

## Get your boat in the water

A comprehensive guide to fitting out for 2019



# Urgent plea for volunteers to save Armed Forces Day

by Laura Maxwell  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Organisers are appealing for help with Armed Forces Day, or this year's will be Lochgilhead's last.

Lochgilhead's Armed Forces Day – the only event of its kind in Argyll and Bute – has been held for nine consecutive years, but organisers say they cannot keep going without more support.

The non-profit-making event, which sees veterans coming together for a day of catch-up and remembrance, is becoming harder to organise with dwindling support.

Chairman of Lochgilhead Armed Forces Day Geordie Rhodick said: 'We're devastated. It's heart-breaking. The ex-servicemen, they just love it.'

'It's a support network. A casual day for people from all over to just enjoy themselves. There's a broader spectrum of people getting together from all over. There's no rank. If you're a veteran, you're a veteran.'

This year's event could be the last if more help is not forthcoming

'We've got supporters on the day, which is very much appreciated, but we need help before and after.'

Betty Rhodick said: 'We've got supporters on the day, which is very much appreciated, but we need help before and after.'

Specifically, the organisers need help setting up tents the day before, taking them down in the evening and administrative duties throughout the year, which amounts to a day a month of meetings.

Five years ago, Armed Forces Day was calculated to bring in £35,000 for Mid Argyll, with Betty estimating

that figure would be closer to £60,000 last year.

She said: 'Folk come from all over. They bring their caravans and book hotel rooms and eat in our cafes.'

One loyal supporter of the event has been the Mary's Meal's shop in Lochgilhead.

Manager Marina Campbell said: 'It is a shame. My husband is ex-forces so I think it's a great thing. There's a lot of people around here went to the wars and will be so disappointed.'

One Lochgilhead woman said: 'I think it's shocking. After all, none of us would be here if it wasn't for those who gave their lives. I'm sorry to hear that.'

Naline Swailes of HD Ferguson and Son butchers said: 'It's a busy day for every

Continued on page 2.

## Lochgilhead ladies deliver Beatson cheque



Lochgilhead ladies Maria MacKenzie and Yvie Young have boosted the coffers of Glasgow's Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre by £7,500.

After receiving treatment at the centre, they launched a massive fundraising drive for the Beatson Cancer Charity which saw a fantastic raffle raising thousands and many generous donations from across Mid Argyll.

Maria and Yvie recently travelled to Glasgow to present their cheque.

The ladies said: 'The Beatson has been a huge support and the services and treatment are free.'

'It is a special place, so we wanted to give something back.'

'We thank everyone who has donated and supported us in our fundraising. People have been so generous.'

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The law has changed! You MUST have your dog microchipped.

## Dogs Trust Community Event Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Lochgilhead Parish Church Hall, Manse Brae, Lochgilhead, PA31 8QZ  
10.30am – 1.30pm

All events are by a drop-in basis and no appointment is required



## Urgent plea for volunteers

Continued from page one  
one. It's a shame they can't get anyone to help. It would be a loss for Lochgilphead.'

Mid Argyll councillor Dougie Philand said: 'Armed Forces Day in Lochgilphead has become a significant event for the town, but also as a means to pay tribute to our armed services who ensure we have a safe democratic country to live in.'

'I appeal to our community to assist in any way to ensure event organisers receive assistance to run the event. It is not asking a lot to give a little of your time to ensure our armed forces are recognised and supported at such events.'

'Armed Forces Day offers great value to Mid Argyll,' added fellow Mid Argyll council member Sandy Taylor, 'in terms an uplift for local business and a major attraction in our local events calendar.'

'We need more events of this scale for Mid Argyll and Lochgilphead in particular.'

Anyone interested in getting involved should contact Betty Rhodick at lochgilheadarmedforceday@yahoo.com

# Traffic will flow during Tarbert sewer project

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

An answer appears to have been found to the problem of keeping traffic moving during a planned upgrade of Tarbert's sewer system.

The £3 million Scottish Water project to install large diameter pipes along Barmore Road, Harbour Street and School Road will impact traffic using the A83 trunk road as well as vehicles in the village.

Originally set to begin early this year, the water firm this week confirmed work will not start until January 2020.

A spokesperson said: 'Following site investigations in autumn 2018, Scottish Water is progressing with the detailed design phase of a project to help reduce the risk of sewer flooding in Tarbert.'

'Following discussions with

Argyll and Bute roads department and BEAR Scotland, we have been able to minimise the impact of our work on traffic on Barmore Road.

'It was initially thought a lengthy road closure would be required to build the new sewer at this location, however, we have managed to avoid this. Barmore Road will be closed for short periods as and when required.'

Details on specific road traffic management arrangements will be issued well in advance, Scottish Water confirmed.

The Scottish Water spokesperson continued: 'Work is planned to begin in January 2020. At this stage it is not possible to give a completion date but we will continue to keep the local community up to date with our plans.'

'We also plan to carry out this work in the autumn



Tarbert's sewer upgrade will start in 2020. 06\_a32Tarbert01

when fewer vehicles use the road. We will meet with the

community well in advance of the work starting and will

do all we can to keep disruption to a minimum.'

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## POLICE FILES

### Drink driving

A 59-year-old man was found in a vehicle in Union Street, Lochgilphead, at midnight on Tuesday February 19 and was arrested for being in charge of it while under the influence of alcohol. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Animal offence

Following a report of a person punching a dog in Harbour Street, Tarbert, a 35-year-old man was traced about 9am on Tuesday February 19 and charged with an offence under the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Careless driving

A white Mercedes car was seen driving carelessly while overtaking other vehicles on the A816 near Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, at 9am on Thursday February 21. The incident was reported to police and the driver will be traced and charged and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Anyone with information in relation to the above, or to any incident, should contact their local police station on telephone number 101, or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

## No council action over censured deputy leader

No further action will be taken by Argyll and Bute Council against Councillor Gary Mulvaney after he was sanctioned by the Standards Commission for Scotland.

The council deputy leader was censured for contravening two elements of the code of conduct for councillors, but received support from fellow council members.

Councillor Mulvaney was the subject of a Standards Commission hearing last month after new parking restrictions were introduced near a sheltered housing development run by Dunbritton Housing Association in Cardross.

The hearing found that Mr Mulvaney – a member of Dunbritton's board – failed to declare an interest when the parking limits issue was discussed by the council's Helensburgh and Lomond area committee in December 2017.

The panel censured Mr Mulvaney while noting his long service to public life

as a councillor, and were satisfied he had made no personal gain.

The panel also expressed a view, however, that he should have 'erred on the side of caution in order to ensure full transparency'.

At a meeting of Argyll and Bute Council on February 21 Councillor Donald Kelly voiced his opinion that Councillor Mulvaney should, in the best interests of Argyll and Bute Council, consider his position.

But Councillor Ellen Morton disagreed, saying: 'I am astonished at these remarks. The Standards Commission has imposed the minimum sanction that they could under legislation. They have made it clear it was a finely balanced judgement.'

Council leader Aileen Morton said: 'There is a lesson to be learned here but the suggestion he should apologise is ridiculous.'

Councillors decided no further action be taken.



Loch Fyne Oysters ready for packing. 06\_a38LFO\_Chinese23



One of the members of a delegation from China which visited Loch Fyne Oysters in 2018. The company now faces increased charges to export its famous produce. 06\_a38LFO\_Chinese31

# Council fees 'a bigger threat than Brexit' to seafood firms

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A high profile Argyll seafood company claims the actions of Argyll and Bute Council could have a bigger impact on the business than Brexit.

And jobs could be at risk after the local authority raised charges for export certificates by more than 500 per cent.

Until April last year, the council levied a fee of £17.50 per consignment for export. This changed with effect from 2018/19 when the fee jumped to £91 per certificate.

Argyll seafood exporters had hoped the matter would be addressed during last week's council budget meeting, but the issue was never raised.

In fact, with an across-the-board fee increase of three per cent agreed in the budget, the standard charge has now risen to more than £93.

When the Argyllshire Advertiser first broke the story in 2018, one of the region's biggest exporters, Loch Fyne Oysters, was reluctant to say too much while in discussion with the council – but the company has now spoken out.

A spokesperson for the Cairndow firm said: 'The council is now demanding payment. Total costs for health certificates for Loch Fyne Oysters have risen from around £4,000 per year to well over £100,000.

## Export certificate price rise putting jobs at risk

'This is putting jobs at risk. In fact, it is having a worse effect on the business than Brexit.'

The council last year introduced a reduced charge of £18 for consignments under 5kgs, but very few from Loch Fyne Oysters (LFO) are under this weight.

The LFO spokesperson explained: 'For example, a box of 100 small oysters weighs a minimum of 6.5kgs. So, for 100 oysters, the health certificate now costs more than the oysters. The premium restaurants and venues which Loch Fyne supplies simply will not absorb this extra cost. If the cost of Loch Fyne oysters doubles they will simply seek another supplier. The timing couldn't be worse since Loch Fyne is already reassuring them over fears Brexit will interrupt supply chains.

'To add insult to injury, the council doesn't even do the paperwork. Loch Fyne fills in the certificate from blank forms supplied by Environmental Health.'

In December the Advertiser revealed the pressures on Tarbert-based Lochfyne Langoustines Ltd, which exports shellfish to Far East markets.

Managing director Jamie McMillan said at the time: 'We regularly send five consignments a week to Asia amounting to three or four tonnes.

'With the uncertainty of Brexit along with other problems we face as an industry, the extra £30,000 a year would cripple us.'

An Argyll and Bute spokesperson said: 'The council has been in discussions with Scotland food and drink and businesses to discuss this situation and recently convened a meeting of local authorities in Scotland with the aim of developing a national charging model for export certificates across Scotland. This work is continuing.

'Our enforcement policy is to support business and in doing so, to protect public health and safety.

'We'd like to have maintained fees at their previous low levels but this is, unfortunately, not an option. Our export certificate fee was the lowest in Scotland and did not recover the cost of delivering this service.

'This is a flat rate certificate and has no add-ons for week-ends, late requests or Chinese certificates.'

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**Partnership offers free microchips for dogs**

Fyne Homes, in partnership with the Dogs Trust, is offering free microchipping to promote responsible dog ownership.

A change to the law means failure to have a dog chipped could result in a £500 fine.

There will also be free health checks, advice and information leaflets at the free, drop-in event in Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall on Thursday March 7 from 10.30pm to 1.30pm.

As well as the Lochgilphead session, events will be held in Campbeltown, Dunoon and Rothesay.

Proving popular in the past, 158 dogs were examined by a qualified veterinary nurse and 68 were microchipped at previous events.

Craig Baxter, Fyne Homes tenant participation officer, said: 'Although Fyne Homes arranges the events, they are open to the whole community.'

'The response in the past has been fantastic and the Dogs Trust team has been delighted with the turnout.'

# Community fund seeks new panel member

A vacancy has arisen for people living in and around Inveraray to serve on the panel that makes grant awards from the An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Fund.

The fund supports charitable activity that benefit residents of Inveraray,

Dalavich, Eredine and Furnace. This locally-appointed panel meets once a year to make decisions on awards. This is a real opportunity to help ensure the fund continues to be spent on projects that provide real benefit to the local community and to learn

new skills. To be considered for the role, download a nomination form, available at [foundationscotland.org.uk/communities/funds/an-suidhe-fund-news/](http://foundationscotland.org.uk/communities/funds/an-suidhe-fund-news/) and return the completed form to Foundation Scotland by 5pm on Friday March 15.

Nominees must be aged 18 or over and on the electoral register. In the event of more nominations being received than required by the closing date, a selection process will be run.

Email [tom@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:tom@foundationscotland.org.uk) or call 0131 524 0300

## ACHA holds conference in Inveraray

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) held its annual Tenants' and Members' Conference in Inveraray.

The conference focused on three key themes; getting involved, planning services for the future and rents and value for money. Other sessions focused on future ideas and priorities.

Input from tenants and members will be incorporated

into the association's strategic planning days.

Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief executive said: 'This year's conference gives our tenants and members an opportunity to input into the association's priorities.'

'At last year's conference, tenants and members told us we needed to increase external investment and add to communication tools. As a result, ACHA's board has



ACHA chairman Jim Milne and staff member Kirsteen McGinn organise the question and answer session at ACHA's tenants' conference.

committed an additional £1.5million to estate management capital initiatives from April and we will be launch-

ing an association Facebook page.'

The conference also involved question and answer

sessions and information stalls on energy efficiency, fire safety and welfare rights were available between sessions.

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Robert of the  
J.A.M. project.

# The Easy Club puts on a jammin' show

## Best turnout to date

Since being formed three years ago, the Easy Club has staged shows with a wide diversity of music, but its show at Lochgilhead Resource Centre on February 20 was particularly diverse.

The Easy Club players opened the evening with a mix of Scottish and pop, followed by Thomas performing his own rap to an original and uplifting techno soundtrack.

Then there was Scottish dance music from Dalriada Ceilidh Band and a young new band from the J.A.M. Project based at Mid Argyll Youth Development Services.

The evening ended with more Easy Club songs including an audience sing-along and a mass percussion session, finishing with the J.A.M. Project's Easy Peelers. With many members of J.A.M.,

resource centre folk and other regular participants, this was one of the Easy Club's best turnouts to date.

Hugh Fife, Easy Club committee member, said: 'The broad cultural mix and the success of the evening owed a lot to a lot of people including Neil, who co-ordinates the J.A.M. Project, Thomas and his supporting technicians, Easy friends and family who helped run the door and prizes and provided refreshments and centre staff who helped set up, photograph and sing.

'We are already looking forward to our next show in a few weeks.

'There will be workshops between now and then and in the summer we will finish our recording project showcasing our own compositions.'



Flora and Zarley of the Easy Club.

Right: Thomas put on quite a show.



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## LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk) or The Editor, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB

## Support armed forces day

There is nothing like it anywhere else in Argyll and Bute, to our knowledge. It is the original and best.

The feeling around Lochgilphead Armed Forces Day is quite different to the more sombre and reflective nature of Remembrance and while it remains respectful it has a large social element about it.

Old friends and brothers-in-arms meet up for their annual get-together and it is an event for the entire community.

Betty and Geordie Rhodick and other organisers need help to keep this colourful day alive. It brings people and business to Mid Argyll that otherwise wouldn't happen.

Why not contact them and find out how you can contribute?

## Wonderful generosity

What an effort by Yvie and Maria to raise money for the Beatson cancer charity.

The generosity of the people of Mid Argyll has been quite remarkable. We see it time after time – the minute a good cause needs help, the money raised is incredible.

The Beatson is a place we don't want to necessarily visit, but it is good to know this excellent service is there when we need it.

## Lynx re-introduction

**Our story on the Lynx UK Trust's announcement that it is considering Kintyre as one of three Scottish sites for the potential release of Eurasian lynx prompted a number of comments on our Facebook page:**

Pete Creech: 'I'm afraid wildcats may need to be another re-introduction from Europe as it appears they are effectively extinct. We finished them off far more efficiently than any minor competition for prey between themselves and lynx could achieve.'

Paul Paterson: 'There are no wild, free living or breeding medium and big cats within mainland UK. As for re-wilding, there are many animal, insect, plant and tree taxon currently being re-introduced back into the UK and that has a far greater impact and benefit to our land than any such fallacy as lynx or wolf or bear.'

Richard Allan Pannell: 'My vote is 'yes' as there is plenty of wild food for them and enough room to roam wild without encroaching into developed areas.'

Calum Selfridge: 'Great idea if they build a massive fence to keep them in.'

## Response to ACHA

Sir,  
I would like to respond to the Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)

chief executive's letter which appeared in the February 1 issue of the Argyllshire Advertiser.

In my original letter I pointed out a number of my constituents have complained to me directly about the lack of ACHA housing in Tarbert and that there is shocking overcrowding in some existing ACHA housing stock. What is telling is that ACHA in its response did not give an exact number of planned houses in the village of Tarbert which is only four.

While these four houses are a start, there will need to be a lot more before Tarbert's housing problems are mitigated.

Bringing attention to the lack of housing in certain parts of my council ward and overcrowding of said housing is my job and I will not renege on my duty.

It would be better for ACHA to act on concerns brought up in the local press than to constantly take a defensive stance to criticism.

**Councillor Alasdair Redman, Islay.**

## Rest and Be Thankful

Sir,  
In reply to David Bridge's letter in the Argyllshire Advertiser, Friday February 22, people must wonder why the Norwegians have a road network that services their country so well and why Norway is so much better off than Scotland in many ways when the two countries have so much in common.

We both discovered oil at the same time so why do the Norwegians have the Government Pension Fund Global, also known as the Oil Fund, worth more than US \$1 trillion in assets – in May 2018 it was worth about \$195,000

per Norwegian citizen – and the UK has no equivalent?

Is the Scottish Government responsible for this? The simple answer is no because Scotland is not an independent country and when the Norwegians set up its fund in 1990, Scotland didn't even have a devolved administration.

Even now, with its own government, Scotland does not have full control of all the fiscal levers that would allow us to make these decisions or the full borrowing powers that would allow us to build the network we require.

I highly recommend a viewing of the Lesley Riddoch and Phantom Power film Norway: The Twin Nation. This will explain the disparities between our nations and answer some frequently asked questions.

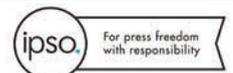
In 2008 a report was published as part of the Scottish Road Network Landslides Study and as a result a shallow landslide barrier was designed and manufactured to match the assessed risk and detailed requirements at the Rest and Be Thankful. This was based on research and development carried out in Switzerland.

To quote the publication New Civil Engineer 29 April 2010: 'It is very pleasing to see the research and development that I have been so closely involved in in Switzerland now being used to the benefit of the Scottish road user,' says Geobruigg engineer Corinna Wendler, who visited the site after the 2009 landslide.

'This project will be the first in the British Isles to use a dedicated flexible debris flow barrier and is particularly interesting in that it will also have the latest flexible landslide

## Press policy

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barrier – a world first to my knowledge that the two types have been installed on the same site.’

Where is the evidence that a different government at Holyrood, following the same expert advice, would have managed this situation better in the ensuing years?

Clearly, the problems at the Rest and Be Thankful are many and complex and placing all the blame on the SNP for the on-going situation is simplistic. Perhaps Mr Bridge could share with us the professional geological and engineering qualifications upon which he bases his knowledge and his suggestions for funding alternative solutions in post-Brexit Scotland.

Elaine Mackenzie, Tarbert.

## Youth service cuts

Sir,  
I was taught children were to be cherished, nourished and allowed to ‘bloom’, regardless of ability, and that every child has a talent.

Argyll and Bute has an ageing population which we are told of endlessly, yet the council is cutting services to the very people we need to populate the area. Youth services provide an invaluable service to our youth, giving them confidence and allowing them to express themselves and to become a valued member of society. These youngsters are our future, a future which I am sure the council would like to see, although they may not have much of a future left.

Why can't council members and leaders see the wood for the trees or are they just stuck in the past?

None of us have a magic wand which makes us younger so remember we may need the youth of today to care for us in our dotage.

Betty Rhodick, Lochgilphead.

## YOUR PICTURES



Ardrishaig's Cheryl Ratcliffe-Nye sent in this photograph of one of Scotland's more glamorous beaches. Cheryl said: 'This was taken at Ormsary, looking out towards Islay and Jura, both of which are masked in a far-off mist. The light here, however, was perfect for this shot.'  
Send your photographs for publication to [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

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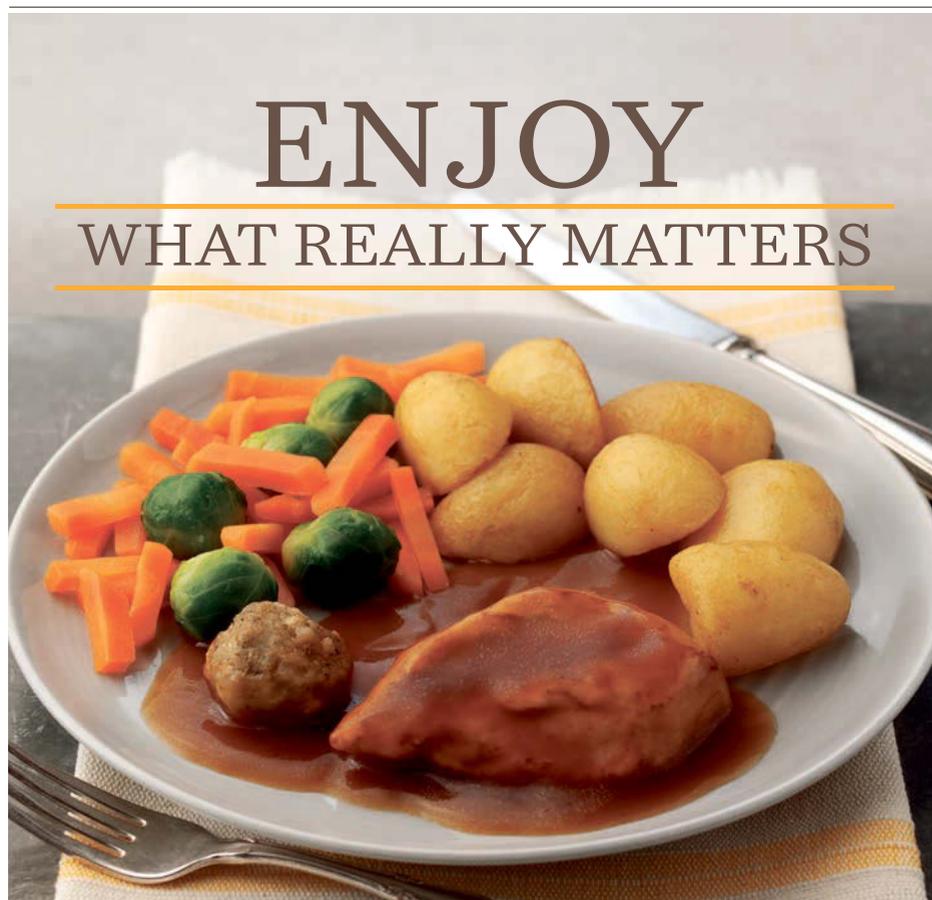
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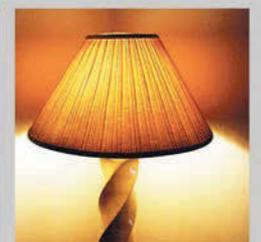
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# One way to keep Tarbert flowing

Tarbert is about to get a new, improved sewer serving the village.

Roads, however, will have to be dug up to replace existing underground pipes. Traffic between the Kintyre peninsula and the rest of Argyll must be kept flowing, so this creates food for thought for Scottish Water engineers.

One alternative which bypasses Tarbert – the 'glen' road between Barmore and the Tarbert Golf Club – is single track and probably unsuitable to take two-way traffic diverted from the A83 trunk road.

Argyllshire Advertiser regular artistic contributor Ann Thomas this week muses on possible solutions to this dilemma.




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Mike and Syb pretend to be shocked when they enter their party.

# Retirement surprise for Furnace couple

More than 80 people turned out for the retirement party of Furnace's Mike and Syb Masters.

To celebrate the couple's long-awaited retirement from running the Furnace shop, a surprise party was thrown on Saturday February 23 for residents to show their appreciation for years of hard work.

Furnace Village Hall was beautifully decorated with balloons and streamers

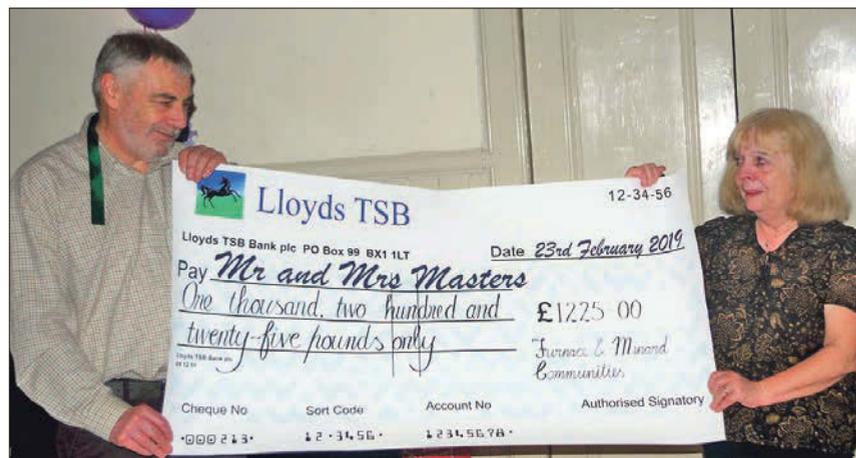
and curries, shepherd's pies and a cake were donated. Music by Stuart Calhoun got everyone on their feet and dancing the night away.

A total of £1,225 was raised for the couple and presented to them in the form of a giant cheque, causing a tear in many eyes.

Lynda Syed said: 'Oh what a night. Lot's of aching feet and heads the next day. A hearty big thanks for everyone involved.

We very nearly managed to keep it a secret.'

Mike commented on Facebook: 'Thank you everyone for last night. It was a fabulous night. We are very emotional and still can't quite believe it. To everyone who worked so hard to organise it and keep it a secret (well nearly), we are truly humbled and grateful. Wherever we end up, there will never be another place like Furnace.'



'Wherever we end up, there will never be another place like Furnace.'

Left: Mike and Syb receive their cheque.



The party organisers who were responsible for many sore feet and heads.

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# What does the Argyll and Bute budget mean for the people?

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A budget of 'tough decisions' was agreed by Argyll and Bute Council on February 21 as the local authority wrestled with a funding gap of around £8 million in the next year alone.

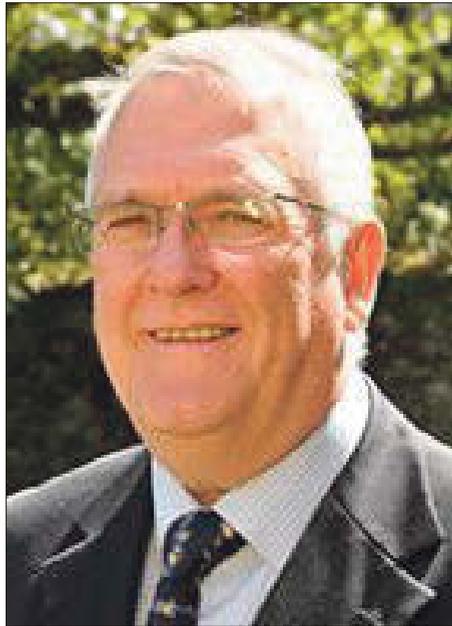
According to council figures, this follows a series of cuts over the past nine years amounting to around £50 million.

Council leader Aileen Morton said: 'If this pattern of never-ending cuts carries on, the continued existence of local authorities – to be blunt – is questionable.'

'The challenges we face are substantial. We need to have the ambition, the determination and the drive to do more than just survive, to do more than just protect the existence of this council and its essential services.'

Eye-catching among this year's measures is a planned £248,000 cut to youth and adult learning services at the cost of 10 full-time equivalent jobs in 2019/20 and more to follow. This despite protests by young people all over Argyll and Bute on the eve of the budget.

Councillor Morton contin-



Councillor Sandy Taylor.



Council leader Councillor Aileen Morton.

ued: 'Setting a responsible budget for Argyll and Bute is about making choices that support people and communities now and also look after the future of Argyll and Bute – and that's what we've done. 'Cuts mean we have had to make tough decisions about even the most valued council services.'

The SNP group within the council said it opposed the 'substantial cut' in youth and

adult learning workforce, the removal of all school crossing patrollers and of the council's road safety team as well as the proposed reduction in music tuition. In a statement, the SNP group said: 'Other things protected in the SNP budget included moves to reduce the size of our environmental workforce which cuts grass, plants flowers and keeps our civic and play spaces clean. We also rejected

cutting the team of environmental wardens (waste, litter, dog fouling, parking) who ensure others play their part in keeping Argyll and Bute looking its best.'

SNP council group leader Sandy Taylor added: 'All councils are struggling with the continuing cuts in public spending budgets.'

On these pages we outline some of the detail of the 2019/20 council budget.

## What is being cut?

A raft of strategic and operational cost-cutting measures have been agreed by Argyll and Bute Council.

The agreed policy options are intended to shave £1.42 million from spending.

The most controversial savings proposal is the loss of 56 per cent of staff providing youth and adult learning services, with an annual saving of £330,000. The council's own assessment of the consequences of losing 17.1 full time equivalent staff (FTE) is: 'The loss of these posts will result in a significant reduction in capacity, which will directly impact on the level of service on offer to vulnerable and disadvantaged young people and adults.'

There will be a reduction in the trading standards team which in the last two years has gone from 9.6 FTE staff to six across Argyll and Bute. The implications of losing another part-time officer, according to staff, are that preventative work will be impossible, leading to



Protests by Argyll and Bute school pupils over cuts to youth and adult learning services fell on deaf ears.

a potential for an increase in criminality and, internally, no capacity to cover staff absence.

The council's Road Safety Unit has been axed. Two people

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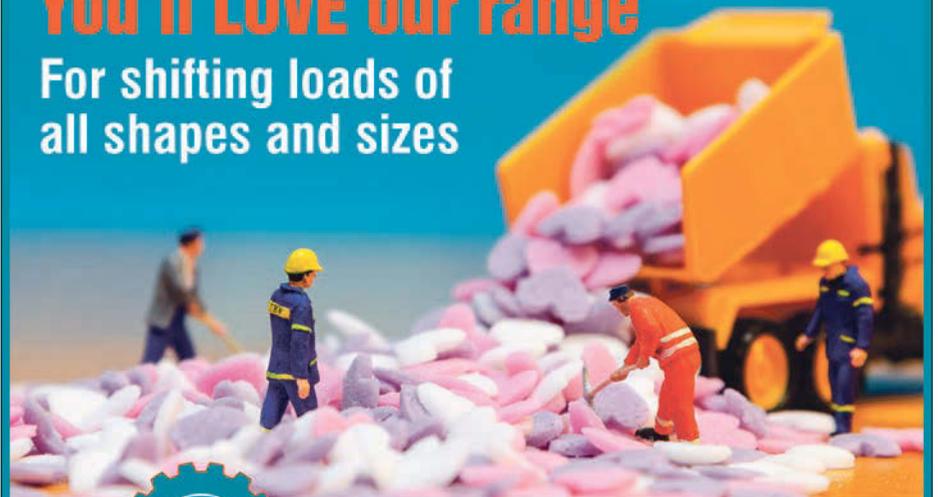
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street lighting budget is likely to mean longer delays in faults being repaired.

Five full-time posts in the environmental warden service are to go. The council's own assessment is that this annual saving of £140,000 could lead to more complaints to the council over environmental issues.

Re-design of services means that two heads of service and a minimum of four third-tier managerial posts will be axed, with a saving of £500,000 per year.

A restructuring of the council's revenue and benefits functions will lead to an eventual reduction in staffing of 5.6 FTE posts, saving £200,000 annually. The procurement team will contribute £250,000 to the savings by re-designing the team roles. No overall job losses are planned, but roles will change. The council has decided 1.3 FTE school music tutor jobs must go from a total of 13.34 FTE across Argyll and Bute. Council papers reveal that fee increases for tuition have resulted in reduced demand over the last three years and no increase in income, leading to the need to cut staff numbers. The saving would be £61,000 a year.

– one full time and another part-time – are employed in the unit, which delivers road safety promotion and training in schools, including cycling

proficiency tests and the Pass Plus driver training scheme. The saving will be £99,000 per year.

A saving of £50,000 in the

## Fees on the rise

Fees and charges will rise by an inflationary three per cent across the board, with some increases greater than this, to generate additional income of £275,000.

Harbour fees have been increased by a total of six per cent. The additional three per cent will be ring-fenced to fund improvement in piers and harbours. This is expected to generate £164,000.

One fee which was not considered for revision is the food export certificate charge. In 2018 this jumped from £17.50 per certificate to £91. There were hopes the council would reconsider, given the pressure this has put on Argyll seafood exporters. Rather than councillors decreasing the fee, the three per cent increase means the new fee will be £93.75 per certificate.

More on this elsewhere in this edition.

## Council tax up

Argyll and Bute Council aims to raise £50.46 million in the coming year through council tax.

At last week's budget meeting, a 4.79 per cent council tax increase, the maximum permissible, was agreed for 2019/20. Councillors and officers expect this to boost tax revenue by around £2.3 million. This means a Band D property will be charged £1,308 from April this year.

Business rates will be determined by Scottish ministers.

## It's not all bad news

Argyll and Bute Council will receive £190.215 million in 2019/20 from the Scottish Government.

Not all of this, however, is available to spend as councillors see fit. Some is ring-fenced to fund Scottish Government commitments which councils are required to deliver.

Adding council tax revenue to government funding means Argyll and Bute Council will have around £240 million to cover the next year.

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) will receive £57 million plus an in-year payment of £1.2 million.

The Live Argyll trust, set up two years ago by the council, which manages the authority's sports and leisure facilities – will be allocated £3.7 million as a management fee.

At the budget meeting, councillors agreed a number of spending measures, including an additional £500,000 for winter roads maintenance; a one-off payment of £80,000 from general funds for the Royal National Mod, bringing the total to

£120,000 – regular funding of £40,000 would, though, be removed from next year; and also from general funds, Kintyre Recycling will receive £23,330.

Funding will also be made available, though at reduced levels, for events and festivals (£90,000 – down from £113,000) and the Supporting Communities Fund (£90,000 – down from £98,000).

There are always savings 'not taken' by councillors from the list of proposed cuts, and this year the services 'saved' from the chop are roads and amenity services workers (six FTE jobs/£120,000), school crossing patrollers (6.9 FTE jobs/£115,000) and customer service points (1.9 FTE jobs/£40,000).

And there is good news for Lochgilphead.

In capital spending, £200,000 will go towards the Lochgilphead Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) project over 2019-24. This is in addition to a funding application made to Historic Environment Scotland for almost £1 million under the CARS scheme.



Left: There is council cash to boost a conservation scheme in Lochgilphead.

06\_a48Lochgilphead06

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# A look back at Armed Forces Day

As detailed on the front page, this year's Armed Forces Day could be the last.

A lack of support, say organisers, means it is becoming less feasible to put on the event, with the need for administration and support pitching and dismantling tents especially important.

The day of remembrance is important to veterans and families all over and outwith Argyll.

The event usually starts with a parade of veterans and cadets, led by a pipe band, then an inspection. Once that is complete, formality is put aside for a day of family-friendly activities, catching up with fellow men, singing

It's always been well supported. It would be pretty sad. It's nice to see something for the town. Hopefully it's not the last one.'

and a drink or two. Respect and remembrance is at the start of the day, but from the inspection, the day feels more like a high school reunion.

'There is no rank at Armed Forces Day' has been the event's mantra and it sums up the more casual, joyful event it has become.

Many people in

Lochgilphead are disappointed the event is at risk of folding.

One Lochgilphead resident said: 'That would be a shame. We've always known Armed Forces Day.

'It would be awful to see it go.

'It's an annual event in Lochgilphead and what other annual events do we have?'

Archie MacGill junior of Fyne Tackle said: 'That's pretty bad. It's always been well supported. It would be pretty sad. It's good for the town and it's nice to see something for the town. Hopefully it's not the last one.'

Hopefully with some help, the parade can continue.



Dunoon Army Cadets Olivia Licas, Mitchell Nairn, Ben Lucas and Tommi McGunnigal made the most of the food after the 2018 parade. 06\_a25AFD01



Corporal Mark Wilkinson shares a tender moment with star of the show Cruachan IV in 2017. 08\_a2armedforces21



Colonel Brian Hume takes the salute in 2017.

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Left: Event organisers Joe Geekie and Geordie Rhodick. 51\_a09AFD06



Right: Led by Sergeant Major Hamilton, the veterans march through Lochgilphead in 2017. 08\_a25AFD08

Right: The unofficial veterans' choir belt out the Argylls' anthem Bonnie Mary O' Argyll, conducted by Andrew Gibson from Paisley, at the 2018 event.

06\_a25AFD08



Father and son Geordie and David Rhodick belt out Bonnie Mary O' Argyll at the 2017 Armed Forces Day. 06\_a24armed-forces10



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# Celebrations as oyster bar wins taste honour

Loch Fyne Oysters is celebrating after winning accreditation in VisitScotland's new quality assurance scheme.

Restaurants awarded Taste Our Best accreditation must offer quality ingredients of Scottish provenance, fresh seasonal produce, local food, low food miles, information on where the food has come from and friendly staff who know about the origins of the food. At least 40 per cent of the menu must feature Scottish produce.

Visitors currently spend around £800 million a year on food and drink in Scotland. Sixty-six per cent of visitors say food is important when choosing a holiday destination and 21 per cent of a typical holiday budget is spent on food. Forty-nine per cent of visitors plan to try local food, according to



Loch Fyne Oyster Bar and Restaurant sous chef James Foster, commis chef Karol Folwarczny and head chef Calum Hall.

figures from VisitScotland. David Adams McGilp, VisitScotland regional director, said: 'Loch Fyne Oyster

Bar and Restaurant has long been considered a pioneer of the Scottish food and drink story and I'm delighted it has

received our Taste Our Best accreditation.

'As well as enjoying the restaurant's beautiful location,

'It is an extremely worthwhile award to work towards as it really boosts business.'

visitors can expect quality, locally-sourced food and drink.

'VisitScotland's Taste Our Best is open to any business with a food and drink offering. With research indicating three out of four visitors to Scotland believe eating local cuisine will enhance their visit, Taste Our Best is a recipe for success. It is an extremely worthwhile award to work towards as it really boosts business.'

## Acapella group to sing at new Kilmartin church

Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Church has invited the Baton Rouge Magnet High School Festival Singers to sing at its new premises on Monday March 4.

The acapella group from Louisiana US is touring Scotland in honour of Robbie Giroir, their choir teacher who was lost in December last year. Around 20 singers have been travelling across Austria, Germany, France, Spain, Budapest, Prague, Ireland and Italy. Along the way they have performed for Pope Benedict in Vatican City and now are making their way to Kilmartin. Organised as a chamber choir in 1988, it has received numerous awards and invitations to perform at many prestigious events including the inaugurations of five Louisiana governors.

The choir has a range of songs including Cry Out and Shout by Knut Nystedt, Bobby McFerrin's 23rd Psalm, Richard Webster's All Things Bright and Beautiful and Peter Lutkin's The Lord Bless You and Keep You.

Session clerk Linda Tighe said: 'We are delighted to host the Baton Rouge Magnet Choir.'

The 20-minute performance will start at Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Church, Barmore View, Kilmartin, at 11am.

## Argyll and Bute community projects could receive Calor funding

Argyll and Bute community projects could receive grants of up to £5,000 from home energy provider Calor.

This year's Calor Rural Community Fund is bigger and better than before, with Calor giving away 21 grants totalling £70,000.

Rural communities off the mains gas grid can submit their projects

for funding. Last year's fund saw two winners from Argyll and Bute, with Lochgilphead's Dochas Centre and Toppers Junior Sailing Club receiving sizeable grants.

Now Calor is encouraging anyone who thinks their project may be eligible to apply for this year's fund.

The projects that receive the most

public votes will be shortlisted and then reviewed by a panel of judges, who will select the final 21 winners.

Partnering with Crowdfunder for 2019, Calor also is pledging £2,000-worth of match funding to approved entries that use the fund-raising platform to raise donations for their community project.

Jason Nuttall, head of funding for Crowdfunder, said: 'The match funding will give so many projects that extra boost towards meeting their goals.'

This year's Calor Rural Community Fund will be open for applications from Tuesday March 5 to Monday April 29. Visit [calor.co.uk/communityfund](http://calor.co.uk/communityfund) for more information.



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# Farms start the year on a high

**Ewen Campbell,**  
SRUC Kirkton and  
Auchtertyre farms manager  
It is good to be able to start  
this year's column with a few  
positive thoughts.

Calving has just got going  
and so far we have eight heifer  
calves and one bull calf. They  
are by the Shorthorn bull and  
we are looking for female  
calves.

The cows are looking well  
on the high quality haylage  
made last summer. When the  
analysis came back, some of  
it was as high as 80 per cent  
dry matter. In comparison,  
the hay we bought in and  
analysed from Stirling was  
82 per cent. Therefore there  
is almost three times the  
feeding in each haylage bale  
that there would be in a wet  
bale of silage.

I should not tempt fate, but  
it looks like this winter will  
be less stressful than the last  
one. We have plenty of forage,  
there has been little snow and  
most of the ewes are in good  
condition.

We just finished pregnancy  
scanning the ewes in our  
Kirkton flock, and I am  
pleased with the results. The  
scanning percentage is 132  
per cent, with seven per cent  
barren. This barren per-  
centage would be high for a  
commercial flock, but because  
of single sire mating groups  
and the high intervention  
our research requires, it is  
acceptable.

We have three lines of  
animals in our research flock.  
The control line of Scottish  
Blackface ewes with average  
genetic index value, scanned



Lambs feeding from the EID feedbin.

at 126 per cent; the selection  
line of Scottish Blackface ewes  
with higher genetic index,  
scanned at 138 per cent; and  
the Lleyne ewes scanned at 132  
per cent.

Farmers have been a bit  
sceptical about the use of  
EBV index values, but there  
is no doubt they work. For  
example, if you used the

above high index rams on a  
1,000 ewe flock, this would  
potentially equate to 120 ex-  
tra lambs. Next week, we are  
scanning our high hill flock  
at Auchtertyre, so it will be  
interesting to see how they do.

The male lambs from last  
year were finished in the sheds  
at Kirkton and Auchtertyre  
for slaughter. One group has

been used at Kirkton to trial  
kit that keeps track of their  
feeding habits and individual  
feed intake. It is composed  
of feeding bins that measure  
how much and how often the  
lamb eats, and is working  
with the EID tag of the animal  
to record this information.

We had a successful work-  
shop on this on February  
13, when 37 delegates from  
research, advisory, industry  
and farming came to Kirkton  
to discuss ways to measure  
feed efficiency in sheep.

Delegates spent the morning  
on the farm with demonstra-  
tion of the kit. The afternoon  
was spent indoors where we  
had interesting discussions  
and brainstorming as to  
how such kit can help the  
Scottish sheep industry. It  
was interesting to hear ideas

from different stakeholders.  
The feedback suggested that  
use within national breeding  
programmes was one of the  
best ways to make use of the  
data collected. The workshop  
allowed us to develop a net-  
work of people interested in  
sheep feed efficiency, to take  
some of these ideas forward.

Finally, visitors to the farm  
recently were final year  
agricultural students from  
Harper Adams University, in  
Shropshire. They spent the  
morning learning about pre-  
cision livestock farming and  
sheep systems and genetics  
research, as well as informa-  
tion about the environment  
and biodiversity in the hills.  
It is always nice to discuss the  
work that we do at Kirkton  
with the potential next gener-  
ation of livestock farmers.

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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN MID ARGYLL



Debi Ronain.

## Clachan put the 'fun' in fundraising for new hall

Clachan Village Hall Development Fund has stepped up efforts to secure funds for a new hall, starting with a rock gig in Tarbert.

Organiser Lesley Norris said: 'As a result of recent further deterioration of the hall, efforts have increased.'

'On February 16, Glasgow rockers The Ronains wowed Tarbert Village Hall supported by Clachan teenagers Famous Last Words. It was a brilliant night of rock and roll and we are grateful to the band for playing the show.'

'Later this month - Sunday March 24 - Scotland's five-star children's theatre group The McDougalls will be in Tarbert with its new safari

show. The McDougalls were terrific last year and tickets are already selling really well for this one. We will round off our spring shows with a visit from Wrestling Experience Scotland on Saturday April 20. VIP tickets are almost sold out for this one. We have sold out the hall every year for the visit of the biggest, baddest and funniest wrestlers in the UK. Many thanks to West Kintyre Windfarm Trust for continued support and to everyone who comes to our shows. It is appreciated.'

Tickets for all the shows are available from Clachan Filling Station, Kintyre Electrical in Tarbert and Icon Hairdressing, Lochgilphead.



The Ronains performed at Tarbert Village Hall.

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# Mum steps out for pipe band

Mum Jenny Wright is doing the Kiltwalk to raise funds for Mid Argyll Pipe Band.

Jenny is registered to do the The Mighty Stride – 23 miles through Glasgow – on Sunday April 28.

Jenny said: 'Mid Argyll Pipe Band has to raise a lot of money each year to function and I wanted to show my support. Our son, Thom Catterwell, plays bagpipes in the band and gets a lot out of being in a competitive team that is part of the local community.'

'By ensuring playing members of the band, many of whom are still at school, do not have to provide their own uniform or pay to play, the pipe band remains an inclusive organisation that will keep traditional music alive and at the heart of Mid Argyll.'

At the moment Jenny is more than half way to her target. If anyone would like to donate visit [glasgowkiltwalk2019.everydayhero.com](http://glasgowkiltwalk2019.everydayhero.com)



Mid Argyll Pipe Band. 06\_a30ardgala32

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 ATOM BRANDS

# Islay adds character to new film about 'uisge-beatha'

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A new film will tell the tale of Scotland's national drink – the legendary water of life.

Scotch: The Golden Dram, a revealing feature documentary on how whisky became the spirit of choice around the globe, is set for UK release on March 8.

The film, by Parkland Entertainment and Munro Films, will have its European premiere at the Glasgow Film Festival on March 1.

Shot on location among the stunning Scottish countryside, Scotch: The Golden Dram tells the story of uisge-beatha, Gaelic for 'water of life', which is enjoyed in more than 200 countries, generating more than \$6 billion in exports each year.

The film charts the Cinderella tale of legendary master distiller Jim McEwan,



a veteran with more than 50 years standing in the industry, who takes on the dilapidated Bruichladdich distillery on his home island of Islay and turns it into an award-winning blend.

Some of the other ardent enthusiasts featured include Richard Paterson, a master blender whose nose was insured for \$2.5 million, as well as biochemist whisky-maker Dr Bill Lumsden,

and master distiller Ian MacMillan.

The film marks director-producer Andrew Peat's feature-length documentary debut, a passion project for the American filmmaker

**World-renowned whisky expert Jim McEwan from Islay features in the film.**

who studied at St Andrew's University.

Andrew said: 'The heart of our film is the characters, the men and women who produce Scotch whisky, from the barley farmers to the bottle makers. And you can literally see the passion and joy and pride they have in their work and this world-renowned product.'

'They share their amazing stories, and some very humorous anecdotes. It's a very educational film (you learn the entire process of whisky making), but at the same time it's a film of the heart.'

'You will laugh and possibly cry by the time the credits roll.'

David Adams McGilp, regional director, said: 'Boasting

an incredible number of distilleries, Islay is a Mecca for whisky-lovers across the world.

'It's great to see the island feature so heavily in the documentary Scotland: The Golden Dram with four distilleries included.'

'As well as its whisky offering, Islay provides stunning scenery, a wide variety of wildlife and a warm Scottish welcome. I hope this film will encourage visitors to travel here to enjoy the water of life, and the island's remarkable tourism offering.'

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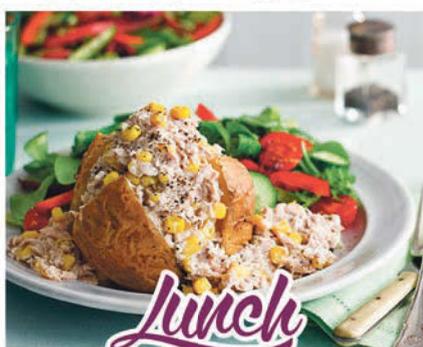
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# Argyll gets its MOJO back as festival makes return

The MOJO music festival is returning to Craignish Village Hall, Ardfern, on Saturday October 19.

There was an amazing turnout last year for a great night of music from six lively acts playing pop, folk, Americana, grunge and rock.

Organiser Dan Griffiths said: 'We are so happy to be hosting the event in Ardfern again. Being in a central position in Argyll fits our purpose to connect musicians from Dunoon, Campbeltown and Oban.'

'Craignish Village Hall has everything we need and has a welcoming audience. Along with help from enthusiastic MOJO volunteers, it cannot be beaten. We feel MOJO is at home there.'

'Last year was brilliant. All of our musicians really enjoyed it, made some money and helped themselves get out there. The night increased their confidence with all of



Citizen 9 at MOJO 2018. 51\_a43MOJO28

the six acts either busy in the studio or currently producing EPs, singles or albums. 'MOJO acts also enjoyed

increased coverage through our Facebook page (@MOJOArgyll). Check out the @

MOJOArgyll Facebook page or keep reading the Argyllshire Advertiser for updates.



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# Patsy Dyer tells foliage folk tales



Kilmartin Museum's head gardener Patsy Dyer cast a spell on an unwitting audience on Thursday February 21 as she told magical folk tales that whisked listeners off to another world.

Angelica, stinging nettles and rue all featured in Patsy's tales of giants and kings, curses and merchants, promises and betrayal all held together with plants found in Kilmartin's garden.

With a raffle, nibbles and interesting foliage to inspect, it was an enthralling telling, sure to ignite a few magical dreams that night.

The evening was held by Kilmartin Museum in Lochgilphead Library to raise money for Kilmartin Redevelopment Project which will create an extension to Kilmartin Museum that will allow Kilmartin to display its many archaeological finds.

Left: Patsy Dyer tells her story of the angelica.

51\_a09PatsyDyer04

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# Get your boat in the water

## Fitting out for 2019

Winter is about to disappear and the time for getting boats ready to launch for the summer season is fast approaching.

Many owners want their craft launched before Easter. It may be that work that needs to be done has already been completed over the winter but, for many, fitting out is always last-minute, so it's time to prioritise jobs and get down to work.

The quality of de-winterisation can affect the life-cycle of a boat massively, so as a first step it's always useful to find out from the yard when they want to launch your boat, so you can work to a deadline.

If you need any work carried out by the boat professionals, get in touch as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, since this is their busiest time of year.

Set your workload list down alongside tools and materials required. Add an array of rags, silicone and grease, petroleum jelly, lubricating and penetrating oils, cleaning products, brushes, wet and dry sandpaper, rollers and tray, degreaser, rolls of tape, engine spares and treatments for your water and fuel tanks.

It's often the best idea to work from the outside in so that if you are pushed for time, any work required inside can be done after the launch.

It is also important to note that each make and model of boat is different, so the procedures for equipment testing will vary. Individual owner's manuals should be consulted in conjunction with the advice below, for in-depth instructions specific to each boat.

### HULL AND TOPSIDES

Removing all the old anti-fouling is a time-consuming task.

This is an important job, especially if it has built up over the years, since it reduces efficiency of a boat's movement in the water.

Wood and gel-coat scrapers are available but care has to be taken, so that the hull does not become damaged. A smooth surface will pay dividends for re-application and help keep fouling at bay for the season.

This is a good time to inspect the keel and keelboats for signs of rusting or pitting and wear at the keel to hull joint that may be more evident after winter lay-up.

If anything looks suspect, ask the experts for the best course of action. Deep pitting on the keel may indicate anode problems and will need taken back to bare metal and an epoxy protective coating applied before anti-fouling.

Check the rudder, skeg fitments as well as the propeller and look for any play in bearings, stock or quadrant. Ensure that the bonding wires from the anode are sound and replace the anode as required. Grease the shaft, steering cables and the log's paddle wheel where fitted.

An extensive range of anti-fouling products is available on the market from powerboat finishes to racing and cruising coatings. Choice will depend on boat type, use and where it is kept. Your local chandler or boatyard will advise on what suits best. Follow instructions for application with a stronger build-up in high impact areas – the leading edge of the keel and skeg and the keel to hull joint.



A long-handled radiator roller can be a good option to give an even finish with a paint brush to reach more inaccessible points. Some antifouling requires only one application; others need a few depending on longevity required. If stored on a cradle or stocks, leave some antifouling for painting the underside of the keel and cradle support points before the boat is launched while in the hoist.

Topsides and deck will require a thorough clean up after lying for a winter. If a polish was applied before layup, this will make the process easier.

Repair any problem area such as chips or crazing in the gelcoat as required. Where gelcoat is older it may need hard work to get the original finish back. Then apply a protective wax and polish well to keep the boat looking pristine throughout the season.

Ask the chandlery for advice on the extensive range of products that are available for all requirements.

### ENGINES, FUEL TANKS AND GAS SYSTEMS

Both inboards and outboards need serviced and this is most often done by a professional whether by your boatyard or an independent engineer.

If undertaking on your own oil, filters and anodes should be renewed and exhaust fitments checked. Impellers and engine belt tension and mounts should also be inspected as well as the underside of the shaft – re-bed if any leaks are apparent. Keep spares of everything you think you may need on the boat during the season. With sail-drives the oil level and gaiter seal need checked as well as the earthing wires from the starter motor. Replace if there is any wear on hose and electrical connections.

Before launching, all batteries need to be up to charge and holding. The typical battery life is between four and five years. The battery should be refilled with dis-

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tilled water and checked for charge. If they have not been on trickle charge over lay-up, recharge now and monitor electrolyte levels if unsealed. Ensure the battery tray is dry and tighten securing straps making sure all gas vents are clear. Clean terminals and coat with petroleum jelly.

Fuel tanks should be full from laying up. If not, drain water off and treat with a diesel biocide. Inspect the gas system regularly and thoroughly. A qualified gas engineer will ensure the system conforms to current gas regulations and any suspect hoses and fittings should be replaced to manufacturer's recommendations.

#### ELECTRONICS

It is essential that the switches, dials and any other electrical equipment on the boat be tested. All electrical systems are interconnected, so ensure that every switch in the cabin and the helm are tested as one faulty one could cause a lot of trouble.

#### BILGES

Inspect bilge pump impellers and gaskets, grease and replace if necessary. With automatic bilge pumps, see float switches work and the strum box is clear. Manual strum boxes should be pumped through to see hose is clear of blockages. Seacocks need serviced. When the battery is running, switch it off and see if the automatic bilge pump float switch is working.

#### DECK GEAR, RIGGING AND ANCHORS

Dirt will have built up over the winter on deck and will most likely need cleaned with an anti-mould treatment. Deck gear needs checking for wear and tear.

Check the stanchion bases for any cracks and any corrosion in lifelines, particularly under plastic sheathing. Replace if in any doubts. Inspect rigging for broken strands and any cracking at terminals and renew if necessary. If rigging has not been kept in good condition, this can invalidate boat insurance in the event of a claim. Your local sail rigging firm expert will carry out a rig inspection for you if you have any doubts.

Check all instrumentation and furling equipment at the masthead in case work is required before the mast is stepped.

Overhaul winches and strip down any that are seized – soak components in degreaser and re-grease. If warps and sheets were removed for winter then this is the time to check over, renew and replace them.

Similarly, look for corrosion on anchors and chain. Clean manual windlasses, check for wear and grease. Remove the gypsy in powered versions, grease the

drum, look at the foot switch for wear, clean and grease electrical connections.

All wood on deck, teak slats etc should be oiled or varnished and paintwork touched up and stainless polished. This is an ideal time for maintenance of spray hoods and other cockpit coverings.

#### INTERIOR

The cabin will need a good clean up if not already attended to over the winter. Most owners have a dehumidifier and heater installed to keep mould at bay so this will help greatly in the fitting out preparation.

Clean all the lockers before replacing everything and remember to display a list of where everything is in the boat. Clean the galley and check burners on gas cookers. Inspect any soft furnishings such as berth cushions, checking for any damp if they have not been taken off for the winter for storage. Reinstall for the season ahead and keep everything well aired to ensure a fresh start come summer.



#### WATER TANKS, GAS TANKS, FUEL LINES AND HEADS

Any water in the water tank should be pumped through and a purifier added before refilling for use. Flush through the heads adding washing up liquid/vinegar to lubricate the hoses and pumps. Check the boat's central heating system if there is one. All communication, navigation and other equipment that was removed for winter storage must be re-installed. Gas tanks and fuel lines are prone to rusting over the winter. Check to see if fuel lines have cracked during the cold temperatures as they often do during the winter, and replace. The cooling system should be filled up with water and antifreeze in equal measure. If the mixture has been lying there all winter, then the cooling system needs to be drained and refilled with a fresh mix. The hoses should be inspected in case of cracks and leakages.

#### SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Lives may depend on the safety of your equipment. Now is the best time to check that everything is in working order, so that there is enough time to store



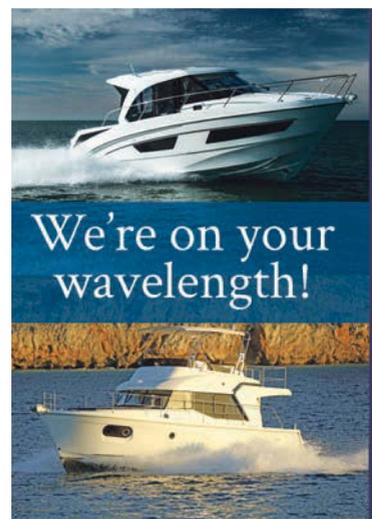
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properly and replace items if there are any issues. However, if this hasn't been done, it's essential now to see all equipment is in good condition since lives may depend on it. Fire extinguishers, life-rafts, life-jackets and rubber dinghies should be inspected with items needing replaced or repaired if in any doubt as to condition. It is also vital that you check to make sure your vessel has the correct amount of flotation devices. Invert MOB lights to see they work and change bulb and batteries if not. Some WD40 on the copper contact strip inside should ensure good connection. Silicone grease rubber seals. The RNLI will carry out a free safety check on your boat equipment and lifeboat stations will check your life-jackets – this is really worthwhile. Make an inventory of where safety equipment is stored and display prominently in boat – items can then be found quickly and easily in an emergency. Horns, flares, whistles and other signalling equipment should all be checked. Finally, all paperwork should be organised because you never know when you might need it.



outdoor canvas should be checked for wear. If new sails are needed, order as soon as possible, since sail lofts are always extremely busy at this time of year.

EXPERT ADVICE

Professional advice is on hand from boatyards, engineers, marine service and repair firms as well as chandlers and sail-makers. Each has their own area of expertise and don't hesitate to contact them for advice and to carry out work as and when it is required. The maintenance of your boat is a full-time commitment. It is important to follow all the advice, and not cut any corners when it comes to getting your boat ready to go back out onto the water after winter. What could save money now could become a costly error in the future. Whatever your plans are for getting out on the water – whether it be cruising, racing, fishing or just pottering about for leisure, we wish you a safe and successful summer season in 2019.

SAILS AND SPRAYHOODS

Sailmakers are on hand for advice and since sails are the powerhouse of the sailing vessel, it's important they are kept in good condition. Get your sails checked over and repair or replace as required, if you haven't done so already. Sprayhoods and other



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NLB is the Lighthouse Authority responsible for Scotland and the Isle of Man providing Aids to Navigation around the coast and overseeing Aids to Navigation provided by Ports and Harbours for the benefit of safety for all mariners. It has operated its base at Oban on the west Coast of Scotland since 1904. The base has excellent facilities for ship, buoy and engineering project; support and mobilisation.

Gallanach Road, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4LS  
TEL: 01631 562146 FAX: 01631 565871  
Email: enquiries@nlb.org.uk

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We have various opportunities available throughout our Scotland, Orkney and Shetland Regions and we are looking for ambitious individuals with all levels of experience to join our Marine Farms.

In return we will offer competitive remuneration package, weekend payments, specialist payments, crop bonus, discretionary company bonus, pension scheme, life cover, occupational health support, training increments, subsidised gym membership and cycle to work scheme.

A current driving licence is essential. We are an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons; however you must be able to provide documentation of your right to work in the UK.

**To apply, please visit the careers page on our website: [www.scottishseafarms.com/our-people/careers](http://www.scottishseafarms.com/our-people/careers).**

**Closing date for applications is: Friday 15th March 2019.**






The Machrihanish Golf Club  
Requires a

**CLEANER**

Please forward your CV  
or if you require any further information to:

**The Secretary  
Machrihanish Golf Club  
Machrihanish, Argyll, PA28 6PT  
[secretary@machgolf.com](mailto:secretary@machgolf.com)**

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The Scottish Association for Marine Science is a vibrant, diverse community producing world class academic research, successful students and commercial work that supports Scotland's developing Blue Economy. We have vacancies for creative, dynamic professionals who will be part of our friendly and committed Communication team, delivering PR, education and marketing activities in support of marine science.

Contributing to both corporate communications and specific projects, you will be a professional in one of the following disciplines:

**Marketing Manager:** With a remit to recruit students and deliver b2b marketing for our consultancy and facilities, you are driven to maximise our customer reach and reputation. You are a people person, team player, and have market research experience.

**Graphic Designer / Visual Communicator:** You will be in charge of our brand and develop our digital and print publications. Experience in the creation of infographics or animations explaining complex information would be advantageous.

**Web Developer:** You will be in charge of our three corporate websites and a host of project websites. You will create and style new sites and maintain existing ones. Experience of Terminal Four and WordPress highly desirable. You will focus on the user experience.

The graphic design and web development posts will contribute to the European Union's INTERREG VA Programme supported MarPAMM project ([www.mpa-management.eu](http://www.mpa-management.eu)).

We offer an excellent working environment in one of the most dramatic and scenic areas of the UK with great quality-of-life opportunities.

Please state in your application whether you would like to work full or part time and in which skills area.

Further information is available online at [www.sams.ac.uk](http://www.sams.ac.uk). Alternatively, please write to: Human Resources, The Scottish Association for Marine Science, Scottish Marine Institute, Oban, Argyll PA37 1QA or e-mail [recruitment@sams.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@sams.ac.uk)

**The closing date for receipt of applications is 14th March 2019.**  
**Interviews will be held during the last week in March.**




SAMS is a registered Scottish charity (SC 009206), has an equal opportunities policy and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



**Accountancy & Book-Keeping vacancies**

We are delighted to be expanding our Fort William office and currently have the following vacancies.

**ACCOUNTANT (Full or Part Qualified)**  
Preferred requirements:  
Limited Company accounts, company returns, sole trader, VAT, knowledge of SAGE and EXCEL

**BOOK-KEEPER/ACCOUNTANTS ASSISTANT**  
Preferred requirements:  
Previous administrative/bookkeeping experience, dealing with financial paperwork and filing, completing VAT returns, general administrative duties.

We are looking to employ staff who work well as part of a team but also show initiative to work independently and to self-motivate.

**Although the above requirements are preferable please do get in touch if you are a capable person willing to learn and adapt to a new role.**

**What we can offer you:**

- a competitive salary dependant on experience
- flexible and relaxed working environment
- Opportunity for career development

If you feel you have the right attributes and experience to apply for either of the above roles please apply by submitting your CV along with a covering letter to [jamie@ainsleysmith.co.uk](mailto:jamie@ainsleysmith.co.uk)



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Please apply by email with full CV, contact details & present salary to:  
fiona@wyvexmedia.co.uk

**WYVEX MEDIA**

## Driver Wanted for 4x4 + trailer deliveries and yard work

Full time, must have or be willing to get category B & E trailer licence, please apply by email to [sales@hodgefencing.co.uk](mailto:sales@hodgefencing.co.uk)



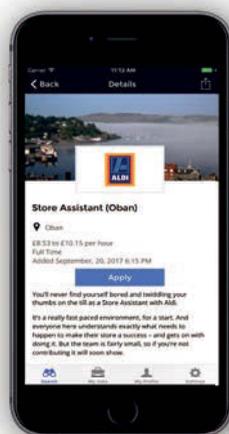
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**37.5 hours per week** **Mon – Fri 08:30- 16:30**

Fixed term from 1st April 2019 to 30th September 2019  
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Argyll Homes For All have vacancies for three seasonal positions, one each based in Dunoon, Oban and Helensburgh. This post requires;

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

To apply visit the recruitment section of our website at [www.acha.co.uk](http://www.acha.co.uk). If you cannot access the website, please contact the recruitment team: **01546 605817** or email [recruitment@acha.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@acha.co.uk).

For more information, please contact Alistair Cakebread on **01546 605909** or by email - [alistair.cakebread@acha.co.uk](mailto:alistair.cakebread@acha.co.uk)

**Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Friday 8th March 2019**  
**Interviews will be held in Inveraray on Monday 18th March 2019.**

## OBAN FILLING STATION

have 2 available positions  
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## CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In

the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs,

damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Published by Wyvex Media Limited, PO. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000

[www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk) and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. <http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk>



Due to continued success in securing several long term contracts we require the following full time personnel to join our Facilities management and Contracting departments.

### FM - Help Desk Co-ordinator

Full training will be given for this role – Good admin skills are required with the ability to manage our bespoke Help desk system, familiarity with Microsoft office applications and attention to detail is key to the success of this position. Salary negotiable.

### FM - Multi skilled Operative

Operatives with a strong trade background are required – Roofer's – joiner's- plasterer's etc, to work along side our existing team on long term housing/commercial FM contracts, both reactive and planned maintenance tasks.

The ability to work to a planned schedule and use initiative to complete tasks as required,. Training will be given to the right candidates to continue their development within the role.

Competitive hourly rate

### FM - Trainee Building Services Engineer

Great opportunity to join our existing team to work on long term FM contracts throughout Argyll. Full on site training will be given and the opportu-

nity to join our Modern Apprenticeship Program at Forth Valley college

A wide variety of skills will be gained including electrical, mechanical, plumbing & air-conditioning. Hourly rate increasing through apprenticeship.

### FM - Maintenance Electricians

Operatives with a strong electrical background are required to work along side our existing team on long term housing/commercial FM contracts, both reactive and planned maintenance tasks.

The ability to work to a planned schedule and use initiative to complete tasks as required. Training will be given to the right candidates to continue their development within the role.

Competitive hourly rate

### Contracting – Approved Electricians/Electricians

Electricians & Approved Electricians are required for a variety of projects, commercial/industrial experience preferred.

We require experienced operatives due to a full order book for 2019

Full SJIB rates paid.

All applications including CV's and covering letter to be e-mailed for the attention of;  
**Angus MacPherson, Managing Director, OES Ltd**  
[amacpherson@fes-group.co.uk](mailto:amacpherson@fes-group.co.uk)



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Scottish Rural Awards

[www.scottishruralawards.org](http://www.scottishruralawards.org)

## Apprentice Depot Operator

(Based: Campbeltown)



The Oil & Pipelines Agency

**The organisation:** The Oil and Pipelines Agency is a Public Corporation formed by the Oil and Pipelines Act 1985. Our current primary purpose is to manage, operate and maintain 6 Naval Oil Fuel Depots and 1 Petroleum Storage Depot for the Secretary of State for Defence. The sites are spread across the UK, with 4 in Scotland, 2 on the south coast of England and the Petroleum Storage Depot is located in Cheshire. We have around 120 employees.

**The role:** A new and exciting opportunity has arisen for an apprentice Depot Operator to join our team at our Campbeltown Oil Fuel Depot, Kilkerran Road, Campbeltown, Argyll & Bute, Scotland. The successful candidate will be enrolled on a brand new two year Bulk Liquid Terminal Apprenticeship programme.

The Bulk Liquid Terminal Apprenticeship Program has been designed to develop your expertise across a breadth of operational and technical areas of the business. Your plant based training program is supported by a nationally recognised apprentice standard (Level 3 Diploma Qualification for a Bulk Storage Operator Technician). We support the apprentice standard with all the relevant technical certificates to enable the apprentices to develop their skills in all aspects of Terminal Operations. You will not only gain valuable skills and knowledge around Terminal Operations but you will also learn all aspects about working within a COMAH Bulk Liquid Operational Site. In the area of Process Safety you will gain valuable insights into all aspects Process Safety study techniques, COMAH requirements, Human Factors and Functional Safety. We provide a positive environment together with a strong safety and team working culture. The programme is delivered in conjunction with Reynolds Training Services and HETA (Humberside Engineering Training Association).

The first year (approximately 30 weeks) will be based at the Depot and HCF Catch Training Facility in Immingham. The first year will be structured around a term time framework with the successful candidate required to attend HCF Catch Training Facility over a number of weeks.

The second year is primarily based at the OFD Campbeltown under a mentorship programme with the successful candidate spending allocated weeks during each month back at the Catch Training Facility in Immingham.

Our Bulk Liquid Terminal Apprenticeship Program will ensure a well-rounded exposure to all of these areas of Depot Operations and we will provide you with the opportunity to make a genuine impact in a company with a pioneering spirit.

### Responsibilities:

Here are some of the tasks that the successful candidate will be doing:

- Routine operation of fuel storage plant and equipment, including cleaning, painting and lubricating.
- Routine operation of pumping systems.
- System configuration
- Operation Oil Water separators.
- Operate as part of the team for the receipt/ issue of Petroleum Products to authorised customers.
- Rigging and assist with testing of fuelling hoses.
- Slings operations.
- Manual tank dipping
- Product sampling
- Fuel measurement before, during and after issues, receipts and returns;
- Operation of a range of machinery and pumps used in the storage and fuelling operations
- Part of a team carrying out grounds maintenance tasks

**The candidate:** We are looking for Candidates who are hardworking, reliable, trustworthy and keen to learn and develop themselves within the Bulk Liquid Storage Industry.

You need to be able to demonstrate good communication and problem solving skills and are able to work as part of a team.

You must have minimum qualifications of National 4/Intermediate1/Credit Standard Grade in Maths English and a Science.

**Remuneration:** The starting salary is £11,000 (dependant on age) per year (rising to £18,975 in the final year of the apprenticeship, dependant on age). The hours are 8.00am until 4.30pm. Monday to Thursday and 8.00am to 1.00pm on Friday (37 hours per week). Once you are fully trained, qualified and have gained sufficient experience, your salary will increase through the organisations pay grades and spines structure.

**Progression:** Whilst this vacancy is for an Apprentice Depot Operator at our Campbeltown Depot, we offer opportunities for individuals to develop their careers across other aspects of the OPA business (Operation Managers, Depot Manager, Fuel Supervisors, Mechanical Technician, Process Safety Engineer etc).

**How to apply:** Please send your CV & covering letter to [humanresources@oilandpipelines.com](mailto:humanresources@oilandpipelines.com), or apply directly on our Job Page at <https://www.cloudonlinerecruitment.co.uk/oilandpipelines/>

**Interviews to be held: May/June 2019.**

**Possible start date: July 2019**

## Ardrihaig Boat Club

### A.G.M.

Wednesday  
13th March  
7.30pm  
Ardrihaig  
Public Hall

## Argyll Bowling Club ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12th  
March 2019  
at 7.30pm  
in the Clubhouse  
Subscriptions due  
by 1st April

## MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT LOCHGILPHEAD & DISTRICT COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 11th March  
2019 at 7.00pm  
Mid Argyll Hospital  
Lochgilphead  
New Members  
Welcome  
Charity No: SCO39907

## RNLI Mid Argyll Branch AGM

Thursday 21st  
March 2019  
2pm  
Rm 4 Community  
Centre  
Lochgilphead  
All Welcome  
Charity No SCO37736

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Argyll and Bute Council

#### PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 -13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD. They can also be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and at your Local Customer Service Point (check opening times).

#### 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
19/00259/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank	Land West Of Glenreadell Farm Whitehouse Tarbert Argyll And Bute PA29 6XR
18/02551/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse	Land North East Of Laurall Bank Barmore Road Tarbert Argyll And Bute
19/00141/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 15 metre high lattice tower and associated works	Land North East Of Duntrune Castle Kilmartin Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8QQ

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 Councils website.

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



### Argyll and Bute Council

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES: EDUCATION

#### IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDED EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE PROVISION?

Early Learning and Childcare from August 2019 will be available for:-

- Four year old children whose birth date falls between 1st March 2015 and 28th February 2016
- Three year old children whose birth date falls between 1st March 2016 and 28th February 2017

A list of current Early Learning and Childcare Funded Providers, including those offering Gaelic Medium, is available from:

- All Early Learning & Childcare Providers
- All Primary Schools
- <https://www.families.scot/LocalChis.aspx?chisid=26>
- <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years>
- Early Years Helpline noted below

Information leaflets will be available from Early Learning & Childcare Funded Providers at the time of registration and parents can obtain further guidance from the Early Years Helpline, Argyll and Bute Council, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon PA23 8AJ (Telephone 01369 708503).

Parents of eligible children should register at their preferred provider, taking along their child's birth certificate, during week commencing Monday 4th March 2019, during the normal operational hours of the setting.



## East Kintyre Community Council Windfarm Trust

Applications are invited for funding from this year's first disbursement from the above trust.

Grants for capital or revenue funding may be available to charities, community groups and village halls within the East Kintyre Community Council area bordered by Grogport to the North and Peninver to the South.

Advice, criteria and application forms are available on the Windfarm Trust pages of the East Kintyre Community Council website - [eastkintyrecc.org](http://eastkintyrecc.org) or alternatively from the Secretary/Treasurer: Alasdair Bennett

Tel: 01583 431112

E-mail: [ekccwft@hotmail.com](mailto:ekccwft@hotmail.com)

Closing date for applications: Thursday 18 April 2019

## WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WIND FARM TRUST

Applications are invited for grants from this year's first round of funding from the above trust.

Grants may be available for capital or revenue funding to support projects, groups, halls, charities and churches within the West Kintyre Community Council area, ranging from Whitehouse in the north to Kilkenzie in the south.

Advice, details and application forms are available from the convener via email: [margaretpratt@btinternet.com](mailto:margaretpratt@btinternet.com)

Closing date for receipt of applications is Saturday 30th March 2019.

Disbursement meeting:

Monday 15th April 2019, 7.30pm at Tayinloan Hall.

# Auto Services Perth

Approved  
Mercedes-Benz  
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Dunfermline KY11 7EG  
☎ 01383 668 195 🌐 [www.westendskoda.com](http://www.westendskoda.com)

## West End Garage Edinburgh

📍 4 Cultins Road, Sighthill, Edinburgh EH11 4DG  
☎ 0131 297 0739 🌐 [www.westendskoda.com](http://www.westendskoda.com)

## West End Garage Stirling

📍 Forthside Way, Stirling FK8 1QZ  
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Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures with other vehicles tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures (known as WLTP). The CO<sub>2</sub> figures shown however, are based on a calculation designed to be equivalent to the outgoing (NEDC) test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration. For more information, please see [www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info](http://www.skoda.co.uk/owners/wltp-info) or consult your retailer. Data correct at December 2018. Figures quoted are for a range of configurations (including non-UK) and are subject to change due to ongoing approvals/changes. Please contact your retailer for further information. For fuel consumption data based on the outgoing test cycle (NEDC equivalent data), which is the 'official' UK fuel consumption data until 31 December 2018, please consult your retailer.

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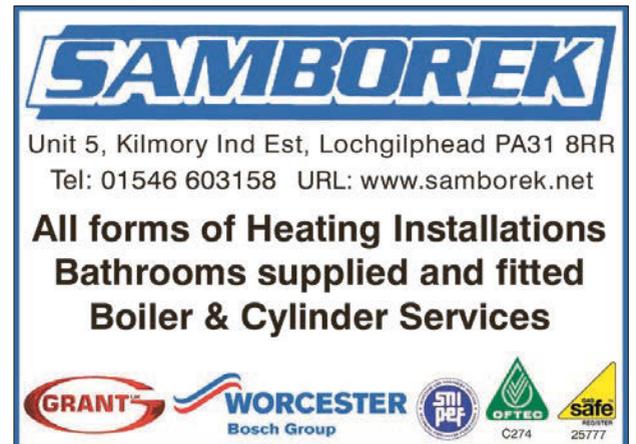
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COLONSAY

Colonsay Book Festival

Colonsay Book Festival has announced its 2019 line-up.

The award-winning writers and authors appearing at the 'wee gem of a festival on a jewel of an island' on Friday April 27 and Saturday April 28 are Ann Cleeves, Robin Crawford, Jen Hadfield, Clare Hunter, Sarah Maine and James and Tom Morton.

One of the top attractions is Ann Cleeves, the award-winning author of more than 30 works of crime fiction. She was the inaugural winner of the Duncan Lawrie Dagger Award in 2006 for Raven Black, the first of her Shetland series featuring DI Jimmy Perez.

Tickets for the 2019 Colonsay Book Festival are on sale from colonsaybookfestival.org.uk



Left: Eve Maxwell leading the dancing.

Above: The students bring energy to Romeo and Juliet's tale.

COWAL

Benmore Garden re-opens

Benmore Botanic Garden, between Strachur and Dunoon, re-opened to the public today (Friday March 1).

With various different events throughout the season, this year promises to be just as successful as 2018. Curator Peter Baxter said: 'The garden team has been busy over the winter preparing for the 2019 season.'

Already home to a large quantity of Chilean Araucaria araucana (monkey puzzle) trees, Benmore is gearing up for more to arrive. As part of the International Conifer Conservation Project, Benmore will be home to a further 150 monkey puzzle trees grown in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh nursery.

A new attraction at the garden this year is a lichen exhibition and trail which aims to open up the mysterious world of this organism that can be used to monitor air pollution levels. The exhibition will run from today (Friday March 1) until Sunday June 23.

Motorised explorer tours every Wednesday and Thursday at 2pm and walking tours every Sunday and Tuesday, also at 2pm, allow visitors to gain a greater understanding of the garden.

This year's annual open day will be on Sunday May 19. Free entry.

Pupils stage Romeo and Juliet with extra dazzle

Lochgilphead Joint Campus students are putting on a show of Shakespeare's most famous star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet, with extra dazzle.

Led by ex-pupil and talented singer Eve Maxwell, the show will feature colourful costumes, fun songs and energetic dance numbers.

In the follow-up to the well-received O.U.T. Spells Out, third year pupils have been rehearsing since October and were found

LOCHGILPHEAD

dancing and singing in costume at the campus on Saturday February 23.

The Lochgilphead Joint Campus Facebook page said: 'It was brilliant to see so many of the cast in their new hoodies. They were also hugely privileged to work on the choreography for the production with super-talented ex-pupil Eve Maxwell. Many thanks to her.'

Guitarist Ivan Drever in concert

Premier guitarist and singer-songwriter Ivan Drever will be returning to Kilmelford on March 1.

A key member of the folk rock band Wolfstone, Ivan Drever boasts a career spanning more than 30 years and a new CD, Tradition, full of Scottish tunes to be enjoyed.

KILMELFORD

Ivan Drever will be at the intimate drawing room of Melfort House at 8pm.

Tickets are £15 and available from contact@melforthouse.com

Thought for the Week with Marilyn Shedden

The children spent ages preparing the questions; their teachers supported and encouraged them; the mums spent ages baking; the dads worked faster to make sure they got there in time.

Finally Friday night came. I was worried there would not be many folk there for various reasons - a quiz the previous night, Kintyre Drama Festival, panto rehearsals and many other things which could have precluded people from turning up. However, I could not keep smiling as folk piled into Tayinloan Village Hall to support these youngsters.

We had to put out more tables and chairs and the place was buzzing.

Finally we all settled for the questions. The children had us stumped on many occasions and were firm on what, and what was not, allowed as an answer.

The questions were many and varied - from Minecraft, on which I scored zero points, to dogs, football, the Second World War, paintings, famous ships, television, bicycles, crabbing, capital cities, general knowledge and books.

It was a wonderful evening with the whole community coming together.

There was more to it than just a fun night, however, as the children hope to have somewhere to play in their village and are raising funds to develop the playing field. Many people have been generous and supportive and this is greatly appreciated. Their vision is to have a play area which would be safe and provide fun things to do. It would also be a place where folk could gather to find company and build friendships.

We had a wee taster on Friday night and I hope there will be many blessings on this exciting venture.

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**TEXT FOR THE WEEK**

'Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge'.  
(Proverbs 23:12).

**ENGAGEMENTS**



**TAYLOR - MCPHEE**

Both families are very happy to announce the engagement, on February 21, 2019, while on holiday in Mexico, of Suzie, daughter of Logan and Frances Taylor, Glasgow, and Alasdair, son of Alasdair and Fiona McPhee, Lornale, Campbeltown.

**GOLDEN WEDDINGS**

**MCMILLAN-BROWN** - At Lorne Street Church, Campbeltown, on February 28, 1969, by the late Rev J Hood, Iain to Margaret. Present address, Belmara, Limecraigs Road, Campbeltown.

**DEATHS**

**COOK** - Peacefully, on February 23, 2019, at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, with his family by his side, John McPhee Cook, aged 76 years, of 3 Allt Na Ceardaich, Furnace, beloved husband of the late Christina, loving father of Marion, John, Nancy, Gilbert and Gail, much loved grandfather and great grandfather to many and a dear brother and uncle to all the family. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held at Cumlodden Parish Church, Furnace, on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 11.00am, thereafter to Kilevin Cemetery, Crarae. Flowers welcome. Donations to the Glenaray Ward (Dunadd Room). All friends are respectfully invited to attend.

**CRAWFORD** - On February 21, 2019, at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, John Crawford, in his 80th year, beloved husband of the late Donella Crawford, brother of James and the late Peter and brother-in-law of Wilma. At John's request a private interment has taken place.

**MCWHIRTER** - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on February 24, 2019, Francis McWhirter, in his

92nd year, 22 Longrow South, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Madge McKenzie and a much loved and loving uncle. Funeral service in the St Kieran's RC Church, on Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 1.00pm, thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Parish Needs Fund, St Kieran's Church.

**TEESDALE** - Peacefully, at Campbeltown Hospital, on February 26, 2019, Ian Dudley Teesdale, in his 88th year, Ardbeg, High Askomil, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Jean Teesdale, much loved father of John, Elizabeth and Diana and a loving grandpa of Finn, Sally, Kini, Aimilia and Hugh. Funeral service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, on Monday, March 4, 2019, at 1.00pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. A private cremation will take place at a later date. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital.

**WATSON** - Peacefully at home, 11 Glebe Street, Campbeltown, on February 21, 2019, Amy Orr McMillan, in her 95th year, dearly beloved wife of the late John Watson, much loved mother of the late Karen and a loving sister of Daniel and Charlie. Funeral service in the Highland Parish Church, on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 1.00pm, thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of MS Society, Scotland.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**WAGGETT** - Dot and family would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the cards, flowers and messages of sympathy on the sudden and sad loss of Mike. Also to everyone who attended the service and graveyard. Your support was very much appreciated. Special thanks to Flora for her help and support, making things easier for Dot during this time. We wish to thank the Rev William Crossan for the lovely and personal service on Mike's life, David McEwan for music, before, during and after the service, Kenneth and Rhys Blair

for their professional care and compassion shown to us at this sad time, and the Ardshiel Hotel for excellent catering after our return from the graveyard. Special thanks are given to the police and ambulance men for the compassion and care shown to us on our sudden loss. The retiral collection was donated to the Salvation Army, as per Mike's wishes.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**BROWN** - Janet Nicolson MacLean, passed away February 28, 2011. The roses are for our beautiful mum in Heaven. Missing you always, Forgetting you never. - Brown family, home and away. In loving memory of our granny. Always on our minds, Forever in our hearts. Love and miss you. - The grandchildren. **BROWN** - In loving memory of Janet Nicolson MacLean, died February 28, 2011. Remembering you is easy I do it every day It's the heartache of losing you That never goes away. - Love from Peter Marshall. **MACDONALD** - In loving memory of Christopher Beaton MacDonald (Chris), slept away on March 4, 2013, a devoted and loving husband, dad and papa. Loved and remembered always. - Eva, Christine and Christopher.

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alex (Snr), loving partner of Nan, much loved father and papa, who died February 24, 2015. Always remembered. Sadly missed. - Love from all the family.

**MACTAVISH** - In loving memory of our father, Douglas, who died February 27, 2001. Always in our thoughts. - Malcolm and Ross.

**MCGEACHY** - In loving memory of my dear wife, Jasmine, who passed away on March 2, 2013. The years roll on but the good memories will always remain.

- Love, John and family xx.

**O'MAY** - In loving memory of our dear brother, Malcolm, who died March 1, 2018. Time slips by and life goes on.

But in our hearts you're never gone. We think about you always, we talk about you too, We have so many memories, but we wish we still had you. - From all the family, home and away.

**SCALLY** - In loving memory of Mary T Scally, beloved mother of John and David Paterson, taken on March 3, 2016. Always missed and remembered with a smile.

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**SCOTTISH FIELD'S MARCH ISSUE OUT NOW**

Rugby legend Gregor Townsend...  
Fishing on the Tay... Borders under the spotlight...  
Horse hero Ian Stark...  
Stan Laurel's Caledonian roots...  
Pheasant recipes... Stuart MacRae...

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES**  
(The Church of Scotland)  
*"It is good to sing praises to our God"*  
Friday 1st March  
World Day of Prayer Service  
Ardriashaig Church Hall at 2.30pm  
Sunday 3rd March Services in Ardriashaig at 11.00am and Achahoish at 12.30pm (including the Lord's Supper) All Welcome  
For all church enquiries and pastoral care contact DCarruthers@churchofscotland.org.uk

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE**  
Sunday 3rd March 2019  
Cumlodden and Lochgair Charity No. SC016097  
Lochgair Church - 10.00am  
Rev. Dr Roderick Campbell will lead A Sacrament of Communion  
Glenaray and Inveraray Charity No. SC016665  
Inveraray Church - 11.30am  
The Sacrament of Communion will be led by Rev. Dr Roderick Campbell  
ALL WELCOME

**SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
75 Longrow, Campbeltown  
Friday 1st March  
SKY Youth Group 7.30pm  
Sunday 3rd March  
Family Communion Service 11.00am  
Pastor Steve Davies  
All welcome  
Wednesday 6th March  
Bible study 7.30pm at the manse  
Enquiries 01586 551200  
www.springbankchurch.co.uk  
SC014646

*Highland Parish Church*  
Friday 1st March 2019  
World Day of Prayer will be held this year in the Episcopal Church at 7.00pm  
Saturday 2nd March 2019  
Coffee Morning in Kirk Street Hall from 10am - 12 noon  
Do come along  
Sunday 3rd March 2019  
The service will be conducted by Mr Kelvin Moller and will be held in Kirk Street Hall at 11.15am  
All welcome.

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCHES**  
Christ Church Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)  
Sundays 11.00am  
Eucharist & Coffee  
St Columba's, Poltalloch (SC031391)  
1st Sunday of the month 9.00am Holy Communion  
3rd Sunday of the month 3.30pm Evensong  
All Welcome  
Father Simon Mackenzie  
01546 602315

**ST MARGARET'S R.C. CHURCH LOCHGILPHEAD**  
Holy Mass Sunday 10am  
All Saints, Inveraray Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm  
Fr. David Connor  
01546 602380  
All Welcome (SCO002876)

**LORNE AND LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH**  
Scottish Charity Number SC011686  
Sunday 3rd March  
Morning Worship 11.15am  
Creche, Triple C, Gen 1 Rev W Crossan  
Monday 4th March  
Messy Church 3.45 - 5.30pm  
Church Hall  
Tuesday 5th March  
Tiny Tots 9.45am  
New Hall  
Anchor Boys 6.00pm  
Junior Section 7.15pm  
Church Hall  
Wednesday 6th March  
Kirk Session Meeting 7.30pm Session Room  
Thursday 7th March  
Choir Practice  
Friday 8th March  
Lunch Club 12.00 noon

**Argyll Street, Campbeltown**  
St Kieran Episcopal Church: Campbeltown  
Scottish Charity No SC023277  
Sunday 3rd March  
Sunday before Lent  
Morning Prayer & Theological Reflection 10.45am  
Enquiries Tel: 01586 551141  
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

**free church of scotland**  
George Street, Campbeltown  
Saturday 2nd March  
9.00am Prayer Breakfast  
Sunday 3rd March  
11.15am Worship Service  
Rev Rodger Crooks  
11.15am Sunday School  
Wednesday 6th March  
12 noon Bible Study & Prayer  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Water of Life Cafe  
All Welcome  
All Rodger Crooks' sermons can be found through our website: www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk  
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GLASSARY KILMARTIN and FORD PARISH CHURCH**  
Kilmartin  
Sunday 3rd March 2019 11.30am  
Service will be taken by Rev Liz Gibson  
Monday 4th March 2019 - 11.00am  
Baton Rouge Singers  
All welcome  
(SC0 02121)

**THE SALVATION ARMY**  
Campbeltown Corps  
Church and Community Centre  
Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC093999  
Burnside Street, Campbeltown  
01586 552046  
Sunday Services  
10.30am Morning Worship (Army Kidz)  
6.30pm Evening Worship  
Wednesday  
12.15pm Lunch Club  
1.30pm C.A.M.E.O.  
7.00pm Make 'n' Munch Craft Group  
Major Ruth Russell  
All welcome

**CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Sunday 3rd March  
11.00am Family Service  
Speaker - Ken Watson with Sunday School and refreshments after the service  
The Ark  
Baby & Toddler Group  
Every Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am (Term time only)  
South Kintyre Youth  
Every Friday at 7.30 pm  
Visit our Facebook page for upcoming events  
We meet at the Kinloch Hall, Kinloch Road  
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk  
SC043322

**SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY**  
Church of Scotland  
Friday 1st March 2019  
World Day of Prayer - 2.30pm  
Tarbert Church hall  
Sunday 3rd March 2019  
Skipness service 10am  
Dr John L Morrison OBE  
Tarbert service 11.30am  
Mrs Margaret Sinclair  
Monday 4th March 2019  
Tarbert Guild - 2.30pm  
Tarbert Church hall  
Everyone very welcome  
Tarbert & Kilberry SC002622  
Skipness SC004280  
For all church enquiries and pastoral care: Contact DCarruthers@churchofscotland.org.uk

**NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH**  
Charity Number SC001002  
Sunday 3rd March  
10am Morning Worship  
Bellanoch Church  
Saturday 2nd March  
Achnamara Hall  
Cafe Connect  
10.30am - 12.30pm  
All welcome  
www.northknappdale.org

**ST. KIERAN R.C. ST JOHN ST, CAMPBELTOWN**  
01586 552160  
Rev Tony Wood  
Vigil Mass  
Saturday 6pm  
(except 1st Saturday of the month)  
Sundays, Holy Mass  
10.00am  
All welcome  
(SCO02876)

ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS  
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Ross Spiers, John 'Joe' Campbell, Fulton Ronald and Robert Scott.

# Indoor bowlers battle it out for cup glory

The annual Strathlachlan Cup Open Pairs indoor bowling competition took place on Saturday February 23 at Strachur Memorial Hall.

There was a good turnout of 19 pairs with members from Cairnbaan, Colintrave, Connel, Innellan, Inveraray, Kilmun as well as the host club Strathlachlan.

There were some close games in the qualifying rounds and the lucky four pairs to reach the semi-finals were Tom Paton and Moira Robertson, Strathlachlan; Myra Campbell and Duncan Lauder, Innellan; Fulton Ronald, Connel, and Robert Scott, Cairnbaan, and John 'Joe' Campbell and Ross Speirs

Senior, Strathlachlan. The finalists were Strathlachlan's John 'Joe' Campbell and Ross Speirs v Fulton Ronald and Robert Scott, with the visiting team going into the last end one shot up.

After a nail-biting final end, Fulton and Robert held on to their lead to take the trophy.

Strathlachlan Carpet Bowling Club thanked everyone who came to support the event, Kilmun Bowling Club for the use of additional equipment and the ladies in the kitchen for keeping everyone topped up with refreshments throughout the night. It is hoped to see everyone next year.

# Inveraray see off Oban Celtic

## Oban Celtic 2 Inveraray 4

Oban Celtic took on premiership opposition, going down 4-2 against Inveraray's first team at Ganavan.

Young Ruaraidh Graham gave Inveraray the lead with a shot from distance which took an awkward bounce on the way in. But Oban Celtic equalised when Ally McKerracher took on a defender and slipped the ball past the keeper.

McKerracher's goal came against the run of play as Inveraray pinned their opponents back for a 20-minute spell at the end of the half, with Lewis MacNicol scoring twice to give them a 3-1 interval lead.

MacNicol's second strike was the goal of the match as he turned a defender before smashing the ball into the top corner of the net.

Lewis MacNicol completed his hat-trick before Ally McKerracher got another, this time taking a pass from Andy MacDonald before slotting the ball home.

Referee Des McNulty awarded Oban Celtic a penalty on 75 minutes when Inveraray keeper Scott MacLachlan upended Ross MacMillan as he ran in on goal.

However, the keeper made amends, making a good save to keep out Ross MacMillan's spot-hit.

The Oban side dominated the final 15 minutes and had three set-piece opportunities but couldn't find the net.

Oban Celtic assistant manager Les Kinvig said: 'It was a really good game and it was a chance for our young boys to see what they need to do to step up to the next level.'

## SHINTY

### Kilmory 1 Taynuilt 2

Taynuilt won 2-1 at Kilmory. Scott Dempster scored both Taynuilt goals, with James MacArthur replying for Kilmory.

Both teams gave their younger players game time.

### Strachur drop out of league and cup

Strachur have informed the Camanachd Association that they have no alternative but to withdraw from league and cup competitions this season.

Chairman Colin Cameron said in a club statement: 'Following a meeting on Tuesday February 19, the club took the extremely difficult decision to withdraw from league and cup competitions because we could not guarantee enough players every week to field a team.'

'Work will begin shortly, in partnership with the Camanachd Association, to develop structures for the club's future.'

Strachur returned to league action in 2017 after a 12-month break. They came second in South Division 2 in 2017 and topped the league at the end of last season.

Strachur had already indicated they were not in a position to accept promotion to South 1 and had been included in the draft 2019 fixture list.

Their absence means the league will go ahead with six teams.



Ruaraidh Graham Jnr of Inveraray and Robert Gillies of Oban Celtic. Photograph: Stephen Lawson.

# Spot the Ball - new, bigger jackpot!

From next week Spot The Ball is changing. The first and most important change is that the jackpot is being massively boosted.

The second is that we are joining forces with our friends at The Oban Times and introducing a Spot the SHINTY ball competition to add a bit of fun and variety.

This means that if no-one wins either jackpot before next week then it will be more than doubled when the prize funds are merged. So, more money and a new sport, what's not to love?

If you already play, keep on playing. If you have never played, why not give it a go?

## Mid Argyll youngsters lead Oban to victory

Young Mid Argyll rugby players Drew Buckley, Anya Gritten and Amber Russell took part in the Glasgow Warriors championship with their Oban U15 Girls' team mates on Wednesday February 20.

The girls won all four of their games, scoring a remarkable 27 tries and conceding only two.

They also played in the first round of the Scottish Cup in Oban against East Kilbride on Sunday February 24, progressing to the next round after an impressive 73-31 points victory.

This was an excellent team performance.

On Sunday, Mid Argyll player Jamie Blair played his first game for Oban U16s. Oban were beaten by a strong Cartha QP team 36-17 in a tough, entertaining game. Jamie made a strong debut at outside centre and looked comfortable in the team.

On Saturday February 23, Mid Argyll boys James Campbell and Murray MacDonald travelled to Oban to play their first game for the Oban Lorne S1 team.

Oban lost the game 31-24 but good performances from the Mid Argyll boys saw Murray score two tries and James kick three conversions.



James Campbell and Murray MacDonald.



The Oban U15 Girls with Glasgow Warriors and Scotland duo Huw Jones and Stuart Hogg.

# SPOT THE BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT  
£800

We have removed the football from the photograph below. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 10 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

The game starts with a jackpot of £250 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

### Easy to enter

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.

### Competition rules

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 is 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. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes.

Winners names and hometowns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



**Please remember to enclose £1 for 10 crosses.** The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 10, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Ten crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Crosses must not overlap. Send to 'Spot the Ball' Competition, Campbeltown Courier, Courier Centre, Main & Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6AE

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£1 coin here  
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LAST  
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BALL WAS  
HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:  
**M MacPherson**  
Campbeltown  
**R Mitchell**  
Muasdale



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**  
 Inveraray see  
 off Oban Celtic



John Crawford in his younger years.

## John Crawford, Ardrishaig

Shinty in Mid Argyll has lost one of its great stalwarts with the passing of John Crawford of Ardrishaig after a short illness.

John, aged 79, died in Mid Argyll Hospital on the evening of Thursday February 21.

John was born and brought up in Minard in Argyll. He was a former member of shinty's South of Scotland area executive council and did a lot of work for the Referees' Association.

He was probably best known for his work with young players in Mid Argyll, organising qualifying tournaments of the Aviemore Indoor Sixes tournament for many years. His work for that competition was recognised by the organisers when he was given a special award at Aviemore along with his friend Donnie MacKenzie of Lochaber.

John helped reform Kilmory shinty club in the mid-70s along with Ian MacPhee, the late Kenny MacRae, Roddy Munro and Alex Campbell. He also served on their committee for many years.

John had served as a policeman for a short time before working in the quarry at Furnace, then going on to be a very well-known driver with Gleaner Oils, which supported many of his shinty activities with young players in Argyll.

John was a great organiser and acted as goal judge in a number of senior shinty finals including the Glasgow Celtic Society Cup and notably the Camanachd Cup Final in Inverness when Gordon MacIntyre of Oban Camanachd scored his famous winner at the Bught Park.

John apparently retrieved the ball from the net and lobbed another onto the park for the re-start before presenting the goal-scoring ball to Gordon after the match. John is survived by his brother Jim, who played for Glasgow Police and he was pre-deceased by his wife Donella. As a couple they were permanent fixtures at most shinty events in Argyll and well beyond, particularly at events involving young players.

■ *Tribute reproduced courtesy of the Camanachd Association.*

# Club finally gets out for fun 'festive' day

## Sea anglers' combined event goes ahead after series of cancellations

After a series of weather-related cancellations, Loch Fyne Sea Angling Club finally held its Christmas and combined league outing on Saturday February 23.

While conditions were challenging on Loch Etive, it proved to be a fun day. The forecast was pretty accurate with a combination of strong winds, which spun around the Laura Dawn resulting in the inevitable tangles, and the joy of drenching rain for much of the afternoon.

The early part of the session saw a fair number of double and treble spurs with one or two better quality singles landed. Gordon Law took the best spur of the day measuring an impressive 80cms. There were a few decent

whiting around too and a surprising number of dogfish. Throughout the day, there was a steady stream of smallish spurs around 30 to 40cms to keep everyone occupied, but by far the best fish of the day fell to Andy Jamieson who hooked into a very creditable 7lb 13oz thorny.

Overall it was a pretty decent day, with 158 fish comprising spurs, thornback ray, dogfish, whiting and pouting measured and returned.

Jim Smith was the winner of the Christmas Shield.

Scores: Jim Smith 126; Gary Sinclair 119; Robert MacBrayne 115; Nikki Thompson 107; Gordon Law 93; Steven MacBrayne 93; Andy Jamieson 85; and John Byrne 85.



Above: Andy Jamieson with a nice thornback ray.



Christmas in February.

## YOURSTORY

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