | Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage and formation of vehicular access | Garden Ground Of Achnandarrach Craobh Haven Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute | Sub Post Office Ardfern |
| 18/00106/PP | Erection of dwellinghouse with detached garage, installation of septic tank and formation of new access | Land North West Of Corputechan Farm Bellochantuy Campbeltown Argyll And Bute PA28 6QE | Burnet Building St John St Campbeltown |

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> 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 at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Council's website.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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Tel: 01564 870221/07831 181185

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Tel 0770 3490572 ask for Robert

WANTED

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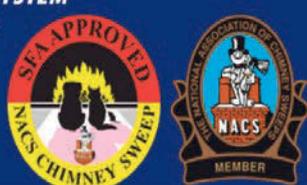
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INVERARAY

Talk on forestry in Argyll

INVERARAY History Society was treated to an informative talk by Ian Arnold from Strachur on forestry in Argyll.

Ian shared historical facts and challenges which have been faced by foresters over many hundreds of years.

Many at the talk were interested to learn that Argyll still has 30 per

cent forestry coverage while the rest of Scotland only has 12 per cent.

All are welcome to attend the March gathering, which will include a talk from castle archivist Alison Diamond, who will be revealing stories from the archives on Tuesday March 6 at 7.30pm at the Nicoll Hall.

LOCHGILPHEAD

History of the economic change

MID ARGYLL Arts Association will be screening *The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil* at the MAYDS centre tomorrow (Saturday February 24) at 7.30pm.

The film, produced by Liverpoolian playwright John McGrath, is based on the his-

tory of the economic change in the Scottish Highlands in the early 19th century through the oil boom.

Tickets are £7.50, with concessions £6 and MAYDS members going free. For more information on future screenings, go to www.maaa.org.uk.

TARBERT

Calamaties perform Snow White

CLACHAN Calamaties will perform *Snow White* at Tarbert Village Hall on Saturday March 3 at 7pm.

Tickets are £7 for adults and £5 for children and include a performance from Loch

Fyne Pipe Band at the interval.

Tickets

Those interested can purchase tickets at Clachan filling station and Kintyre Electrical. For more information go to www.clachankintyre.org.

ISLAY



Ardbeg Distillery.

Larger still house for Ardbeg Distillery will double capacity

ARDBEG Distillery on Islay has plans to build a larger still house, which will double its current distillation capacity.

With global demand for the whisky growing, the new 'traditional style' will contain four copper stills, two more than the distillery currently operates.

Permission

Argyll and Bute Council has granted planning permission for Ardbeg to install a new boiler house, moving the facility further away from the distillery.

The new plans for a still house are still subject to planning approval, but the distillery aims to start con-

struction this year with the building to be completed in 2019.

Ardbeg staff have confirmed tours will be available as normal while the work is being carried out.

Marc Hoellinger, president and CEO of The Glenmorangie Company, which owns the distillery, said: 'We are delighted by Ardbeg's success since 1997 – and by the growing passion for our whisky from fans around the world.'

'Ardbeg has been distilled on Islay since 1815 and, with a new still house, we will pave the way for future generations of smoky malt whisky lovers to discover the ultimate Islay malt.'

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden



HOW often we hear things like, 'It will be a seven-day wonder', or 'Today's news is tomorrow's fish and chip paper'?

Sensational items of news soon lose their appeal as something new hits the headlines.

This is not the case with Jesus of Nazareth, and is one of the things that amazes me about his story.

Here was a man who lived more than 2,000 years ago, only ministered for three years, probably didn't travel more than 30 miles from his home – and yet we are still talking about him.

There are probably more books written about Jesus than any other living person in history.

He lived in an age when there was no media communication, no internet, no emails, tweeting or texts.

He didn't write down anything – unless you count his comments written in sand about not accusing people of wrongdoing unless you are flawless yourself.

He didn't have influence in the politics of the time, but he surely was a thorn in the flesh of corrupt leaders and the smugly satisfied religious elite of his day.

He was a man of the people and he made his mark on everyone he met, and still does today.

At this time of Lent, those of us who are drawn to the Christian faith reflect on the last weeks of Jesus's earthly life.

We walk alongside him and listen again to his teachings through the writings of his earthly companions.

His words, however, reach out to people of all faiths and none, because his teaching is simple and he gave one command only. To love one another.

Easy? Absolutely not, but how else will our hurting, troubled, warring, aching world survive?

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It started with a shed - now it's going just Fyne

FORTY years ago Cairndow landowner Johnny Noble and marine biologist Andy Lane registered their business of farming oysters in the clear waters of Loch Fyne in Argyll - selling them from a shed beside the A83.

In May this year the company will mark its 40th anniversary with a special 'Fyne at Forty' weekend festival, when thousands of vis-

itors are expected. To celebrate this global success story, Scottish band *Hue and Cry* - famous for hit singles such as *Labour of Love* and *Looking for Linda* - will headline an exciting line-up at the Fyne at Forty weekend event.

Pat and Greg Kane will perform an acoustic set with just piano and vocals in the Loch Fyne Oysters restaurant on Saturday May

13, when an audience of just 140 will also enjoy a magnificent seafood buffet.

Tickets for the intimate concert go on sale on Friday February 23.

Festival-goers will be given access to areas normally closed to the public, including the oyster sheds where each oyster is graded, purified and hand-checked for freshness before being despatched to customers around the world.

There will be champagne tours of nearby historic Ardkinglas House and you can test your chef skills in an oyster shucking competition or practice your navigation skills in a treasure hunt amid the fantastic Loch Fyne scenery.

An evening ceilidh will take place on Fri-



Beautiful Loch Fyne - a big part of the company's success.



Andy Lane (left) and Johnny Noble in the early days with an oyster bag.

Dancing Dookers enjoy half term boogie

TARBERT dance group the Dancing Dookers raised £200 for the Nancy Glen campaign during a dance workshop over the half term school holidays.

The girls were taught several different dance routines over two days, finishing with a performance in front of friends and family.

Tarbert dance teacher Rachael MacFarlane, who works in London, said she was 'so incredibly proud' of the dancers.

She continued: 'The Dancing

Dookers worked so hard over the two days, putting on a wonderful show.

'Their commitment and enthusiasm is second to none and they make me look forward to coming home to teach them.

'The girls' hard work paid off and they raised £200 for the Nancy Glen campaign. Thank you to all the parents and friends who came along to watch the show. Your continued support is appreciated. Tarbert sure has talent!'



The former farm steading at Clachan, Cairndow - now the world famous Loch Fyne Oysters restaurant.

day May 12, followed by a spectacular fireworks show over the loch.

For children there will be face painting and musical activities, while grown-ups can unwind with demonstrations from top chefs as well as wine and whisky tasting. There will be great food available and great music to enjoy in the entertainment beer marquee.

'We are planning a showstopper of a weekend,' said managing director Cameron Brown.

'Loch Fyne is a global success story and we want the public



Scots duo Hue and Cry - Pat and Greg Kane - will headline the celebrations.

to come and help us celebrate 40 fantastic years. We are excited about giving visitors a sneak peek at

what goes on behind the scenes of our oyster farm and I'm looking forward to having a bop at the ceilidh

and hearing Hue and Cry's iconic hits. There will be something for everyone at our Fyne at Forty weekend.'



The girls show what they're made of at their end of workshop performance in front of family and friends.

Shoot raises money for air ambulance

Tarbert Gun Club hosted a charity shoot to raise money for the Scottish Air Ambulance on Saturday February 17. The club raised £250 for the cause and thanks everyone who attended and Archie of Fyne Tackle who sponsored the event.

Thanks also go to Bobby, Buddy and John for making sure the event ran smoothly.



Sports club lotteries

DRAWN on Monday February 19, the Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery draw numbers were 2, 4 and 19. There were no winners this week so next week's jackpot will be £400.

Tarbert Football Club's lottery numbers for this week were 3, 9 and 15. There were no winners this week and next week's jackpot will be £800.

A chat with Scotland's ice queen

Emily Jamison

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

SCOTTISH curler Eve Muirhead has spiralled herself back into the spotlight with stellar performances throughout the Winter Olympic Games women's curling competition in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

On Tuesday February 20, the GB women's curling team created shockwaves with a triumphant win over world and Olympic champions Canada.



Team Scotland with their bronze medal at the Women's World Curling Championships in Beijing, with Eve Muirhead, far right.

The semi-final for the women's curling will be played today (Friday). If the team are triumphant, they will compete in the

gold medal match on Sunday and if they lose they will play for a bronze medal tomorrow (Saturday February 23).

I was lucky enough to interview Eve during the City of Perth Ladies International last April, just a week after leading the Scottish team to a bronze medal in the World Curling Championships in Beijing.

The worlds were seen by many of the curling teams as the last major global curling competition before the Olympics.

At the time, Eve believed her team were on the verge of moving up

the Olympic podium after a bronze in Sochi.

She said: 'Having already got an Olympic medal, our goal is always to work our way up the podium so, of course, we want to do better.'

'A gold medal is always in sight and I'd love to achieve that, but we can only do what we can do and we need to just go there and know we did everything we could to secure a medal.'

So what is it that makes

Scotland's own 'Ice Queen' so successful? According to Eve, a lot of hard work and determination goes on in the background.

She continued: 'A lot of people don't realise the gym work and the blood sweat and tears that go on behind the scenes.'

'We are in the gym twice a day and on the ice twice a day.'

'You've got to be mentally and physically tough.'

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Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 10 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach "Spot the Ball" Competition, The Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE by 4pm on Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline. You may hand it into The Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

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No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. The company's decision will be final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company. In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any persons otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



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INSIDE THIS WEEK:
A chat with Scotland's
ice queen



Depleted Star continue good league run with away win

FC Argyle 3
Lochgilhead Red Star 8
SAFL Premier Divison Two

RED STAR turned in an excellent performance against a physical FC Argyle side at Balloch on Saturday, despite having several players missing through injury and personal commitments. Argyle threatened

early on and the visitors had Luke Kalache to thank for keeping the scores level early on. Star rallied, though, to effectively close out the match by half-time.

Neil Russell opened the scoring after a neat one-two with Kieran Moore after 17 minutes. Kieran Moore got his first of the day soon after, before adding his

second and Star's third to put the Lochgilhead side 0-3 up after 26 minutes.

The excellent 3G surface was suiting the Red Star passing game and they increased their lead before the break.

Innes Meikle continued his fine form with a double, his second coming after a well-worked corner to the

edge of the box, putting Star 5-0 up at the break.

To their credit, Argyle didn't give up and when Gregor Peacock was adjudged to have fouled the striker the forward pulled one back. Red Star got a penalty of their own when the Argyle defender took a swipe at Kieran Moore when there appeared little

danger and the youngster dusted himself down to secure his hat-trick from the spot.

A third penalty in quick succession was awarded, this time to the home side, when the ball struck the arm of Kyle Selfridge, who felt hard done by. The Argyle forward scored again, reducing the deficit to 2-6.

Once again Star res-

ponded in excellent fashion as Kieran Moore broke clear. His initial effort was blocked by the excellent Argyle keeper, but Moore bundled home the rebound for his fourth of the afternoon.

The sides traded goals late on, first through the Argyle number nine, who secured his hat-trick after connecting well with a

header at the back post. Star had the last word through Neil Russell. After good play down the right, Rab Docherty's cut-back was tapped in by the veteran striker to round off another impressive win for Red Star.

Red Star host Carlton YM at the joint campus 3G on Saturday February 24. Kick-off 2pm.



Back row, from left: Eleanor Dale, Sophie Balkeen, Ruby Dunlop, Beth Johnstone, Maisie Gilmour and Erin Naisby. Front, from left: Louise Pendreigh, Jodie Allan, Jemma MacDonald, Jorja MacDonald, Ruby-Jo Philips and Sara Bakali.

A fine array of young Mid Argyll athletic talent

A TEAM from Mid Argyll Athletics Club took part in the national under-12 super team competition in Glasgow on Sunday February 11.

As reported in the February 16 edition of the *Argyllshire Advertiser*,

the club entered three girls' teams into the competition at the Emirates Arena. The A-team of Jemma MacDonald, Eleanor Dale, Beth Johnstone and Ruby-Jo Philips finished 24th out of 52 teams taking part.

MacDougall's fab four seal Dookers win

Tarbert FC 4
Duncanrig 2
SAFL Premier Divison Two

TARBERT welcomed Duncanrig to Cil Andreis for what proved to be a highly entertaining league game.

With conditions soft underfoot, the game began with some surprisingly good passing football and Tarbert took the lead within the first five minutes.

Nice play in the middle, followed by a magnificent cross from Allan Blair on the right, allowed Nikki MacDougall to slot home.

Tarbert had started well and soon made it 2-0. With only 15 minutes on the clock, Iain MacKinnon burst clear and fired a shot on goal. This was saved, but the rebound was tucked away by MacDougall for his second.

The game changed in the next 20 minutes as Duncanrig pressed.

A good chance was squandered when their striker missed the target from three yards. Chris Selfridge saved well from a 25-yard effort but on the half



Nikki MacDougall, in action earlier this season, scored all four goals on Saturday. 25_c29carra-dale03_Nikki_MacDougall

hour the away side gained their reward.

Good play down the left allowed a cross shot to fizz across the Tarbert goal. The ball re-bounded off the far post and straight into the path of the striker for a tap-in finish.

In the last five minutes of the first half, Tarbert had two chances. The first, another fine cross from Andy Guy into the box, saw MacDougall head just over the crossbar, but the second was converted.

An unselfish square pass from MacKinnon set up MacDougall for his hat-trick. Half-time 3-1. The second half was a feisty affair as both teams looked for

the next goal. Tarbert restricted Duncanrig to very few chances from close range, although they had a couple of long-range efforts well saved by keeper Selfridge.

Tarbert looked dangerous on the counter-attack and won a series of corners. From one of the corners, the ball broke on the right

side of the box and an uncertain touch from the defender allowed Blair to nip the ball away and be crudely fouled. The referee played a good advantage though as the ball flew across the goal-mouth and there was the ever-present MacDougall to notch his and Tarbert's fourth goal of the match.

Duncanrig pulled one back late on as a lucky ricochet fell to their striker who tapped in at the back post but Tarbert saw the game out to win 4-2 and climb two places in the league table.

Tomorrow (Saturday) Tarbert play Paisley, who sit above them in the table and have only lost three times this season.

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