



Senior citizens party the night away in Tarbert

Feature:
Childcare choices in your area



Canine canal rescue as Storm Brendan rages

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A beloved family pet had a narrow escape after strong winds blew her into the Crinan Canal.

The incident happened as Storm Brendan, the first serious low pressure system to hit Argyll's shores in 2020, brought 60mph winds and stronger gusts on Monday January 13.

The dog's owner, Ardrishaig resident Cheryl Ratcliffe-Nye, explained: 'About 10.30am on Monday my 10-year-old greyhound Barbie was blown off the gate of lock two of the canal into the water by a sudden gust of wind.'

'I had her suspended by her collar trying to haul her back up through the gap but she weighs over six stones. She was gasping as her collar tightened round her neck but fortunately my husband Laurie managed to get a hand down to her harness and together we eventually got her back up. She was winded, wet and petrified but we got her



The waves crash over the Ardrishaig sea wall near the pier; top right, Barbie recuperates after her canal adventure; and below right, Cheryl with beloved greyhound Barbie, thankfully none the worse of her ordeal.

Sea photograph: Donald Bowness.

home into the warm.

'She could easily have been lost today as greyhounds don't swim well at the best of times. Fortunately she didn't swallow any water and just has a small cut on her back

leg, although I expect she is quite bruised round her chest and neck. We are counting our blessings and have learned a huge lesson today.'

As Brendan raged, CalMac ferries were cancelled for the



day, roads became blocked with seawater and storm debris, and trees were blown over. There was even a report of glass in an Ardrishaig greenhouse being smashed.

Lochgilphead woman Christine Johnston had a lucky escape when a falling tree hit her windscreen on the A83 near Cairndow. Writing on Facebook, Christine said: 'I was lucky. A falling tree hit my windscreen and scraped across the roof of my car. It was like going through a car wash in slow motion.'

Ardrishaig and Inveraray appear to have been particularly badly hit, culminating in waves crashing over the A83 as Loch Fyne battered the coast at high tide around 2pm. Crashing waves, shoreline debris and flooding forced the closure of the A83 at the Aray Bridge, Inveraray, and at various points in Ardrishaig before the falling tide and dropping winds eased the situation in the early evening.

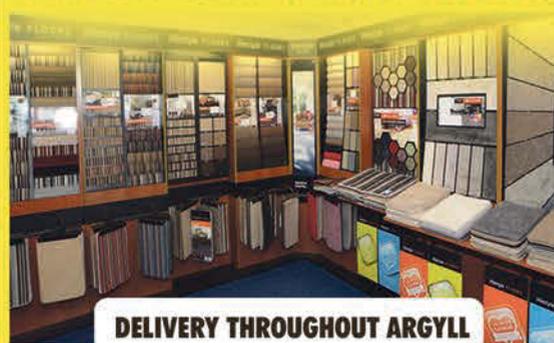
More pictures from Storm Brendan on pages eight and nine.

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POLICE FILES

Recorded warning

At 12.15pm on Thursday January 9, at Harbour Street, Tarbert, a 57-year-old man behaved in an abusive manner towards another man. The man was later charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

'Abusive' man held for court

On Thursday January 9 at 11.55pm, a man, aged 32, was arrested at Barmore Road, Tarbert, for allegedly behaving in an abusive manner. The man was charged, held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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

YOURSTORY

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Environmental group recognised as charity



Looking to Jura from Ormsary. Ormsary02

Campaign group Friends of the Sound of Jura has become a Scottish registered charity.

Formed in January 2017, the group believes it is rare for the opinions of coastal people to be heard when it came to issues affecting the area's wildlife and sustainable economy.

Since the early days, which involved a campaign against a proposed fish farm at Dounie, the group has aimed to inform and help the community express its opinions and to campaign widely for marine conservation and sustainable use of the sea. Now the group hopes to have more weight to carry out its objectives of raising awareness of issues affecting life in the sea and its sustainable use; preserving and enhancing the outstanding natural diversity of the Sound of Jura and Loch Sween, while promoting a sustainable economy; seeking closer engagement with organisations and individuals whose actions affect the marine environment; and to represent the community's opinions on this and educating future generations on the need for marine conservation.

Government budget date change welcomed by council leader

Argyll and Bute Council's leader has welcomed the Scottish Government's decision to bring forward the date when its spending plans will be announced.

Councillor Aileen Morton was responding to the news that Scottish finance minister Derek Mackay has set a date of Thursday February 6 to announce the budget at Holyrood.

The council is due to set out its spending plans for 2020/21 three weeks later, but the process has been shrouded in uncertainty after the recent general election.

Further doubt was created by chancellor Sajid Javid's announcement that the UK Government budget will be set on Thursday March 11 – the same day by which Scotland's local authorities are legally required to agree their spending plans.

Councillor Morton said: 'These are times of consider-



Council leader Aileen Morton welcomes the Scottish Government's decision.

until we know the level of funding we will receive from the Scottish Government, we won't really know what kind of budget we will be setting for Argyll and Bute.

'As Audit Scotland made clear in its report at the end of last year, councils have faced substantial reductions in budgets in the last six years.

'If our services are to continue in a recognisable form, and if people are to receive the support they expect and deserve, we need to see a real terms increase in our funding from the Scottish Government.'

able challenge, not only for Scottish councils but also for the people who depend on the core services we provide and the staff we employ to deliver them.

'The Scottish Government's decision to proceed with its budget on February 6 helps to reduce uncertainty, but

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Davaar Island Safe Walking Times

	Morning	Safe Walking Times		Afternoon	Safe Walking Times	
	Low Tide	From	Til	Low Tide	From	Til
Wed, 1 Jan 2020	08:57	05:57	11:27			
Thu, 2 Jan 2020	09:43	06:43	12:13			
Fri, 3 Jan 2020	10:35	07:35	13:05			
Sat, 4 Jan 2020				11:36	08:36	14:06
Sun, 5 Jan 2020				12:43	09:43	15:13
Mon, 6 Jan 2020				13:50	10:50	16:20
Tue, 7 Jan 2020				14:46	11:46	17:16
Wed, 8 Jan 2020				15:33	12:33	18:03
Thu, 9 Jan 2020				16:15	13:15	18:45
Fri, 10 Jan 2020				16:56	13:56	19:26
Sat, 11 Jan 2020				17:37	14:37	20:07
Sun, 12 Jan 2020						
Mon, 13 Jan 2020						
Tue, 14 Jan 2020	07:36	04:36	10:06			
Wed, 15 Jan 2020	08:25	05:25	10:55			
Thu, 16 Jan 2020	09:18	06:18	11:48			
Fri, 17 Jan 2020	10:14	07:14	12:44			
Sat, 18 Jan 2020	11:16	08:16	13:46			
Sun, 19 Jan 2020				12:28	09:28	14:58
Mon, 20 Jan 2020				13:40	10:40	16:10
Tue, 21 Jan 2020				14:45	11:45	17:15
Wed, 22 Jan 2020				15:41	12:41	18:11
Thu, 23 Jan 2020				16:29	13:29	18:59
Fri, 24 Jan 2020				17:12	14:12	19:42
Sat, 25 Jan 2020						
Sun, 26 Jan 2020						
Mon, 27 Jan 2020						
Tue, 28 Jan 2020	07:11	04:11	09:41			
Wed, 29 Jan 2020	07:46	04:46	10:16			
Thu, 30 Jan 2020	08:23	05:23	10:53			
Fri, 31 Jan 2020	09:02	06:02	11:32			

Stay safe: Check weather conditions and hours of daylight as well as tide times before you go.



www.explorecampbeltown.com

Sports centre fight goes on despite council rejection

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Plans for a community sports area on land currently owned by Argyll and Bute Council were dealt a blow before Christmas when the authori-

ty refused to transfer the area to a community group.

The dream is to create a multi-sports centre at Kilmory Home Farm including a rugby pitch, running track, shooting targets and BMX tracks.

The group behind the project, community company Kilmory Woodlands, has now appealed against the decision, made at a meeting of members of the council's policy and resources committee on December 17.

Kilmory Woodlands group is seeking a 99-year lease for Kilmory Home Farm, at a rate of £1 per year and submitted an asset transfer request to the council.

The council's executive director with responsibility for customer services, Douglas Hendry, recommended rejection due to lack of suitable documentation and because there is no access to the site.

Mr Hendry reminded members the council's asset transfer group decided in June last year that the request contained the relevant information required by legislation for it to be validated.

But 'best value' considerations were said to be 'weak'. In October, the asset transfer group recommended the request be refused.

In a report to councillors, Mr Hendry said: 'The request has not adequately identified

'The council needs to encourage long-term thinking, particularly if Mid Argyll is to grow economically.'

relevant costs, including initial investment, on-going running costs and end of project costs, or how the project will be funded in the future.'

Mr Hendry's report also stated that while the land was currently deemed surplus to requirements, it was integral to the future development of Kilmory Industrial Estate.

Letters of support for the scheme have been received from Mid Argyll Rugby Club and umbrella body Scottish Target Shooting.

Kilmory Woodlands contends the council failed to request additional information despite having time to do so; funding for project appraisal is difficult without the real prospect of the land becoming available; access would not be difficult with a new road from Kilmory Park; the site is outwith the development of either Kilmory Industrial Estate and Kilmory Park; and the development would help redress rural social and economic inequality for sporting facilities.

In its appeal, Kilmory Woodlands adds: 'A long lease is required as it could take 10 years to complete the full development and it will need continued maintenance and funding over time.'

'The council needs to encourage long-term thinking, particularly if Mid Argyll is to grow economically.'



The drop-in session was busy. 06_a03TarbSewage01

Multi-million sewer upgrade for Tarbert

by Rachel Carruthers
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A well-attended drop-in session gave Tarbert residents the chance to hear about a proposed new improved sewage system.

A £3.4 million investment in the Tarbert sewer network has been planned by Scottish Water to reduce the risk of sewer flooding.

The work, which will be carried out by Scottish Water alliance partner amey Black and Veatch (aBV), will start in March 2020 and will last approximately 13 months. The project will involve installing 350 metres of a larger diameter sewer pipe under Barmore Road and Harbour Street – the largest diameter

being 1.2 metres. Attending the event on January 14 at Templar Arts and Leisure Centre, Tarbert resident Ian MacIntyre commented on the proposals: 'I have my concerns.'

'These are fairly big diameter pipes they are talking about installing on Harbour Street and the foundations of the properties along there are built on infilled land. I would worry major disruption could cause damage to these.'

'I have my concerns but they assure me they have thought of everything and are taking all the necessary precautions.'

To cause minimum disruption, work will be suspended during July to avoid any disruption to the various summer festivals and only short-term road closures

are planned. A one-lane closure will be put in place on School Road while work is carried out to divert a water main and new sewer pipes and manholes are installed. Barmore Road will be closed for two weekends for critical sewer tie-in work.

A diversion along the B8024 will allow vehicles to pass round Tarbert.

While work is carried out along Harbour Street there will be a one-lane closure, controlled by traffic lights. The pipe laying will be phased to 50-metre sections to minimise disruption and allow shops and businesses to remain open.

Information about the project is available on a dedicated customer webpage at www.scottishwater.co.uk/tarbert

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Knitters rally to help Australia

by Rachel Carruthers
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

An Ardrishaig-based business woman has been recruiting Argyll crafters to get involved with a global movement to create vital emergency animal care items.

Shocked by the devastating bushfires in Australia, Corrina Charlwood, owner of The Flower Shop and a keen crafter, was inspired to get involved and do what she could to help the rescued animals after seeing posts from the UK Crafters for Australia Animal Rescue Effort group on Facebook.

Corrina explained: 'My dad has been living in Australia for around 25 years and my step-sister Mandy has lost her house in Talbingo, on the edge of the Snowy Mountains, as a result of the fires, so it's all

very close to me and I've seen how devastating it is.'

The Facebook group, which is working to help the Animal Rescue Collective – a joint project of rescue groups around Australia – and Animal Rescue Craft Guild, only formed on January 4 with more than 21,000 members joining in just four days.

The volunteers have set up hubs across the UK for the handmade donations and Corrina is offering to be a collection point for Argyll crafters before taking all donations to one of these national hubs.

'It's amazing to see how far out this is reaching people,' added Corrina. 'It's global. People worldwide are knitting, sewing and crocheting just to do what they can. It's just taken off and it's incredible.'

Knocking on the door of the Castaways, Corrina approached the Lochgilphead-based knitting group to encourage them to get on board with the making of joey pouches, bird nests, bat wraps and animal sweaters.

The knitting group, which has been running for around 10 years, meets every Tuesday from 2pm at the Multiple Sclerosis Centre Argyll, Lochgilphead.

A member of the group said: 'We meet for the social aspect. It's two hours of sanity in my week.'

'We knit for fun and it's interesting to have something a bit different to be making.'

Animal Rescue Craft Guild has had such a positive reaction and an overwhelming amount of donations it is asking crafters to put production on pause until a global

stocktake is carried out on January 25.

Following this, they will be informed by the link groups in Australia what items, if any, are still required.

For further information, patterns and to have any donations already made transported to a hub, visit www.ukcrafters.co.uk or contact Corrina via The Flower Shop Facebook page or on 01546 602056.

Corrina Charlwood recruited crafters from Argyll.
06_a03CorrinaKnitting02



Members of the Castaways Knitting Group get started on some joey pouches.

06_a03CorrinaKnitting01

Bute pupils dive into 24-hour swimathon

Energetic youngsters from across Bute are diving in to raise funds for school sport by taking part in a 24-hour swimathon in the newly-refurbished Rothesay swimming pool.

Forty-six pupils from Rothesay Joint Campus, North Bute Primary School and St Andrew's Primary School have signed up to take part in the mammoth challenge, which will begin at noon on Thursday February 6 and continue until noon on

Friday February 7. Pupils will battle through fatigue and tiredness to swim 15-minute slots for 24 hours.

The event, sponsored by a number of businesses, will be officially started by two national swimmers.

Music

A DJ will also keep youngsters entertained with music throughout the event.

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for education Councillor Yvonne McNeilly said: 'Well done to everyone

involved, from the young people taking part to the staff and volunteers who are giving up their time to support pupils.'

'This is a great effort and a wonderful example of young people showing initiative and doing their bit for the school and community. I hope lots of people go along to support them.'

If you would like to donate, visit www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rothesayjointcampus

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Cairndow centre open for play



The impressive building in stunning surroundings at the foot of Glen Fyne. 51_a03CairndowChildcare02



It's all about the fun at the Fyne Den adventure play area. 51_a03CairndowChildcare09



Well-designed childcare rooms offer safe and comfortable indoor and outdoor activities. 51_a03CairndowChildcare05



The first official customer at the play area, two-and-a-half-year-old Connie MacDonald, has great fun with her mum Lizzie Clark. 51_a03CairndowChildcare16

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

The excitement was palpable as children got stuck into the serious business of play.

Argyll's newest indoor adventure play area opened at Cairndow on a typically damp Argyll day on Saturday January 11.

Fyne Den, part of the Cairndow Community Childcare company, has its home in a new, purpose-built centre at the head of Loch Fyne.

Suitable for children from six months of age accompanied by an adult, the new Fyne Den adventure play area aims to be an 'inspiring, creative and totally immersive place for children to play' seven days a week.

Business development officer Sheena Dowse said: 'The equipment, all made of natural products, is designed to keep children amused for about an hour.'

'But we had an open day recently and after two hours we had to drag them out. The kids just love it.'

Team effort and optimism reap rewards in Cairndow

The other half of the Fyne Den building is occupied by the Little Learners childcare and early learning facility which opened on Monday January 6, catering for children from newborn babies up to eight years, including after school care.

The new childcare rooms – featuring high ceilings, sky lights and picture windows, allows natural light to pour in, giving the rooms an airy glow. Weather permitting, the children can enjoy the outdoors.

There is also a fully kitted-out room where health, social care or other community activities could take place.

Company director Virginia Sumsion was still erecting flat-pack furniture as the play area opened its doors.

'It feels great to see it opening,' said Virginia.

'We are really excited about the building and this

'It feels great to see it opening. We are really excited about the building.'

is just the start of building a sustainable community business. The Fyne Den play area is essential to support the childcare side of the centre. The two need to work together.

'It's a really exciting space. It's unique in Argyll and we are planning an outdoor play area. It suits all ages, it is interactive and adults are encouraged to join in the play. Plus there is coffee and free wifi.'

'From a tourism point of view, if visitors are going to the oyster bar or the tree shop or Fyne Ales you've got something for the kids.'

'The other aspect is that it

frees up Cairndow Village Hall, where we have been up until now. Already there are bookings coming in to fill the gap, which is good.

'We opened in the hall in 2005 and it was always meant to be a temporary arrangement. It's taken 13 years to get to this stage and there have been plenty of obstacles on the way, but it's well worth it.'

Virginia added: 'What this project shows is optimism and having confidence in the area. It offers a boost when we hear so much about things closing down in Argyll.'

'It shows that if you work together, support each other and keep going, you will achieve something in communities.'

'We have a great community and a great location but without the funding, which came from the Scottish Government and the Big Lottery, we wouldn't be here, combined with the support of the community and businesses.'

More information can be found on the Fyne Den Facebook page.



Business development manager Sheena Dowse says the kids 'love' the play area. 51_a03CairndowChildcare17

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Stormy weather

It was a tad breezy on Monday, was it not?

These winter storms seem to be less of an unusual occurrence as the years go by.

Snow, on the other hand, is rapidly retreating up the hills and mild, wet weather is becoming the norm.

Whether this is down to human-induced climate change or not, if the sea level had been just a foot higher on Monday areas including Tarbert, Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig would have been much more seriously affected.

It was bad enough, of course, but people were still taking chances driving through waves and flooding when you see what those same waves threw up on to the roads.

Well done to everyone who dealt with the storm and helped with the clean up operation afterwards.

Now we await the 'C' storm next.

Senior citizens' dinner

What a great event the Tarbert senior citizens' Christmas dinner is. Congratulations to all the volunteers and everyone who lends a hand each year.

Margaret Henderson, too, is a worthy recipient of the citizen of the year award for her tireless, and hilarious, work for charity.

Skate park pipe dream

Sir,

In 2017 The Argyllshire Advertiser ran a story entitled 'Skate park pipe dream a reality for Lochgilphead'. Nearly three years later I fear the dream is still a long way from that reality.

Mid Argyll Youth Development Services (MAYDS) certainly seems to have ambitious plans for an indoor skate park and this is to be lauded, however, a quick look online will show an apparent apathy with regard to moving forward with the project.

A young man created the Lochgilphead Skate Park Association on Facebook in 2012, yet a final post in 2016 indicated how little the proposal had moved forward. If the project needs more money to actually get it built we need to know how much, so that appropriate funding can be sought.

What is causing the project to take years to come to fruition?

The potential for help by the £3 million Tarbert and Lochgilphead Regeneration Fund in 2016 was dashed when councillors instead decided that improvements to road junctions, streets, a cycle track and indoor bowling were more important, and allocated a staggering £250,000 to feasibility studies for these projects alone; this is before any work is actually done, you understand.

That is a great deal of money for feasibility studies and design works.

Let us be realistic – in nine long years the community has gone from the initial excited buzz about a skate park to finally managing to purchase a plot of land upon which to build it

in early 2018. From there it seems the project has not been able to move.

In the meantime the youngsters who worked so hard to give momentum to the project appear to have given up hope and are now probably giving thought to employment prospects rather than having fun.

It is a sad state of affairs.

But rather than giving up hope, let us reignite this campaign for our children to have the dream of a skate park in Lochgilphead whilst they are still young enough to enjoy it.

Nick MacIneskar, Tayvallich

Inveraray shore access

Sir,

With regard to your story in last week's Argyllshire Advertiser, Inveraray seawall in need of attention, would it be possible to contact BEAR Scotland and ask if it could also create an access point to the shore?

Possibly at the bus stop at Barn Brae. Thanks very much.

Marion McIntosh, Inveraray

Better behaviour required, not more laws

Sir,

I should like to make an appeal to all MPs, MSPs, councillors and all lawmakers that in 2020 they make no new laws.

At the beginning of this new decade they should improve the laws they already passed. I would even like them to go further and reduce

the number of laws that are in existence.

Now please don't get me wrong, I am not against all laws. What I fear is that instead of addressing the issues which are negative to individuals and society, legislators believe that by extending what are regarded as crimes will change society for the better. Their belief is wrong.

We know that parking on pavements is wrong; 'upskirting' is horrifying; smoking in a car in which there are children is unacceptable; dropping litter is shameful; driving through a red light is dangerous.

What we need is the range of social and cultural influences that help us feel that we should behave in a positive way. In the 1950s, '60s and '70s the majority of people regularly attended churches and religious organisations. In these environments people developed feelings of what was right and wrong.

Positive behaviour was also developed by participating in the extensions of these organisations through activities in young mother groups; women's guilds, choirs, and religious celebrations. These helped develop a positive moral compass in people.

Equally, most children and young people went to youth organisations such as the Girl Guides, Scouts, the BBs, army and naval cadets. Even into the 1990s local authorities ran youth clubs and had excellent people called 'youth leaders'. No more. 'We cannot afford them' is the call of the day. Without them the honourable behaviour of society will continue to deteriorate.

So my plea to politicians is simple – stop

Press policy

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making us all criminals by passing more and more laws and start supporting and encouraging agencies, groups and people who indirectly and directly instil in individuals behaviour of which all can be proud.

Finlay Craig
Cove

More local honours please

Sir,
There is all the hoo-ha at the moment over the lesser royals deciding it's going to be a better life that beckons from opting out from royal duties – perhaps wanting a less stressful, more normal, life for themselves and their family as ordinary people away from the media hype and national newspapers.

It was lovely, however, to see in the same week front page on the local paper a real regional award for a less well-known commoner.

An MBE given for services to the youth community, making this two great awards for Lochgilphead in recent years and showing that strong ladies in Mid Argyll do have what it takes.

Hard work and true Scottish grit and determination in their hearts for the area and community.

More of the same meritorious awards for the ordinary people of Scotland please.

Credit to all editors and staff for their outstanding journalism given over the years in all of Scotland's progressive, thriving local papers.

Stephen Jones, Oban

YOUR PICTURES



This week's photograph has been submitted by Tom Cullen of Ardforn.

The serene scene was taken overlooking the Crinan

estuary at about 10.30am on Friday January 10.

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

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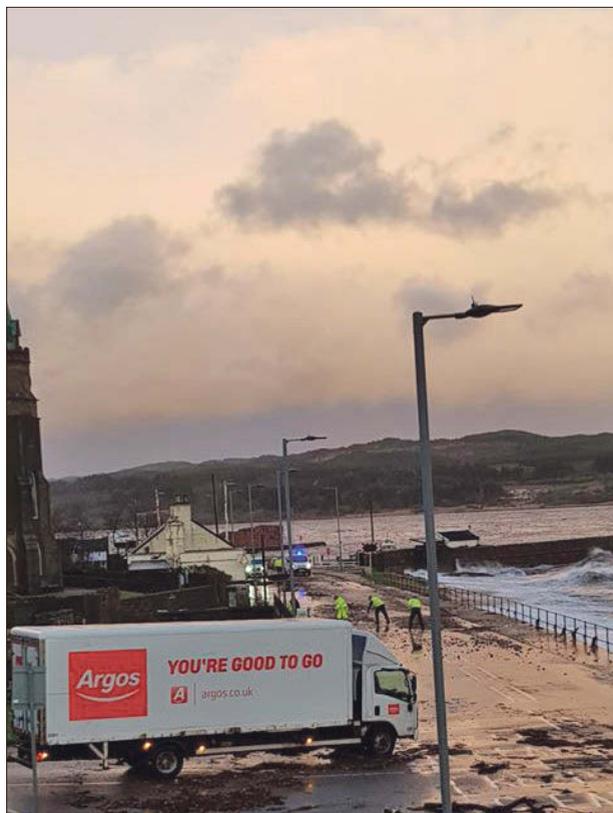
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Boisterous Brendan batter



Argos lorry drivers help police officers clear the debris from the A83 near Ardrishaig church. The road was good to go shortly afterwards.

Roads were closed, ferries cancelled and all sorts of debris thrown by large waves propelled by Storm Brendan, the first named Atlantic storm of the calendar year to hit Argyll.

The strong winds carried heavy rain and low pressure at sea helped the expected high tide to become that little bit higher.

Waves lapped sandbagged buildings on Lochgilphead's Poltalloch Street as the front green became an extension of Loch Gilp.

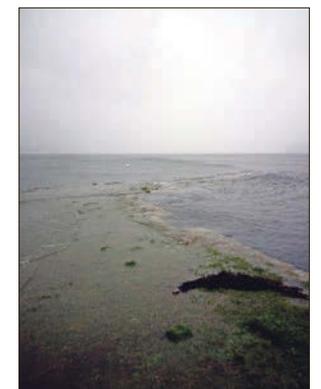
The Ardrishaig road was closed by police with spray from waves showering cars with salt water, seaweed and stones. The A83 trunk road became flooded on the Ardrishaig side of the Corran and

close to the church at the other end of the village.

The tide rose above Harbour Street in Tarbert, threatening premises on the harbour front. Inveraray received a battering and the A83 was shut between the Shira Bridge and Kilmalieu cemetery for safety reasons amid crashing waves and debris.



Waves crash over the A83 through Ardrishaig. 51_a03StormBrendan_Ardishaig05



On the eastern shore of Loch Fyne, the tide was high but at Otter Ferry it was sheltered from the worst of the waves. This photograph, by Madelon Halley, shows Otter Ferry pier completely covered. 51_a03StormBrendan_OtterFerry01



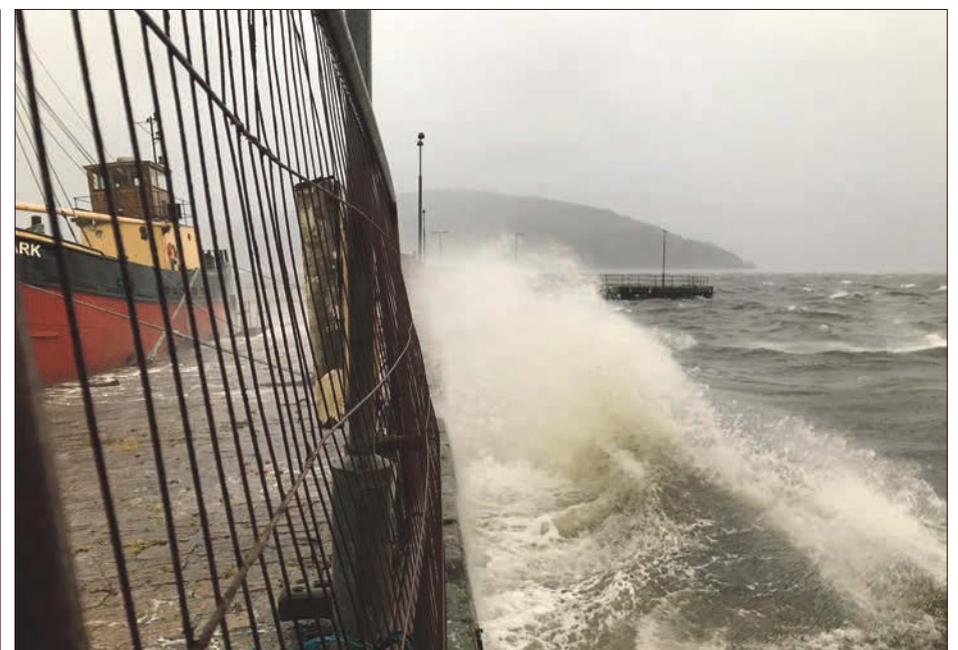
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The Vital Spark puffer in sheltered harbour – but Inveraray Pier took a pounding. 51_a03StormBrendan_Inveraray02



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The debris left on the road at Seaside Park, Ardrishaig, after the storm.

ers Argyll



Sandbags
the ready
ground midday
Monday
the wind
d tide rise.

51_a03StormBrendan_...
frontgreen07



Lapping over Lochgilphead front green and crashing into the police station premises. 51_a03StormBrendan_frontgreen02



The front green play park in Lochgilphead unsurprisingly deserted in the raging storm. 51_a03StormBrendan_frontgreen03



And the tide rose higher than this to flow into Poltalloch Street.

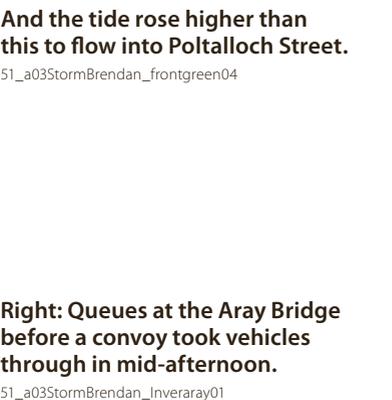
51_a03StormBrendan_frontgreen04



Andrew Wallace of Mackay's Ironmongers posted this photograph on the All Things Tarbert Facebook page. He commented: 'The tide still has at least 0.3m to rise. I suggest folk start moving their cars.'



Lochgilphead's flagpole, flag and Christmas tree battle to stay in position against Brendan's storm - but they survived. 51_a03StormBrendan_frontgreen05



Right: Queues at the Aray Bridge before a convoy took vehicles through in mid-afternoon.

51_a03StormBrendan_Inveraray01



Not a sight you want to see standing on Lochgilphead front green with big waves driving over the sea wall.

51_a03StormBrendan_frontgreen01

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Senior citizens party the night away in Tarbert



Dancing the night away.

Left: Sheena Ramsay and Matthew Ramsay with the Reverend Roger Crooks.

by Joan Crooks
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Wet and windy weather failed to dampen the spirits of Tarbert's seniors as they gathered in the village hall for the senior citizens' Christmas dinner.

A large number of willing volunteers had organised a sumptuous meal and decked the hall with multi-coloured fairy lights and balloons to provide a warm welcome for their guests.

The familiar venue quickly came alive with smiles, hugs and the happy chatter of friends gathering for this much-loved annual event, which has been running for more than 40 years.

Elma McGougan and Jean Johnston, who had served on the original organising committee, reminisced about their experiences, explaining that they ran fund-raising events and that many in the village donated money and goods so the dinner could be provided free of charge.

The event, held this year on Friday January 10, is still organised by a committee and continues to be generously

supported by businesses and individuals in the village and surrounding area.

Elma said: 'In the 1970s, the women on the committee made soup and brought it along.'

'We did not have the new kitchen then. The hotel has always cooked the turkeys for us but cooking big pots of potatoes and vegetables was quite a job with just the gas rings. Back then, we had ice-cream and jelly for dessert.'

Jean added: 'It was all good fun and we had loads of laughs.'

Elma continued: 'We used to have sales to raise money for the dinner. Santa was on the stage and Jean's children were his elves. They were only little then.'

'We modelled the clothes and the older women loved the bargains.'

'We thought they were old, but they were probably the age we are now,' Elma said laughing. 'We would shout 'roll up, roll up' to get them to come and see what we had on offer.'

After a warm welcome from compère Martin Jefferies and a prayer of thanks for

the food, the five-course meal was expertly served by members of the organising committee and their youthful helpers.

A raffle, again free of charge, saw a large number of guests receive prizes and no-one was left disappointed as the remainder of the guests received selection boxes.

Tarbert's seniors showed they know how to party as dancers left their seats and enthusiastically took to the floor as soon as the musical entertainment began.

A stunned Margaret Henderson was named Citizen of the Year, confessing she never expected to win the award.

For more than 20 years, Margaret has collected money to support the Tarbert Sea Food Festival and Music Festival. Later, Margaret dressed up as Mrs Brown from Mrs Brown's Boys to entertain the audience, something for which she is well-known.

Martin Jefferies thanked everyone who had helped make the evening such a success with the happy gathering agreeing with loud applause.

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Left: Val Robertson and Pat Davidson enjoy the night.



Joan MacArthur and Hughie Mclean.



Tarbert Citizen of the Year 2020 Margaret Henderson.

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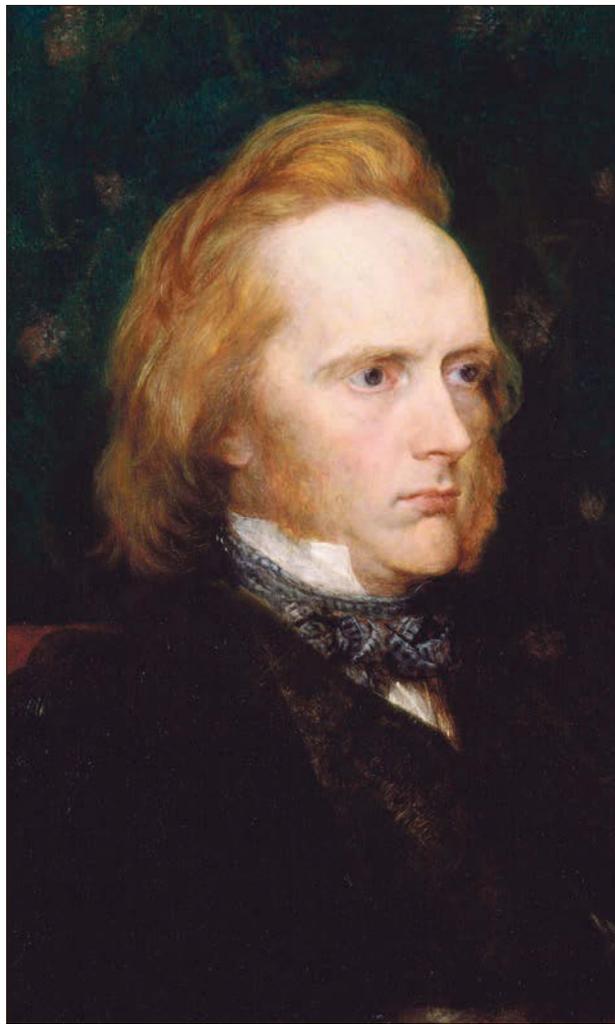
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George Douglas Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll, painted by George Frederic Watts.

Gaelic manuscript points to Argyll link to Iona's looted artefacts

Journalist Gerry Burke follows a clue from the 'new' Dewar Manuscripts and discovers a link with a Loch Fyne laird.

A single line of Gaelic handwritten in a story collector's notebook 150 years ago has lifted the lid on a holy island plunder in which Argyll aristocracy may have had a hand.

The resurrected Dewar Manuscripts, the plain-spoken tales and legends documenting historic episodes dating back to the time of

Robert the Bruce, contain a giveaway that might yet uncover sacred relics from the seabed.

George Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll, in the mid 19th century paid for a 'truthful' version of the 'people's history', now revived and improved for a major archive publishing project.

Last week we revealed how his pioneering 'roving reporter' John Dewar was instructed: 'Don't let us make out to be worse savages than we are but let us tell the truth and shame the de'il.'

But Dewar, an Arrochar man who tramped Argyll and its remote margins, appears to have blanked a significant chapter in Scottish history or was, perhaps, censored from a level above his pay grade.

Deliberately or otherwise, he seems to have left a ticking timebomb linking his employer, his ancestors and associates with ancient grave and shrine plunder.

The glaring omission in Dewar's recollected time-travel episodes highlights rather than conceals the wholesale destruction and

desecration that took over where the Vikings and the zealots of the Reformation left off.

When the Clan Campbell dynasty assumed responsibility for Iona from the MacLeans of Duart and earlier MacDonald Lords of the Isles, Samuel Johnson said even the native people were 'remarkably neglected'. Then there was the 'cash and carry' looting of artefacts commemorating 48 ancient kings of Scotland, including MacBeth and Kenneth MacAlpin, and eight Norwegian and six Irish.

Culprit

Duke George's uncle George, the 6th duke, said to be something of a spendthrift dandy who squandered the family silver, appears to be the main culprit during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when steamboat adventure cruises began.

He was 'guardian' of Iona during the black market trading of sacred artefacts. He made efforts to improve the situation but faced criticism for doing too little too late.

Before him, 5th duke John

and other ancestors appear to have misappropriated a series of iconic Celtic crosses from Columba's 'sainted isle' to enhance vanity projects on the earthly portions of the Campbell empire and elsewhere.

The ancient mercat crosses of present-day Inveraray and Campbeltown, for example, were shipped out and, though some of the religious carving had been deliberately defaced during the Reformation, the names of Iona dead can be read to this day.

One was taken as far away as a Campbell estate in Uist, another to Tiree and other priceless sculptured stones and crosses were traded south of the border as status symbols.

Some consecrated slabs that served as boat ballast were eventually used as mainland house lintels.

A report in the Gentleman's Magazine from the 1830s reported: 'Curious remains of antiquity have been disinterred from the ruins...Mr Rae Wilson [antiquarian], having overcome the superstitious opposition offered to

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A 19th century photograph of the Inveraray cross, which is commonly believed to have been moved from the demolished old town of Inveraray in the 1830s.

his endeavours, has at length succeeded in removing the rubbish from the tombs of many a light of the darkened ages.

'A fine altar was found in the chapel and a beautiful piece of sculpture representing the decapitation of the Baptist. The tombs of the Norway chiefs and sea kings are restored to light and the Scottish monarchs who chose this place of sepulchre now sleep in no unnoticed monument.'

Details of the carnage on Iona first came to light in the early 1800s and were still unfolding when Queen Victoria was painting 'the light in the west' over Iona Abbey during her royal yacht visit in 1847.

The Iona Club, set up to address the looting and cultural destruction on the island, staged archaeological rescue missions to clear crumbled walls and dunghills from sacred turf. Ironically, their efforts made it easier for the 19th century 'monuments men' to load up. The 6th duke was its chairman when the most shameful destruction was being carried out.

But some of the archaeological trophies arrived in upper Loch Fyne and that's when the depredation attracted attention and censure from the most respected figures in the land.

The line of Gaelic that gave the game away appears to be an aide memoire by John Dewar in one of his notebooks and was translated by Ronnie Black, honorary fellow in Edinburgh University's department of Celtic and Scottish Studies. With Gaelic academic Dr Chris Dracup, he is leading a huge project to finally publish the 10 volumes of Dewar's work, starting next year.

The enigmatic line reads: 'Chaidh an sotheach anns an robh na croisean s na Leacalighe fodha eada agus an Creggan.' It translates as: 'The vessel containing the crosses and grave slabs sank between Strachur and Creggan.'

Mystified, Ronnie Black approached members of Strachur and District Local History Society to see if they could shed light on the note. There had been inferences about a number of carved gravestones built into the local church and their disputed origins. There had also been references to such shipments in the area, either deliberately



Iona Abbey – were artefacts taken from the sacred island? 15_T23_The-Sound-of-Iona_01

dumped or accidentally scuttled but it was unclear which Creggan shore was involved.

An Iona steamboat traveller's guide of 1830 contained a fleeting reference to looted stones in Loch Fyne stating they could be seen at low tide and now there was confirmation of an almost precise location – directly opposite a recently-completed stately home.

Lumsden's guide for Iona abbey visitors states: 'Some ancient stone crosses are yet standing near this ancient (Iona) pile. Previous to the Reformation, there existed 360 of various sizes and beautiful workmanship, many of which were carried away to adorn the streets of distant towns and villages.'



General John Campbell.

'In Cowal, there is a popular tradition that a great number of crosses and tombstones were sunk in Loch Fyne opposite to Strachur where, if we believe the fishermen of that place they are still to be seen at low water.'

The report appears to put the American war of independence hero, General John Campbell, laird of Strachur, in the frame as a customer who may have wanted to add a touch of antiquity to the new church he had also built.

Local historian Fiona Campbell next discovered a letter from Lord John Murray, the Lord Advocate for Scotland to David Laing, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries Scotland.

After General Campbell's

death, Lord Murray tenanted Strachur House as his country retreat and confirmed he knew about the 'dump' at the bottom of his carriageway and had even been asked by a friend to dredge for the stones.

Removal

Mr Laing was complaining in 1856 about the removal of the Celtic crosses to Inveraray and Campbeltown and hoped 'several other remains of this class would be discovered'

with the Duke of Argyll's authority and 'a few such crosses would amply indemnify any trouble or expense to be incurred'.

Lord Murray stated: '... there are some boatloads of stones which were brought from Iona and there are some in the churchyard which resemble the tomb-stones at Iona very much.'

He invited him to examine them but offered no information on who might have been responsible and believed they had been removed before his time.

With due diligence he criticised the 'grasping disposition of the scotch (sic) nobility and gentry'.

He added: 'I think you may assume that the nobility were grasping and the clergy and people sufficiently fanatical and roguish to take and destroy anything but I do not know whether scotch people like to be reminded of the bad qualities of their predecessors. Perhaps it may do them good, however...'

Why this extraordinary story was never passed on by Dewar remains a matter of conjecture. Ronnie Black said: 'Just bear in mind the 8th duke paid his wages so he may have decided not to inquire too closely, or at least

not to write anything down beyond the innocent wee note he had written already.'

He also suggests the mid-19th century might have been a bit too recent for his remit but Dewar takes up several pages relating an extraordinary tale from the general's exploits in Boston at the end of his American campaign.

The 8th duke who commissioned the manuscripts had them translated from Dewar's native Gaelic but didn't publish them and after some activity by a later duke, it was the early 1960s before a serious attempt was made to get the tales into print.

Red Hackle whisky tycoon Charles Hepburn put up the money for a promised 10 volumes but after the first was published the deal with Ian the 11th duke fell through with accusations levelled about political bias and historical bigotry going back to pre-Reformation days.

General Campbell's marble gravestone under the aisle in Strachur Parish Church is made of what looks like the heavily-veined Iona type. It was erected to his memory by his widow Helen '...by whom it is earnestly requested that no heir or successor shall ever disturb this sacred repository'.

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Endangered skate tracking movements are revealed



An online resource for tracking the movements of some of the largest and rarest creatures in British waters has been expanded.

The Skatespotter website, which includes details of 1,500 critically endangered common or flapper skate, has been updated to include historic records that give an improved insight into the lives of individual fish over time.

The move was announced as Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 gets underway.

Anglers are encouraged to submit any photographs of common skate they catch and release to the database, allowing researchers working to conserve the species to

identify individual fish by the distinctive spot patterns on their backs and study their movements.

For the first time, historic information from the Scottish Shark Tagging Programme (SSTP) dating back to 1975 has been added, as well as additional tagging data and photographs from Orkney, Shetland, the Outer Hebrides and Portpatrick.

The data reveals interesting details about the skate living in the Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Protected Area – designated to help protect the species.

Female skate are much more likely to be recaptured, because they tend to remain in the same area, while male skate are less common recaptures because they move around more.

Only five males have been captured more than 10 times, compared to 17 females.

Known as Di000289, the most tracked male skate is therefore unusual, having been captured 19 times between 2016 and 2019 in the Firth of Lorn.

Interestingly, the data shows that there is very little movement of skate between the Firth of Lorn and the Sound of Jura in the south. Only two males and three females have moved between the two sites out of 1,500 individuals, a minimum distance of more than 30km as the skate swims.

One of these males – Di000228 – seems to have liked a change of scene, having moved between the two areas several times since 2001. The busiest traveller recorded, he was last spotted in the Firth of Lorn in 2017.

Skatespotter, which launched in 2018, is a joint project between Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and

the Scottish Association for Marine Science.

Jane Dodd, SNH Marine operations officer for Argyll and the Outer Hebrides, said: 'Expanding Skatespotter to include this historical data for the first time is really exciting because it gives us lots more history for some of the individual skate.'

'It helps us to build up a better picture of their movements over time which will in turn contribute to the long-term conservation of the species across Scotland.'

'We rely on anglers submitting photographs to the site, and now they will be able to search the website using the SSTP number or date to learn the history of any tagged skate they catch, which hopefully reinforces the great contribution they are making to understanding these amazing fish.'

Skipper Ronnie Campbell photographs a skate.

Photograph: Jane Dodd.

Community asked for views on Islay bus service

Islay residents, businesses and visitors are being asked for their views on their current and potential use of school and public transport on the island.

The current contract for the provision of school and public transport on Islay (services 450 and 451) is due to end in October 2020.

Before re-tendering for this contract, Argyll and Bute Council is asking people living and working on, as well as visiting, Islay and Jura how they use the service and how they would like to see it used in the future.

Feedback

Councillor Robin Currie, policy lead for housing, roads and infrastructure services, said: 'This is your chance to tell us about your journeys, what works well and what you would like improved. Your feedback can help the council to improve the scheduling and coverage of school and public transport services on Islay.'

'I would urge you to go online and fill in the form, or get in touch with the council if you would prefer to fill in



Councillor Robin Currie.

a paper copy. If you use the transport, or it affects your business, we really need to hear from you.'

The short survey opened on Friday January 10 and will run for four weeks until Friday February 7. All responses are voluntary and anonymous and anyone of

school age and above is encouraged to participate.

To take part in the survey go to: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/consultations/islay-school-and-public-transport-survey.

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Former Kilmory candelabra on fire at auction

A pair of candlesticks from a French palace that once lit Lochgilphead's Kilmory Castle and were saved from revolutionaries in the 19th century have sold at auction after being considered 'missing' for nearly 170 years.

As reported in last week's Argyllshire Advertiser, the metre-high ormolu and hardstone-mounted candelabra were expected to reach around £30,000. At the auction on Wednesday January 8, they sold to a telephone bidder for £124,000.

'A group of these candelabra were made for the Palais de Tuileries in Paris in 1839, from a commission by Ferdinand-Philippe, duc d'Orléans,' explained works of art specialist Mark Yuan-Richards. 'A pair were sold in Christie's, New York, in 2017 for £75,000, but the whereabouts of the others was at that time unknown. Somewhere there may still be another 10 similar candelabra in private collections around the world.'

The candelabra came under threat during the 1848 revolution when a mob broke into the palace. Luckily, no lasting damage was done and the candelabra, along with a good number of other valuables, were taken to the Louvre for safe keeping. There then followed a five-year legal battle which ended with the duke's family selling their items to avoid them being handed over to the estate.

The candlesticks – lot six in the sale of January 1853 – were acquired by Sir James Watts of Abney Hall in Manchester then passed down the family line to his great-grandson, Sir John Campbell-Orde of Kilmory Castle in Scotland.

'Although we hoped the candelabra would achieve well over their estimate there are no guarantees at auction. Fortunately, we had a lot of interest from bidders within the UK, continental Europe and the USA and they eventually sold to a telephone bidder in New York,' said Mr Yuan-Richards.



The 'exquisite' candelabra sold for £124,000.



Kevin Woods on Beinn Bhuidhe, above Glen Fyne.



Kevin in Glen Coe with Ben Nevis in the background.

Munro marathon man sets off from Argyll

A Scottish climber has set out from Argyll on a three-month expedition which, if successful, would see him climb all of Scotland's 282 Munros in winter in one continuous trip.

Most hillwalkers regard topping all of the 3,000ft peaks as the challenge of a lifetime, but Kevin Woods hopes to do so in one season.

The feat has only ever been achieved twice before, by two experienced climbers who died in separate mountain accidents last year.

In his first 16 days, he had topped all the Munros in Argyll, plus Glen Coe and some further afield, for a tally of 49 summits.

Until last year living at Glenachulish, Ballachulish, and now based in East Dunbartonshire, Kevin started his epic trek up Ben More on Mull on December 21, the day of the solstice which marks the official start of winter.

Returning to Oban, the next day he headed for the narrow ridge of Ben Cruachan and the pair to the north of Glen Strae, Beinn a'Chochuill and Beinn Eunaich.

On December 23, he had a monster day out on the five Munros at Bridge of Orchy, covering 33km and 2,450 metres of ascent. He spent Christmas Day around the Crianlarich hills then returned to Inveraray for an icy Boxing Day on Beinn Bhuidhe above Glen Fyne.

After notching up 15 Munros, he took a day off to repair his van, then resumed his campaign, spending Hogmanay on the six hills

of south Glen Coe. New Year's Day saw no let up as he started at Beinn Sgulaireid in Appin and headed north over neighbouring peaks.

Kevin uses a converted van as accommodation and for transport between mountain areas, when he is not linking the hills up on foot. Friends and relatives are supporting him with deliveries of food and supplies.

He usually climbs alone, as few can keep up with him. But he plans to take a companion on the notorious Cuillin ridge on Skye later in the expedition.

The early days of 2020 were spent in Glen Coe, the Black Mount, Glen Etive and Glen Falloch.

On January 6, he waited out the worst of the day's gales and rain in Glen Croe below the Rest and Be Thankful, then set off at 1.30pm for Ben Narnain, Ben Ime and Ben Vane which he knocked off in three hours. He set off up his fourth peak, Ben Vorlich, in the dark and emerged at Inveruglas in moonlight before 9pm.

That day completed the 23 Munros of Argyll. Sticklers for detail will note that the summit cairn of the giant peak of Ben Starav above Loch Etive, unlike its neighbours in the glen, strictly speaking lies a few hundred metres outside Argyll.

He now plans to work steadily northwards, flexibly moving east and west depending on the weather.

Kevin's progress can be followed on Facebook as Kevin Woods Winter 282.

Scottish climber aims to bag 282 peaks in one continuous trip



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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN MID ARGYLL

A new year treat for Inveraray senior citizens

Meeting for the first time this year, Inveraray Senior Citizens Wednesday Club members gathered on January 8. The afternoon kicked off with a few games of bingo and

a beetle drive, followed by a delicious afternoon tea.

A generous donation from Inveraray Co-op saw each member given a goodie bag, all of which were received with delight by the ladies and gents of the club. The committee and club members are very appreciative of this and would like to thank staff from Inveraray Co-op for this kind gesture.

The group's next meeting will be held on Wednesday January 22.



Inveraray Co-op donated 30 goodie bags to the senior citizens' club.



Hazel Gray was delighted with her goodie bag.



In for a treat were Aline Aitken and Danny Kennedy.



Peter MacArthur and Margaret-Ann MacPherson were gifted with treats from Inveraray Co-op.



Thrilled with their donations were Elizabeth Barr and Lilia Campbell.

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Dunoon family photos go on display

A fascinating photography exhibition capturing the golden era of the River Clyde has opened at the Scottish Maritime Museum, Dumbarton.

On display at Denny Ship Model Experiment Tank, Dumbarton, Window on the Clyde: Family Photos of the River's Golden Age draws from an extraordinary collection of photographs taken by three generations of the Paterson family of Dunoon.

Together, the images picture life on the Clyde from the mid 1800s up to the end of the Second World War.

Following in the footsteps of his grandfather and father, amateur photographer Robert Beatty Paterson was the last generation to capture the maritime scenes he saw through the window of his family's home.

Also on show are sketches Robert Beatty Paterson drew of paddle-steamers and yachts, additional family photographs on loan and historic objects from the heyday of the pleasure steamer from the museum's own collection.

In 1989 Robert Beatty Paterson loaned 60,000 images to the



One of the photographs of PS Gael berthing at Dunoon, above; and right, Window on the Clyde: Family Photos of the River's Golden Age exhibition on display at Scottish Maritime Museum, Dumbarton.

Scottish Maritime Museum where they were curated into the Paterson Photography Collection.

Window on the Clyde: Family

Photos of the River's Golden Age is the first public exhibition of photographs from the collection shown by the Scottish Maritime Museum.



Images include Clyde puffers unloading at Dunoon coal pier and PS Gael berthing at Dunoon as people watch on from the rocks around 1900; PS Laguna Belle berthed on the south quay of the James Watt Dock in Greenock around 1930; and SB Archibald Russell being towed by the Steel and Bennie Limited tug Warrior on the Firth of Clyde around 1920.

Nicola Scott, exhibitions and events officer at the Scottish Maritime Museum, said: 'Window on the Clyde: Family Photos of the River's Golden Age beautifully reflects the pleasure, innovation and tragedy of a bygone era on the Clyde, from the paddle steamers going 'doon the watter' to the Glasgow shipyards.

'It really is a fascinating and rewarding exhibition and it's included in general admission, so visitors can combine viewing the photographs with a walk around the museum where they can get a feel for life in the former William Denny Shipyard which stood on the spot.'

The exhibition runs until Sunday May 17.

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Fri. 31 Jan 2020, 1000-1600hrs, Oban

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Writing Engaging Online Content, Mon. 24 Feb, Oban

PR on a Budget, Tue. 25 Feb, Mull

To book a place call 01546 604030 or email bg@argyll-bute.gov.uk





Donald receives his cheque for £2,000 from the Campbeltown Courier's Rebecca Harvey.

50_c03spottheball01

Donald's delight and surprise at windfall

A Kintyre man who has never played shinty in his life was surprised to land £2,000 in the Spot the Shinty Ball competition run across the Argyllshire Advertiser, Campbeltown Courier, Oban Times and Lochaber Times.

Donald McLellan, 83, from Machrihanish, was up against hundreds of people in the competition.

Donald said: 'It was a great surprise.'

'It's a lovely wee lift in the new year, after spending a few pounds at Christmas.'

'I play regularly. I've been doing it for years and I've had a few near misses, winning

'I play regularly. I've been doing it for years and I've had a few near misses, winning £25, but I've never won the big money.'

£25, but I've never won the big money.' The competition used to ask Advertiser and Courier readers to find the location of a football but changed last year to a shinty ball when the competitions in all four papers were amalgamated.

'When it turned to the shinty ball I said to myself 'I don't play shinty, I never ever did', so it's just a guess – pot luck, I suppose. I thought 'I'll just keep on going'. If you don't try, you won't win.'

Asked if he has plans for the money, Donald said: 'I might get a new mower.'

Donald was the closest to the ball in this week's competition which ran for four weeks instead of the usual one because of the festive period. He landed the guaranteed £2,000 prize but, had he landed directly on the ball, he would have won the £4,150 jackpot.

For your chance to win next week's £2,150 prize money, turn to page 35

Eco group helps flush away poverty

Ardrishaig Church Eco Group is helping to provide people with access to a safe loo, clean water and hygiene education as it raises funds for the Toilet Twinning charity.

One in three people worldwide currently do not have somewhere safe, private or hygienic to go to the toilet, with many having to go out into fields and areas of bushland.

As a result, people are deprived of the dignity of having access to a proper toilet, leading to health problems, often causing them

to be unable to work or attend school. Lack of access to clean water and proper sanitation traps people in poverty.

Their health suffers and the prospect of developing economically remains out of reach.

For women and young girls, the consequences can be even worse, with many being attacked and raped when they use outdoor spaces. Girls are also removed from school when they reach puberty because of the lack of safe facilities.

Through Toilet Twinning, it costs £60 to build a toilet

for an individual family and £240 to provide a block of toilets for a school or a displaced people's camp.

To raise vital funds, the group will host a coffee morning at Ardrishaig Parish Church Hall on Saturday January 18 and invites everyone to go along as it 'helps to change the world, one toilet at a time'.

CONTACTUS

email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
telephone 01546 602345



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Spies In Disguise (PG)

Saturday 3.00pm

Campbeltown Picture House Big Sale!

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th January 2pm - 9pm

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk

Keep that MOJO burning – 4Below



4Below rocking out on the MOJO stage.

Now the dust has settled on the MOJO stage, the Argyllshire Advertiser takes a look at what the talented Argyll musicians are up to following their rockin' performances.

From Oban, 4Below previously graced the MOJO stage in 2018 with a blistering set from debut album Alpha, to great acclaim.

Back by popular demand they returned to the festival in 2019 with their EP Beta, delivering another epic performance that didn't

disappoint. With new synth sounds and structures to brand new songs, the trio of Andy, Claire and Dougie were joined by a new member well known to them playing – slick guitarist Andy Mason – who immediately strengthened the live sound, giving a greater reboot of their music style which the audience loved.

MOJO organiser Dan Sloan-Griffiths reflected on their performance: 'MOJO's stage was on fire from all the acts already and it kept

burning brightly from the 4Below super-charged rock energy.

'This second showing of the band, with renewed confidence, sound additions and the new guitarist, really left its mark.

'The rock and rap special collaboration at the end with popular hip hop man K9 Kev [Oban] was a great finish.'

4Below are continuing to write and record and will soon be producing a third EP, Gamma.

EP review: Beta with a beat



A review of 4Below's EP, Beta, by MOJO organiser Dan 'the man' Sloan-Griffiths:

From the outset, we are treated again to that same romping, stomping infection of 4Below grunge that we had with their first EP, Alpha.

We still have big driving bass with thumping drums, assured keys and raw vocals on show but included is a lot more retro synths, a more scaled back structure of the tracks and a definite feel of confidence and ownership of what they can do.

Beta contains five tracks, kicking off with the uncompromising Son of a Gun – a real opener you won't forget, in its hard-hitting ability. Solace continues in the same motoring energy, a real bouncing track before Death of

a Friend changes the pace and feel. One of my favourites, it is an absolutely beautiful song of vulnerability where Andy Bruce's vocals really cut through the sobering lyrics.

Tame the Sun gathers the pace again in rich soundings, leading to The End – a real cracker of a song leading the listener to a reflective take on things.

The sound experience you get alongside the bitter-sweet lyrics in all tracks is a must for any fan of Biffy Clyro, also with a Soundgarden/Pearl Jam influence evident throughout.

For a sample of 4Below and to get copies of the band's two EPs, Alpha and Beta, visit the 4Below Facebook page.

Meet the 2019 MOJO lineup - 4Below

The burning questions for the 2019 MOJO lineup following their brilliant performances at this year's festival.

Andy Bruce from Oban's rock band 4Below answered on behalf of the band.

1. Describe your music in three words.

Loud. Heavy. Melodic.

2. If you could put one of your tracks in a time capsule for future generations to remember your music by what would the killer tune be?

Circles from the Alpha EP.

3. What drives your music?

It's all about the bass!

4. Where and when was your last gig and how did it go?

There isn't a lot of opportunities to play alternative rock in Argyll so our last gig was Mojo - but we absolutely loved it!

5. How do you wind down after a successful gig?

Pack up, drive home, have a beer.

6. If you could choose one person from music history, alive or dead, to have a drink with who would it be and why?

Biffy Clyro - I'm in awe of their songwriting.

7. What has been the best moment of your music venture so far?

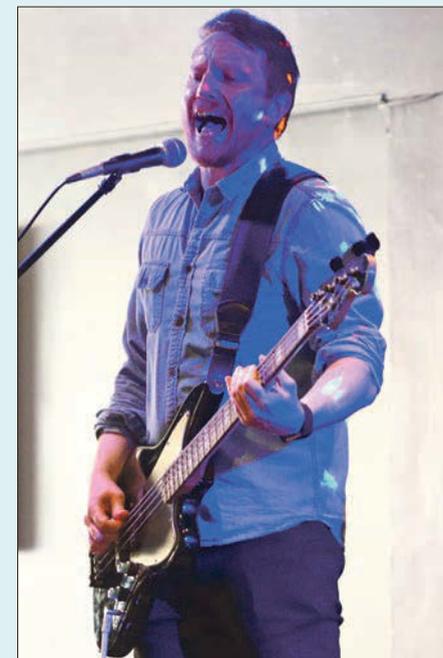
Sharing a stage again with my mates, Andy and Dougie, after a 20-year hiatus.

8. What advice would you give to musicians trying to play their own music here in Argyll.

If you are looking to play a lot of gigs in Argyll play trad! Seriously though believe in what you do... and don't leave it as late as I did.

9. What's next?

Writing and recording the next EP Gamma.



Andy Bruce of 4Below.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Ardrishaig Church Eco Group
COFFEE MORNING
for
TOILET TWINNING
in Church Hall, Ardrishaig
Sat, 18th January
10.30 - 12 noon
Help us change the world –
one toilet at a time

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and your dear ones.
Prayers for healing, the laying-on
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There is no need for fear in Love.

The Salvation Army
COFFEE MORNING
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10am – 12 noon
Home baking & hot
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Welcome to the big, wide world of learning!

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yesterday you brought
them home from
hospital – and now
they are getting ready
for nursery school**

Kilmartin Early Learning and Childcare



Kilmartin Primary School ELC

Our opening hours are: Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays 9am to 3pm
www.kilmartin.argyll-bute.sch.uk
Tel: 01546 510293
Head Teacher: Mrs Namaste Bevan



In our ELC there is a strong emphasis on learning through play with an investigative approach. Children are encouraged to explore and experiment, and be creative and challenged, through a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. We are very lucky to have lovely school grounds and a great local environment

to explore!
We have teacher input for Early Level learning which helps with transition to Primary 1.
For further information please contact the Head Teacher Mrs Namaste Bevan.
Tel: 01546 510293 or Namaste.Bevan@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Here in Scotland, early learning and childcare is free to parents funded via the Scottish Government.

Children three to four years old can get up to 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare a year; around 16 hours a week in term time.

Children born between March 1, 2017, and February 28, 2018, are eligible for free early learning and childcare (ELC) from August this year.

Registration week in Argyll and Bute will take place between Monday January 27 and Friday January 31. During this week you should go along to your preferred ELC provider, pick up a registration pack and fill in an application form but remember to bring your child's birth certificate when registering.



REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CHILD'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE WHEN REGISTERING!

Did you know?

Traditionally in Scotland all children between four-and-a-half and five years old at the start of the autumn term enrol in primary school.

But parents of children still aged four at the start of the school year on the commencement date have a legal right to be deferred.

Children whose fifth birthday falls in January or February have the right to start school at four-and-a-half.

They also have the right to defer entry and to have a free early learning and childcare place for an extra year.

Those children whose fifth birthday falls after the school commencement date and the end of December also have the right to start school.

They also have the right to defer entry to school but a free early learning and childcare place is not automatic for these children; it is at the discretion of the local authority.



Campbeltown Nursery Centre

REGISTRATION WEEK

Children born between 1 st March 2017 and 28th February 2018 are invited to register for 1140 hours FREE Early Learning and Childcare at Campbeltown Nursery Centre.

Between our two settings, Campbeltown Nursery Centre offer the following Term-Time and Full Year attendance options.

DAYS	TIMES	PATTERN
Monday to Friday	8:45am -2:45pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	9am-3pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	8:30am – 1:30pm	Full Year
Monday to Friday	12noon-5pm	Full Year
Any 3 Days	8:45am-5:15pm	Full Year

Children attending all patterns will be offered a FREE, 2 course lunch on a daily basis.

To secure a place, please pop along to either our Campbeltown Nursery Centre or Aqualibrium setting between 9am and 4pm any day Monday 27 th January to Friday 31 st January.

For further information please contact Miss Fiona Armour, Head of Centre at either CNC, Ralston Road on 552397 or Aqualibrium ELC, Kinloch Road, 559057.

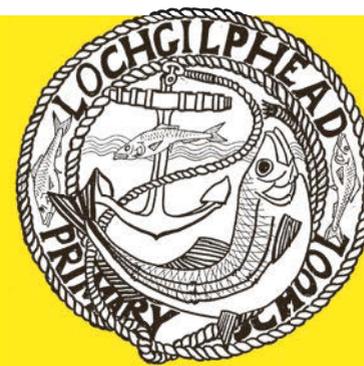




Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit

Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit provides a happy, caring and stimulating environment. We benefit from custom-built facilities that provide extensive opportunities for both indoor and outdoor play. All staff are qualified and very experienced in the delivery of the early years' curriculum, providing

children with well-planned and exciting experiences. Children regularly visit Kilmory Woods for Forest School activities enabling them to learn about the environment and develop a range of skills. The Pre-5 Unit has close links with Primary 1 thus offering an enhanced transition process into primary education.



**Lochgilphead Primary School
Pre-5 Unit**

Open Days

Tuesday 28th January,
2pm – 3pm
Friday 31st January,
10am – 11am

Parents and children are very welcome to come and visit us.

Please Telephone: **01546 602747**



Dalintober ELC

Dalintober ELC is situated within Dalintober Primary School, Campbeltown, and caters for pre-school children from aged three to five years.

Hours are from 8.45am – 2.45pm Monday to Friday with flexible patterns feasible. At Dalintober, we provide a happy, rich and safe environment, meeting the needs of every child within our care. Our experienced and qualified practitioners provide enriching learning experiences within our setting and we also make extensive use of outdoor learning opportunities and community partnerships. Our base within



Dalintober PS guarantees an extended transition into school life and the reassurance that the school staff team know your children well in preparation for moving 'forward together' for future learning.

Badden Farm Nursery



From being finalists in the Scotland-wide 'Nursery of the Year Competition' to working hand in hand with all, the nursery offers parents a very special and highly individual learning environment of which we are very proud.

We would be delighted to welcome parents and families to come and see for themselves our very special and unique setting. Please call Jennifer or Jean on 01546 600072 Or email baddenfarm@btconnect.com

As can be seen from our lovely photograph, Badden Farm Nursery are strong advocates for all outdoor activities. The nursery is now a 50/50 indoor/outdoor nursery offering the children the full Forest Schools experience within our lovely wooded area where the children love to explore and develop their own independency skills and learn first-hand to assess safe risk taking and consideration for others. Fully commissioned for ELC education, our trained and highly professional staff team have created a warm, welcoming and safe environment for the children to enjoy stimulating learning experiences through their play. We feel we have admirably risen to the challenge of the increased ELC hours for the children in our care,

with carefully planning our day to day activities to ensure all the children's needs and the needs of our families being met in full. The nursery also has four lovely donkeys on site which are hugely popular with children and parents alike. We also have chickens and one of the activities the ELC room enjoys every year is having an incubator in their playroom and watching the hen eggs hatch. The children particularly enjoyed having four orphaned lambs to raise at the nursery last spring and two calves. The children were very involved in the feeding routines and when the lambs/sheep were returned to the local farm the children had a lovely visit to check on their progress. We pride ourselves on having excellent

relationships with our parents and grandparents, and we are always delighted with the support our families offer us with all our events and endeavours.



Dalintober ELC
Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown
PA28 6HG

Please contact Mrs S Martin on
01586 552053



BADDEN FARM NURSERY

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PRESS RELEASE

10 tips to keep your heating costs down this winter

As winter sets in, it's the time of year when we start to crank up the heating. With the cost of energy bills a big concern for UK households, there are lots of simple things you can do to keep cosy and reduce your fuel bills. Here are some top tips from NHBC, the UK's leading warranty and insurance provider for new build homes, to help you save on your winter bills:

- Reduce draughts – an important job as winter approaches is to make sure that your house does not have any unintended draughts. Floorboards and skirtings usually go ignored but cold air can easily filter through, so check for gaps and fill them in. Check to see if your letterbox is draughty, which can lead to cold hallways – installing a letterbox draught excluder that fits onto the inside of your front door is an inexpensive easy DIY job. Remember that openings for ventilation should not be blocked.
- Bleed your radiators – trapped air or gas prevents hot water from heating your radiators fully so, if you have a radiator that is warm at the bottom but cool at the top, this could mean there is air in the system, which may require bleeding to ensure maximum efficiency of the heating system.
- Loft insulation – insulating your loft is a simple, inexpensive and effective way to reduce energy waste and lower your heating bills. All new houses are fitted with loft insulation that meets the latest building regulations but, if you are in an older property, you may want to think about a top-up.
- Thick curtains – can help to protect your home from losing heat through windows. It's important to try to get as much sunlight into your home during the day as possible but, as soon as dusk falls, remember to close curtains to reduce the need for additional heating.
- Keep radiators free – a common mistake we often make is to place our sofas in front of the radiators which can absorb the heat!
- Cavity wall insulation – around a third of all the heat lost in an un-insulated home escapes through walls so, if you live in an older property, considering thermal insulation of cavity walls could save you some money.
- Loft hatches – energy loss through the loft hatch is often overlooked. Insulating the hatch and ensuring that an effective draught seal is in place will help to keep heat energy in and your home warm.
- Windows – energy-efficient glazing keeps your home warmer, allowing less heat to be lost. Double glazing is fitted as standard to new-build homes but, if your house is older, replacing windows could be a good investment as they help to keep warmth in and reduce external noise.
- Service your heating system – all central heating boilers should be serviced and safety checked at least once a year by a Gas Safe Registered engineer. If your boiler is old, then consider an upgrade. According to the Energy Saving Trust, a new A-rated condensing boiler can save up to £315 a year on heating bills – most new homes have this type of boiler.
- Room temperature controls – your thermostat should typically be set between 18°C and 21°C, but by installing thermostatic radiator valves you can set different temperatures in different rooms,

according to individual preference. These will be standard in new homes, but are easily fitted to existing radiators.

Richard Smith, Head of Standards, Innovation & Research at NHBC, said: 'People living in new homes typically benefit from lower energy bills because their properties are built in line with the latest government regulations for energy efficiency. However, whether you live in a newly-built home or an older property, there are plenty of opportunities to take a look around your house and find ways that could save money on utility bills during the coldest part of the year.'

For more information, please visit NHBC



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SCOTTISH FIELD

February issue



Ayrshire & Arran Area feature

Ayrshire & Arran...
*Outlander author Diana Gabaldon...
Scotland's wild goats... Scotland's top independent schools... Stunning wedding photography... Comedian Sanjeev Kohli...
Top tattie recipes*

**NEW
CAR
INDEX**

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Vehicle shown is an XV 2.0i SE e-BOXER Lineartronic, OTR price of £31,545.00. Model shown price includes optional special paint finish at £550.

Subaru XV 2.0i SE e-BOXER

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PCP Representative Example.

OTR Cash Price	£30,995.00
Customer Deposit	£6,029.25
Subaru Deposit Contribution	£1,000.00
Total Deposit	£7,029.25
Total Amount of Credit	£23,965.75
48 Monthly Payments	£329.00
Optional Final Payment (including £10 purchase fee)	£13,321.00
Total Amount Payable	£36,142.25
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S & S SERVICES

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ALL-NEW FORESTER E-BOXER. 4X4 MAGAZINE'S BEST SMALL SUV OF THE YEAR



Subaru UK is pleased to announce the all-new Forester e-BOXER – the first self-charging hybrid from Subaru – has been awarded 4x4 Magazine's Best Small SUV of the Year 2020, a testimony to Subaru's on-going commitment to build cars that are incredibly safe,

extremely capable and unfalteringly reliable, too. Beating off strong competition, Forester impressed the judging panel at 4x4 Magazine across the board thanks to its wide range of safety technologies, on-road drivability and genuine off-road skills. Alan Kidd, Editor of 4x4

Magazine, said: "Subaru's new Global Platform is the gift that keeps on giving. It means the all-new Forester has a roomier cabin than ever, as well as being almost unbelievably entertaining to drive – and one of the safest family vehicles in the world. That's a hat-trick to be proud of!"

Subaru UK Managing Director Chris Graham commented: "We're delighted that the all-new Forester e-BOXER has won 4x4 Magazine's Best Small SUV of the Year 2020. Subaru are committed to building the safest vehicles on the road, with all-new Forester out-per-

forming all other vehicles assessed by Euro NCAP last year. These accolades are testimony to a great product and our vision to produce cars that truly are better where it matters." The safety credentials and suitability of Forester as a family wagon have also been confirmed by

Euro NCAP, with the all-new model achieving Best in Class 2019 in the Small Off-Road / MPV class*1 – and the best score across all new cars tested by Euro NCAP in 2019. To find out more please call your local Subaru dealer S&S Services, 01292 880080

Supporting the people of Argyll for over 30 years

ALL-NEW FORESTER SELF-CHARGING HYBRID.

Subaru Forester 2.0i XE e-BOXER
FROM ONLY £399 PER MONTH | **INCLUDES £1,000 SUBARU DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION**
PLUS DEPOSIT & OPTIONAL FINAL PAYMENT

You can expect the same 5-star safety, go-anywhere capability, and rugged reliability that our SUVs are renowned for; with the added benefits of battery-based power. And all without the need to plug in to recharge.

Vehicle shown is a Forester 2.0i XE e-BOXER Lineartronic, OTR price of £36,545.00. Model shown price includes optional special paint finish at £550.

S&S Services, Heathfield, Ayr Tel: **01292 880080** or John Spicer: **07831 808702**

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Stalwart accolade for Kintyre's Donnie and Kate



NFUS honour for McKerral family

Donnie and Kate McKerral of the family firm Peter McKerral and Co Ltd have been honoured by the farming community in Argyll.

The couple were presented with the Argyll and the Islands region's coveted NFU Scotland Stalwart Award to mark their family haulage firm's long service to the agricultural community.

The award is made every year in memory of Mull farmers Bert Leitch and Lachlan MacLean to mark outstanding support for the farming industry in Argyll and the isles.

Outgoing

The presentation was made by outgoing Argyll and



Kate and Donnie with outgoing NFUS regional chairman John Dickson, left, and new chairman Duncan Macalister on the right.

Islands NFUS chairman Jim Dickson at the AGM held in Tarbert Bowling Club.

Peter McKerral and Co Ltd developed its haulage business from the mid-1970s with one lorry, to a fleet of more than 60 lorries

and employing 80 people. Speaking after the award, Mr McKerral said: 'Kate and I are quite shocked. It was totally unexpected, but we are delighted to receive the award on behalf of the family. 'I want to extend my sincere

thanks to NFUS. We have been long time members and we have always received an excellent service and support from the union.'

Newly appointed regional chairman Duncan Macalister said: 'It is an honour to pres-



Donnie and Kate McKerral with the stalwart trophy.

ent Donnie and Kate with the Argyll and the Islands NFU Stalwart Award for 2020.

'Donnie and his family provide a personal, first-class service to the farmers of

Argyll, delivering our livestock to markets whenever we require. Of equal importance is the list of essential goods they bring back into the region.'

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To find out more about the NFU Vehicle Discount Scheme call John Spicer at S&S Services on 07831 808702 or 01292 880080

North Argyll YFC Annual Stock Judging

Saturday 18th January
Oban livestock centre

The stockjudging will commence from 7pm with a raffle, bar and food run by the club and all are welcome to watch or join in!

Grazing

Homestone Farm, near Campbeltown. Approximately 36 hectares available now till end of September.
Contact Reid 07802 176569

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COUPLE FOR ESTATE MAINTENANCE AND HOUSEKEEPER DUTIES

Aberchalder & Glengarry Estates Ltd require a couple to assume responsibility for the general day to day maintenance and repair work of the fabric of the estate. Preference will be given to applicants with experience in skills such as decorating, joinery and plumbing or fencing and forestry. An essential part of this post will be the housekeeping and changeover duties of 'Holiday Let' properties at week-ends as required.

Successful candidates must be able to work on their own initiative to a high standard and have good communication skills to deal with client's requirements.

A rent free, 3 bedroom modern bungalow could be made available with occupants responsible for utility bills. An attractive salary will be offered commensurate with experience. This is a full time post.

Apply in writing to: **Aberchalder & Glengarry Estates Ltd, Aberchalder Lodge, Invergarry, PH 354 HN**

The Rockfield Centre Are looking to recruit for the exciting new role of **Heritage Officer**

28 hour post based in Oban.
Full details website.

<https://www.therockfieldcentre.org.uk/work-with-us>
SC045503

Career opportunities



CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGER – OBAN

We are looking for an experienced Site Manager to join our team in Dunbeg Development in Oban. The successful candidate will be responsible for organising & monitoring progress, meeting deadlines and ensuring a safe working environment. This a full time/permanent position 8am-5.30pm (Mon-Fri).

Please send CV to
jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk or call
01546 602989 for further information.



North Argyll House

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG
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Senior Carer - £10.25 - £10.88 per hour
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Cook - £11.58 per hour
Housekeeping staff - £8.37 per hour

Full and part-time permanent positions.
Good pay and conditions.
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For an application form contact manager
Morag A Telfer. 01631 562168
Email info@northargyllhouse.org

Couple Required for Seasonal Role On leading West Coast Sporting Estate

Ghillie / House keeper

**Benmore Estate on the Island of Mull
is looking to recruit a Ghillie and a
Housekeeper to join our estate team
for the coming season (May-Oct).**

This opportunity would ideally suit a young couple who are looking for seasonal employment. Successful applicants need to be enthusiastic, hard working and totally reliable.

A competitive package which includes accommodation in a newly refurbished remote mountain bothy is available.

Interested parties should email a CV to
julian@benmoreestate.co.uk

Further details of the estate are available on the estate website.

www.benmoreestate.co.uk www.hookedonmull.co.uk

Career opportunities



CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATIVE

We are looking for a Construction Site Operative to join our busy team in Oban. The position is based at Dunbeg Development, Kirk Road. Forklift experience desired but not essential.

Please send CV to
jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk or call
01546 602989 for further information.



FIXED PLANT MAINTENANCE FITTER



A Position has become available for a maintenance fitter within our maintenance team. Ideally we would be looking for a suitable candidate with experience within quarrying/mining.

Aggregate Industries is a leading manufacturer and supplier of concrete products to the construction industry and part of the global Holcim Group. With nearly 4,000 employees and operations across the UK and Northern Europe, we are committed to helping create a better built environment. As a Fitter to our Maintenance Team Leader you will be responsible for safely and efficiently carrying out planned maintenance and repairs to site equipment to maintain our asset capacity and value.

Responsibilities:

- Carry out planned maintenance and repairs to the site equipment.
- Carry out planned repairs to equipment to maintain asset capacity and value
- Contribute to the preparation and development of Safe Systems of Work for repair procedures.
- Respond to unplanned repairs and other requirements.
- Respond to plant breakdowns – ensuring it is returned to production in a timely manner, and temporary fixes are followed up with a permanent solution.
- Maintaining a high standard of housekeeping, keeping areas clean, tidy and hazard free.
- Deal with all daily issues professionally and liaise with site management on a regular basis
- Support and train operatives to complete minor maintenance tasks
- To carry out all inspections; complete the forms and where a problem exists notify line management immediately.
- Enter maintenance and work data on the site Computerised Maintenance Management System.
- Be responsible for the plant assets in your area of responsibility and as required in all other work areas.
- To react promptly and effectively to site breakdowns by liaising with operatives and assisting where needed.
- To monitor and ensure that all plant stoppages, breakdowns and logs are documented correctly.
- Complete and adhere to all Safety related documentation for all maintenance activities.
- To carry out other reasonable tasks within the scope of your operation and abilities as and when required.
- Strong communication with site team.
- Support other area teams when required.
- Support the site reliability program for planned change out of equipment and recording of CM data
- Use maintenance access equipment and lifting equipment

Personal Specification:

- A highly motivated individual with drive and enthusiasm.
- Ability to work as part of a 24 hour, 7 day a week operation as required.
- Experienced fitter who is also skilled in welding, cutting and fabricating techniques with tech qualification, NVQ3 or equivalent.
- Excellent communication and team working skills.
- Ability to plan and implement maintenance schedules and good working knowledge of engineering drawings.
- Good understanding of health and safety.
- Good organising skills
- IT literacy and ability to work to deadlines.
- Ability to work flexibly.

Please submit your CV and covering letter to Paul Kersley, Engineering Manager (Mechanical) e.mail paul.kersley@aggregate.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 31st January 2020.

Glensanda Quarry Operations, Rhugh Garbh Depot, Barcaldine, Oban.

Telephone +44 (0) 1631 568140

www.aggregate.com

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Supporting People & Communities

INVERARAY CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF 1st April – 31st October GUIDES/TEAROOM ASSISTANT

Inveraray Castle has a Recruitment Open Day on Thursday 6th February - 11.30-13.30 and 14.30-16.30.

If you have a passion for delivering the highest quality customer service, we have both F/T and P/T positions as a Castle Tour Guide or Tearoom Assistant - **1st April – 31st October**. Guide positions an interest in Scottish History and one or more foreign languages are desirable but not essential.

Please email our Castle Manager, **Jane Young** - manager@inveraray-castle.com with an up to-date CV and covering letter highlighting your relevant experience. Alternatively attend our Open Day.

**Closing Date for applications
10th February 2020**

INVERARAY CASTLE SEASONAL STAFF REQUIRED (MARCH – MID NOVEMBER) TEAROOM MANAGER/ INVERARAY CASTLE TEAROOM

We are looking to recruit an experienced, enthusiastic and extremely organised Tearoom/Café Manager.

Our ideal candidate should have at least 3 years' experience in a similar environment. They must be able to manage a small team and have excellent communication and customer service skills.

Competitive salary for the right candidate.

Position:- Seasonal – 5 days out of 7 March – Middle of November

Please send your current CV to:-

Mrs J Young, Castle Manager

Email: manager@inveraray-castle.com

**Closing Date for applications
10th February 2020**

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Reply: ariundle@aol.com



Trainee Reporter

Here at the Campbeltown Courier, we pride ourselves on producing quality grassroots journalism.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a bright, passionate and hard-working trainee to join our small, busy team.

The person we are looking for will ideally have passed their NCTJ prelims, including shorthand, be multi-media literate and unafraid of hard work.

We are passionate about good local journalism and like our reporters to get out into the local community, meeting people face-to-face, sourcing the best stories.

You should be bursting with ideas and have an eye for a good story, understand the importance of fostering great contacts and knowing your patch, and be capable of working on your own initiative as well as part of a team.

You should also hold a full driving licence.

As well as writing for the newspaper, you will be expected to take photographs on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels and podcasts.

In return for all this we offer a competitive salary, great experience and training, as well as an enhanced pension.

Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: Alison Arden - all@obantimes.co.uk

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Roadworkers

BEAR Scotland is responsible for the management and maintenance of the Trunk Roads in the North West & North East of Scotland.

Opportunities have arisen in Inveraray and Killin for road maintenance operatives.

Preferably you should be an experienced roadworker with the necessary skills to carry out various road maintenance operations, training can be provided if necessary. Ideally you should have, as a minimum, an LGV Class 2 Licence (HGV2), and be prepared to participate in our winter and emergency response service on a standby rota basis.

For more information or to apply online visit www.bearsco.com

The closing date for applications is 31st January.



ACHA Community Support Assistant

Lochgair Place, Tarbert

£6200 - £7294 pro rata per annum Monday – Friday, 9am – 11:30am

The association is seeking to recruit a highly motivated individual to assist with delivering housing support within the Association's sheltered housing complex in Tarbert.

This post requires;

- Protection of Vulnerable Adult Group (PVG) membership in relation to working with Vulnerable Adults
- Registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)
- Full UK Driving Licence
- Access to a vehicle insured for business use
- A minimum of 3 standard grades or equivalent
- To hold or be prepared to obtain an SVQ Level 2 in Health and Social Care

To apply visit the recruitment section of our website at www.acha.co.uk Or contact the recruitment team:

01546 605817 or email recruitment@acha.co.uk

For more information, please contact Sarah Campbell on 01546

605881 or email sarah.campbell@acha.co.uk

Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 24th January 2020.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 19th February 2020.

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The Tayvallich Inn
We are recruiting
for 2020!



We are looking for a Chef to join our team for the summer season (March - November 2020). We serve a range of bar and restaurant standard dishes, focusing on local seafood and fresh ingredients.

We are looking for someone who can work as part of a team, enjoys working in a busy kitchen and can support our existing experienced kitchen team.

Get in touch to tell us about yourself and to find out more.

40 hours/week, 2 days off per week, £20,000 per annum (pro rata), on duty meals, off duty meal discount, pension scheme available, tips.

Tel: 01546 870282

Email: info@tayvallichinn.com

Meikle Electrical are looking for a fully qualified Electrician

Experienced in all aspects of Electrical Work & able to work on own initiative.

Full driving Licence essential

Also looking for
Apprentice applications

CV to ianmeikle62@gmail.com

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Graduate Tourism and Events Co-ordinator

Salary: £20,000 to £22,000

Start Date: May 2020

Location: Torrisdale, Carradale,
Campbeltown, PA28 6QT

There is now an exciting opportunity for a 12-month graduate placement to support the development of a new Gin School and an adjoining café, by creating and implementing a series of associated courses and events.

Applicants must be Minimum Degree Level, preferably related to Marketing, Communications, Tourism/Events Management. Other subjects accepted provided the candidate has the required skills.

This position is part funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and the European Regional Development Fund.

For further details and to apply please contact Niall Macalister Hall by emailing info@kintyregin.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF DECISION
SSE GENERATION LIMITED
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING
(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ELECTRICITY WORKS
(ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND)
REGULATIONS 2017**

As directed by regulation 23(4) of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) 2017, notice is hereby given that SSE Generation Limited ("the Company") has been granted consent by Scottish Ministers to construct and operate a 16 turbine wind farm known as Tangy IV Wind Farm, (with a ground to blade tip height of up to 149.9 metres), in lands North of Kilchenzie, Kintyre, in the relevant Planning Authority area of Argyll & Bute Council. Scottish Ministers have also directed, under Section 57 (2) of the Town & Country Planning Act (Scotland) 1997, that planning permission is deemed to be granted.

Copies of the decision statement and related documentation can be obtained on the Energy Consents website: www.energyconsents.scot Copies of the decision statement and related documentation have been made available to Argyll & Bute Council to be made available for public inspection by being placed on the planning register.

**EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING OF THE MACHRIHANISH
GOLF CLUB WILL BE HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL, CAMPBELTOWN
ON SATURDAY 18th JANUARY
2020 AT 7:00PM**

The committee want to establish the will of the membership for the following quo i.e.: -
A Professional on a membership or
If they want a change
Club run the shop.
All members are respectfully invited to attend.
M Wylie, Secretary



**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 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
19/02603/LIB	Internal and external alterations including installation of flue (retrospective)	Claonaig Old Church, Claonaig, Skipness, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6YG

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
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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Lady Anne McArthur Knudsen Trust

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Your application should be made in writing to:

**Namaste Bevan, Head Teacher
c/o Kilmartin Primary School
Kilmartin Lochgilphead PA31 8QF
Closing date 7th February 2020**



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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, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000 www.obantimes.co.uk and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. <http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk>

GRADUATIONS



CLARE ANDERSON

Clare Anderson graduated with an HND in Professional Cookery from the City of Glasgow College. Clare is the daughter of James Anderson, Campbeltown and the late Carol Anderson, Carradale.



MAIRI JANET BARBOUR

Recently graduated from Glasgow University with an MA in Primary Teaching with First Class Honours is Mairi Janet Barbour. Mairi is the daughter of Graham and Shona Babour, Southend and is currently studying for a Masters in Psychology.

Private sales free listings for items under £100

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

Call 01586 554646 / 01546 602345 Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

E-MAIL: adverts@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
or adverts@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
Please give your name, address, postcode & phone number.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

LONG COPPER COACHMANS HORN - Vintage shiny copper coachman's horn, approx 4ft long, ideal display item for pub? Hotel? Country house on beam? Can email photo. Campbeltown, £35.00 Telephone 01586 554537

SET OF OLD RUSTY SCALES - Heavy set of rusty scales, vintage, ideal for painting black as decorative item. Can email photo, plus photo example of one painted. Campbeltown, £20.00 Telephone 01586 554537

OLD RUSTY SET OF SCALES - Ideal for painting black, as decorative item. Heavy and old. Like shop weighing scales. Can email photo. 2 available. This price for one. Campbeltown, £20.00 Telephone 01586 554537

GREAT WORLD WAR - A History - editor Frank F Mumby. Vol 1-4. Hardback blue covers. Coloured folding maps, dust covers, photographs, plates, £10.00 Telephone 01546 602563

A W MORRIS (REPRO) MIRROR - Over Mantle Ornate Mirror, beautiful

and elegant with slight wear. 86cm x 64cm Gold coloured, £35.00 Telephone 01546 830178 or 07946 554744

VINTAGE METAL SHEEP SHEARS - Very old black vintage metal, cast iron, sheep shears, approx 14" long, working order, ideal display item, clearing out shed. Email photo. Campbeltown, £25.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON SPADE, 9" LONG - Old cast iron ornamental spade, with thermometer, approx 9" long, can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON BRACKET AND DOORBELL - Vintage cast iron, wrought iron bracket, approx 8" X 8" with doorbell and clapper, wall mountable, needs assembling, can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON WEIGHTS - 3 cast iron weights for old scales, various weight. Old and maybe rusty, in shed. Can email photo. Campbeltown, £10.00 Telephone 01586 554537

CAST IRON SPADE DOORKNOCKER -

Vintage ornamental doorknocker, cast iron, approx 7" long, D shape handle and blade. Good condition. Paint black? Can email photo. Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 01586 554537

QUALITY CEILING FAN, BLADES - Good quality, brand new ceiling fan with 4 blades and glass shades, never used or assembled. All fittings included. Can email photo. Campbeltown, £30.00 Telephone 01586 554537

BUILDING / DIY REPLACEMENT CHIMNEY POTS - for older houses, ornate Victorian/Edwardian pots in various sizes and colour, £40.00 Telephone 01631 564578

CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250
BMW E46 3 SERIES COUPE SILL - Genuine BMW part and unused. ono, £80.00 Telephone 01631 564578

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES
BOSCH FRIDGE FREEZER - 12.5 cubic feet, good condition, can deliver. £80.00 ono Telephone 01631 730323

LEC FRIDGE FREEZER - 10.5 cubic feet. Can deliver, £90.00 ono Telephone 01631 730323

AEG DOUBLE OVEN - Electric, brushed steel finish. Good working order. 8 years old. Can deliver, £80.00 ono Telephone 01631 730323

DOMESTIC PETS
HUNTAWAY X BORDER COLLIE PUPS - for sale. Ready to go now. From excellent working parents that can both be seen working. Inveraray. Call S McKillop, £250.00 Telephone 07876 225665

LABRADOR CROSS BORDER COLLIE PUPS - Solid chocolate, solid black, chocolate merle and blue merle coloured, 12 weeks old, wormed up to date and microchipped. Call or text, £150.00 Telephone 07483 283098

EQUESTRIAN
BLACK DRESSAGE SADDLE - Reactor panel Avant Garde 16.5 inch, wide fit black dressage saddle, £1,500.00 Telephone 07834806335

FARMING EQUIPMENT
OLD METAL TRAP, FOR RATS - Old

humane metal trap, in working order, approx 2ft long, for rats, £5.00 Telephone 01586 554537

FURNITURE

DESK - Mahogany with Queen Anne legs, 3 drawers. W 31" (79cm) D 17" (43cm) H 39" (100cm). (Ardrihaig), £15.00 Telephone 07900 862835

TETRAD HARRIS TWEED SUITE
3 months old, Mid Bowmore Sofa (3 str), 2 Dalmore Armchairs. All Bracken Herringbone with mahogany feet. (Lochgilphead),
Telephone 01546 603305

GARDEN

VINTAGE STEEL GARDEN ROLLER - Small vintage steel garden roller. Excellent painted conditions. Suit smaller garden or makes a nice feature, £90.00 Telephone 01631 564578

VINTAGE CART WHEELS - and smaller implement wheels. Colourful garden display items, £30.00 Telephone 01631 564578

VINTAGE CHIMNEY POTS - in various sizes

and styles, make lovely garden planters. Prices from £40.00 Telephone 01631 564578

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

PEARLISED PAPER & CARD - white, blue and pink colours in stock, available in A3/A4/A5 sizes, from 13p per sheet. Contact Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

SHARP MUSIC SYSTEM - CD Player, tape recorder, radio. Two speakers. Remote controlled. Good working condition. Reasonable offers please Telephone 01546 602563

HOME FURNISHINGS

BRAND NEW CEILING FAN - Quality electric ceiling fan. 4 blades and glass shades with all fittings. Never used or assembled. Can email photo. Can deliver in Campbeltown area, £30.00 Telephone 01586 554537

HUNTING & FISHING EQUIPMENT

OLD METAL TRAP, FOR MINK - In working order, humane metal trap, approx 4ft long, for mink. Clearing out shed. £10.00 Telephone 01586 554537

SCOPE & BINOCULARS - Gray & Co, Inverness spotting scope. No 1517. As new £950
Zeiss 8 x 56B binoculars £500 Swarovski EL 8.5 x 42WB, as new £950, Telephone 07790 886646

LUGGAGE

SUITCASES - Medium navy expanding suitcase. Small black and grey suitcase. £15.00 for pair. (Lochgilphead) Telephone 07544 750809

PHOTOGRAPHY
TAMRON LENS - AF70-300mm. F/4-5.5 for Nikon. Never used, still in box, £99.00 Telephone 07972 506086

PLANTS AND SHRUBS

SNOWDROPS - IN THE GREEN - 6" pots (full) - £7.50, trays approx 500 bulbs - £50, trays approx 250 bulbs - £25. Ready for collection from Old Garden Nursery, Taynult Telephone 07738 199988

PRINTING AND STATIONERY

THANK YOU CARDS - new baby or wedding, with a photo of your new arrival or big day. Truly individual, a treasured keepsake. Call Krisp Print Telephone 01586 554975

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL - market your business effectively with professionally designed leaflets, posters and flyers from Krisp Print. Telephone 01586 554975

WANTED

MILITARIA ITEMS WANTED - Local collector. Telephone 07796314296

BUNGALOW SWAP - 1 Bed (Lochgilphead) swap for 1 Bed only property (sorry no flats). All areas considered
Telephone 07544 750809



Celebrate your Graduation

Only £24 inc. VAT
Call 01586 554646 / 01546 602345

INVERARAY

World-class tuition is once again on offer to pipers from across the globe, as the Inveraray Piping Workshop returns following the success of last year.

Open to pipers of all levels over the age of 18, the 2020 workshop will be led by instructors Bruce Hitchings, Alasdair Henderson, Stuart Liddell and Murray Henderson.

Last year's workshop saw 16 pipers from Dunoon, England, Austria, Germany and the Netherlands gather to learn sight reading, rhythms, fingerwork, tuning and tone and a varied selection of tunes including marches, Strathspeys and reels and piobaireachds.

With a limited 25 spaces available organisers are encouraging those interested in the workshop weekend, which will run from April 17-19, to register now at www.inveraraypiping.co.uk.

LOCH AWE

Loch Awe coastal rowers have taken a new club name on board.

Kilchrenan Inverinan and Dalavich (KIDS) Coastal Rowing Club members were finding the long title a bit of a mouthful so decided to bring in the change at the start of 2020.

Now known as Loch Awe Coastal Rowing Club, the social rowers have also won another community grant, making it a hat-trick of bids.

The latest grant, from Foundation Scotland, is in addition to a Suidhe Wind Farm Community grant for £2,405 to help the club buy a team pop-up shelter gazebo and a St Ayles skiff launch trolley, both of which are now on order. The other successful grant came from the Lottery.

Sponsored by your local Citizens Advice team - They need you!

Volunteers now required in Mid Argyll. Call 01546 60 5550 or email info@abcab.org.uk to find out more.



ROTHESAY



From left, Bashar Helmi, Ronnie Miles of Scottish Bakers, Rural Affairs Minister Mairi Gougeon, Alasdair Smith of Scottish Bakers, Mohamed Helmi and Tasmin Helmi.

A Rothesay bakery has been awarded £5,000 as Scottish Government funding is shared among 34 independent and family-run bakers across Scotland.

Administered by Scottish Bakers, the grant scheme is helping businesses modernise facilities, improve energy efficiency and reduce waste.

Mohamed Helmi, who pre-

viously managed a patisserie in Syria for 16 years, opened Helmi's in June 2018 with Bashar and Tasmin Helmi.

New equipment

They plan to spend the grant money on new mixing equipment and a coffee machine for the bakery which is now rated number one out of 33 in the restaurant category on TripAdvisor for Rothesay.

Baker Mohamed said: 'We started our business in 2018 and since then we have grown very quickly which is great but we have plans to expand even further.'

'This grant will help us to continue to thrive as a business which provides employment for skilled workers and also contributes to the community here in Bute.'

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden

The wind screamed across the ocean, there was little sand and what there was came flying across the beach blinding us in its path.

The beach at A'Chleit became a foaming mass as the mountainous waves pounded it relentlessly.

We could not hear ourselves speak as the wind roared and the sea crashed onto the shore.

Our collies looked as if they would go into orbit as they tried to walk through the tracks across the top of the beach.

For the sake of safety, we had to give up and head back to the car.

It was then that we decided we might be better on the north side of the church and with heads down into the wind and hoods drawn tight, we headed for the church.

Battling the elements, we went round the back of the church, and with great relief we found shelter.

As we stood there with the rain dripping from us and feeling a little respite from the biting cold of the wind, I thought about being in the shelter of the church - round the back.

I reflected on the Christmas just past when Jesus and his family found shelter 'round the back' of the inn.

It was good to find shelter 'round the back' and it seemed to have such significance.

Jesus' life was a life spent with those who lived 'round the back' - the humble ones, the poor ones, the unassuming ones, the ones who were there for each other.

What a good place to shelter.

We watched the storm clouds gather and wondered at these storm-tossed birds who could actually fly in such conditions. And then we saw a rainbow.

LOCHGILPHEAD

Lochgilphead Library's Bookbug sessions have started back, following the festive break.

Running on Fridays from 11-11.30am, the get-together offers fun and free story, song and rhyme sessions for babies, toddlers, pre-school children and their families.

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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 and the Advertiser 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.

- Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed

- by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- 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.
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- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

DEATHS

GORRIE - Suddenly at his home, 5B Wilson Road, Lochgilphead, on January 7, 2020, Angus (John) Gorrie, in his 85th year, beloved husband of Catherine, cherished father of Charles, Gavin and Kathleen, dearly loved grandfather of eight and a much respected father-in-law. Dear brother, uncle and cousin to all the family, and a good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. Funeral service was held at South Knapdale Parish Church, Achahoish, on Thursday, January 16, 2020, followed by interment at Ormsary Cemetery. Sadly missed.

MCPHEE - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 14, 2020, Catherine McMillan Houston, in her 89th year, 94 Millknowe, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Donald McPhee, much loved mum of John, Marie and the late Moira, mother-in-law of Pat and Bill and a loving granny of John and Callum. Funeral service in Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown, on Saturday, January 18, 2020, at 11.00am, 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 Acute Ward, Campbeltown Hospital.

ROBERTSON - Suddenly, but peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 13, 2020, Roberta Robertson, in her 75th year, 12 Smith Drive, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late Ruth Young, much loved sister of the late Elma McLean and loving aunt of Johnnie and John. Funeral service will take place in Cardross Crematorium, on Monday, January 20, 2020, at 11.15am, to which all friends are respectfully invited. A remembrance service will be held at a later date.

SMALL - (Ormsary Estate). Suddenly, on Saturday, January 4, 2020, Carol Alice, aged 60 years, daughter of the late James and Alice, much loved sister of Colin, Lorna and Evelyn, beloved auntie, and great friend to many. Sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral service to be held at W G Catto Funeral Home, Linkwood Road, Elgin. All friends respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired, to Macmillan Cancer Support. Please telephone W G Catto Funeral Directors on 01343 547371 for details.

STANKEY - Peacefully at home, 20 Dun Mor Avenue, Lochgilphead, with her family by her side, on January 12, 2020, Sally Anne Stankey, aged 66 years, beloved wife of Alastair, much loved mother of Shona, Stuart and Calum, cherished granny of Abigail, Aila, Cali, Jack and Harry, and dear sister of Maureen and Sheila. A good neighbour and dear friend to many, and a much respected teacher and former work colleague. Funeral service will be held at Cardross Crematorium, today, Friday, January 17, 2020 at 11.15am, followed by a memorial service at Lochgilphead Parish Church, at 3.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Macmillan Nurses and The Beatson. Forever in our thoughts.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of Kenneth, died January 14, 2006. We think about you every day, With so much love and pride, We miss you so much, And wish that you were still by our side.
- Love, Mum and Dad xx.

HENDRIE - In loving memory of our dear mum, gran and great gran, Jess, who passed away January 14, 2019.
- Marlyn, Linda and Myra and families.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of my dear husband, Duncan, who was tragically taken from me, on January 18, 2018. To me he was someone special, Someone set apart, His memory will live forever, Engraved within my heart.
- Love you, always and forever, Dawn.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of our dad, Duncan, who was tragically taken from us, on January 18, 2018. We wish that we could see you, Dad, For just a little while, We wish that we could hug you, And see your lovely smile, But wishing gets us nowhere, And longing is in vain, So we will hold you in our hearts, Until we meet again.
- Lots of love, your boys, John and Campbell.

MACDOUGALL - In loving memory of our dearly loved son, Duncan, tragically taken from us, on January 18, 2018. Always in our thoughts, each and every day. A golden heart stopped beating, Two smiling eyes at rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best.
- Mum and Dad.

MACDOUGALL - In memory of Duncan, a much loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who tragically lost his life aboard the Nancy Glen, on January 18, 2018. Sad are the hearts that love you, Sad are the tears that fall, But living our lives without you, Is the saddest part of all.
- Alison, Stephen, Ella and Jack.

MACDOUGALL - Duncan. In loving memory of a much loved nephew and cousin, taken too soon, on January 18, 2018. Your presence we miss, Your memory we treasure, Loving you always, Forgetting you never.
- The McIntyre family.

MACDOUGALL - Treasured memories of our son-in-law, Duncan, taken from us, as the result of a tragic accident, on January 18, 2018. Sad are the hearts that loved you, Sad are the tears that fall, But living our lives without you, Is the saddest part of all. Loved and remembered always.
- Lachie and Moira.

MACVEAN - In loving memory of Betty, died January 21, 2017. Always in our thoughts.
- Alasdair, Eric, John, Angus, Peter and Elizabeth.

MARTIN - Sentimental memories of Ronnie, died January 19, 2019. Dad, you are sorely missed and loved always.
- Nichola, John, Kyra and Mathew xxxx.

CHURCH NOTICES

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Sunday 19th January
Creche, Triple C, Gen 1 11.15am Morning Worship
Rev W Crossan
Monday 20th January
Guild
New Hall 2.00pm
Tuesday 21st January
Tiny Tots 9.45am
New Hall
BB Anchor Boys 6.00pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Church Hall
Thursday 23rd January
Choir Practice 7.00pm
Friday 24th January
Lunch Club 12.00 noon
New Hall

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Friday 17th January
SKY Youth Group 7.00 - 9.00pm
Sunday 19th January
Family Communion Service 11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies
All welcome
Joint Evening Service 6.30pm
Held at the SKDT Hall
Speaker Rev Rodger Crooks
Wednesday 22nd January
Bible Study 7.30pm
Pastor Steve Davies
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
SCO14646

ST KIARAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
Epiphany 2
Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown
01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
stkieransrc.org
Vigil Mass
Saturday 6.00pm
(except 1st Saturday of the month)
Sundays, Holy Mass 10.00am
All welcome
(SC002876)

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday Services
10.30am Morning Service
Army Kidz
6.30pm Evening Service
Wednesday
Lunch Club 12.15pm
CAMEO 1.30pm
Make 'n' Munch Craft Group 7.00pm
Major Ruth Russell
All welcome
Scottish Charity Number SCO09359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
6.30pm Joint Service in Campbeltown Community Church
Speaker: Rev Rodger Crooks
Monday 20th January
4.00pm Road to Recovery
Wednesday 22nd January
12 noon Prayer & Bible Study
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Sunday 19th January
11.00am Family Service
Speaker - Pastor Mark Jasper
with Sunday school Refreshments after the service
Joint Service 6.30 pm
at SKDT Hall
Playgroup
Every Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am
(Term-time only)
Pastor Mark Jasper
pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322
We meet at the SKDT Hall, Kirk Street PA28 6BL

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It is good to sing praises to our God"
Services in Ardrishaig at 11.00am and Achahoish at 12.30pm
All welcome

CHRIST CHURCH SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishopton Road, Lochgilphead (SC013787)
Sunday 19th January
11.00am Service of Healing
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 RC CHURCH

Lochgilphead
Holy Mass Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass Sunday 12.30pm
Fr Ronald Campbell
01546 602380
All Welcome
(SC0002876)

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

Kilmartin
Sunday 19th January
10.00am
Rev Robert MacLeod
All very welcome
(SC0 02121)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity number SC001002
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Sunday 19th January
Tayvallich Church
10.30am Choir Practise
11.30am Morning Worship
Saturday 18th January
10.30am - 12.30pm
Café Connect
Achnamara Hall
Friday 24th January
7.00pm Achnamara Hall
Alpha 'taster'
All welcome
www.northknapdale.org

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 19th January
Skipness Service 10.00am
Tarbert Service 11.30am
both Mr Jim Malcolm
All welcome
Tarbert and Kilberry
Charity No: SC002622
Skipness Charity No: SC004280
For all church enquiries and pastoral care contact CFulcher@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Church of Scotland
Sunday 19th January
Cumlodden Church 10.00am
Inveraray Church 11.30am
Westlochfyneside
Charity No SC016665
All welcome



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SCOTTISH FIELD
February issue
OUT NOW
Scotland's wild goats... Outlander author Diana Gabaldon... Ayrshire & Arran... Scotland's top independent schools... Stunning wedding photography... Comedian Sanjeev Kohli... Top tattie recipes

Youthful energy the key to Argyll's farming future

Agnes Wilkie
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

John steps down as Duncan takes the chair

Defying the dire weather predictions, more than 60 members from Argyll and Islands branch of NFU Scotland attended the annual general meeting held in Tarbert.

Delegates from across the region turned out on Friday January 10 to elect their new chairman Duncan McAllister from Glenbarr on the retirement, after four years of service, of John Dickson from Scalpsie Farm on Bute.

John was warmly praised for his superb track record over the last five years, in particular his championing of women within the union as well as his active engagement with the area's politicians in furthering agricultural issues and farmers' needs.

His successor is looking forward to capitalising on his achievements, admitting 'John will be a hard act to follow' but is determined to ensure that the voice of the rural and farming communities throughout Argyll and the islands will be heard in the corridors of power as well as to the general public.

As a thank you, John was presented with a selection of local produce from the regional board which included Springbank whisky, Loch Fyne salmon, Mull of Kintyre cheddar and three Scots Pine trees for him to establish his own woodland.

In another landmark, well-known NFU Scotland secretary Euan Warnock, based in Oban, was presented with a 25-year long service

certificate and bottle of whisky by president Andrew McCornick on behalf of NFU Scotland.

Highlighting the positives versus national media 'bias'

Diversity, regional payments, veganism and, inevitably, Brexit were top of the agenda for many of the farmers who attend the AGM.

Outgoing chairman John Dickson urged colleagues to seek out and promote more women to take up positions within the union. 'We all know there are many strong, well informed and well qualified women out there,' he said, 'but we must try harder to encourage them to come to our meetings and participate fully.'

There was much criticism of the current arrangements for the regional payment scheme, with some claiming it is 'unjust' and others lamenting its 'unintended consequences'. The meeting resolved to ensure the dissatisfaction of many farmers is brought to the urgent attention of the Scottish Government and that the union will work with officials to address its shortcomings.

The media also came in for strong criticism from members, with several expressing concern at what they said 'appears to be a campaign against traditional farming methods'. Both the BBC and Channel 4 were singled out for claims that recent programming had been biased, focusing on negative aspects of livestock rearing and promoting veganism and



Newly-elected chairman Duncan McAllister (left) and his predecessor John Dickson, laden with Argyll and the Isles gifts.

plant-based food production. There was a call for the union to be more pro-active about highlighting the quality of Scottish agricultural produce as well as good, healthy practice.

While there was praise for an initiative by promotional body Quality Meat Scotland and an acknowledgement that it was doing 'good work', there was broad agreement that more had to be done, and more imaginatively.

'What about venison,' bemoaned Tuggy Delap, a deer and cattle farmer from Cairndow. 'The scheme doesn't even cover deer, despite everyone being told how good the Scottish product is.'

Giving youth a chance

The next generation was the switch in focus for the afternoon session.

The assembled members heard over and over again how the passion, enthusiasm and energy of the younger generation could help farming and rural life in Scotland to flourish, become more sustainable and endure into the future.

Appropriately, the top panel gathered for this highlight of the day in Tarbert had a younger and more gender-balanced demography, not least as it was chaired by Ian Dickson, son of outgoing regional NFU chairman John.

He was joined by Jenny

Baillie, a farmer's daughter from Lanarkshire, who is currently full time manager of the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Clubs East Region.

Another Jenny – Brunton – is a policy manager with NFU Scotland with specific responsibility for CAP schemes, environmental regulations and next generation. They were joined by Colin Ferguson,



Loch Awe-side farmer John MacPherson, left, has a chat with Ian Davidson during a tea break.

another young dairy farmer from Galloway, who chairs the NFUS Next Generation group as well as the NFUS Dumfries and Galloway regional board, and John McCulloch, the chairman of SAYFC West Region Agri and Rural Affairs Committee as well as Stewartry Young Farmers Club.

The panel was completed with the slightly more mature experiences of Ian Davidson, the current national advisor for the Scottish Land

Matching Service, and former head of the agriculture policy division at the Scottish Government.

In a no-holds-barred approach, the audience heard from the panel how they were an ageing profession. 'We need to fix that problem,' said Colin Ferguson. 'There is a huge requirement to upskill and to look elsewhere for ways to allow new entrants and greater diversity in our businesses.'

His words were echoed by Jenny Brunton who urged the union to embrace younger members, to encourage them to join and get involved, reminding everyone that there was now a family membership scheme whereby up to six family members could participate fully in union activities and meetings.

But it was Jenny Baillie who mentioned the 'B' word, claiming: 'It (Brexit) can be seen as an opportunity', before going on to urge the audience to rise to the challenges and to get better at influencing each other as well as the next generation. 'We can all be influencers in our own way.'

This call for better and different communication was repeated by John McCulloch, who said that the problems facing the industry can be addressed by 'getting out and seeing what other people are doing. Ask more questions, open more doors and, please, listen to the answers.'

With Ian Davidson rounding off the panel's thoughts by introducing the hot topic of land matching, the scene was set for a barrage of questions from the floor, many concerning how to make farming in Argyll and islands region in particular more viable. Ian explained how land matching – bringing together farmers, crofters and land owners who might be thinking about retiring or giving up with younger or folk relatively new to the industry. He cited examples of how, with the appropriate legal, contractual and personal agreements in place, this can work to mutual benefit, revitalising tired old practices and creating more vibrant, flourishing businesses.

But he pointed out that he received many inquiries from people looking for

opportunities to get into the business, but very few offering opportunities.

Mr Davidson urged the audience to think about succession planning, to discuss the future with family and to start taking action to ensure a productive future for farming in Scotland.

Homebred replacements?

A call to Argyll and Islands NFU members by chair John Dickson to 'bring a young person with you – maybe a son, a daughter, nephew, niece who is involved in your family business,' did not go unheard.

There were at least three examples to the fore at the meeting in Tarbert. John Earnshaw, who farms on Gigha as well as at West Darlochan near Campbeltown, brought his 20-year-old student daughter Rhona with him.

Catherine Ralston, who not only farms at the Rhoin near Campbeltown but also teaches farming and rural studies, was accompanied by her son David.

And John Dickson practised what he preached, with his son Ian chairing the afternoon session as a leading light in the Next Generation initiative.

'We want to ensure that young people have a bright future in the sector, and we want them to become involved in agri-affairs, policy lobbying and NFU Scotland,' John told the audience. And that is exactly what they saw in action from the Next Generation.



Jim Dickson had his son Ian with him at the meeting.



John Earnshaw was there with daughter Rhona.



There was plenty for members to talk about at the NFUS regional AGM.



Alan Guy with winner Neil Ward.

Lochgilphead bowls into 2020

Lochgilphead Bowling Club launched into the new year with the first of its indoor singles competitions.

Sixteen members played for the Argyll Arms Ardrishaig trophy on Saturday January 4 and after some great matches throughout the afternoon it was Alan Guy and Neil Ward who progressed to the final.

In a closely fought final, Neil Ward edged the victory in the last end, winning 7-6.

Winning start for Star youths

The new decade kicked off with a flying start for both Red Star 2007s and 2004s.

The 2007s headed to Glasgow in a top-of-the-table clash against Glasgow Boys. A terrific, exciting game ensued with 11 goals between the teams.

Eventually the Lochgilphead boys emerged as winners by six goals to five with Semple finishing off his hat trick with a fantastic last minute free kick. Ryan Gibson was Star's other scorer with a hat trick of his own.

A great result against a strong Glasgow Boys team.

Red Star 2004s had a tricky home game against Busby, who pushed them all the way.

Busby started well driving the Lochgilphead boys back and deserv-

edly taking the lead and then adding a second.

Star recovered and great work by McMurphy set up McLean to beat the keeper. McLean levelled the score just before half time turning a corner by Aitken into the net.

The second half was competitive with two well matched teams working hard in the gusty conditions. Star took the lead when McMurphy chased down a long ball, before turning into the box and being upended with Aitken scoring the resulting penalty.

The game remained close as Busby chased an equaliser but with a few minutes left Caskie collected the ball near the corner, drove into the box and his cross allowed McLean to add his second for a 4-2 win.

Football results and fixtures

Last Saturday's results: Scottish Amateur Cup, fifth round - Oban Saints 5, Renfrew Town 1; Greater Glasgow Premier League, Division Three - Oban Saints 1, Kirkfield United 2; Scottish Amateur League, Jimmy Marshall Cup, first round - Claremont 3, Dunoon 3, Claremont win 5-4 on penalties; Glenburn Athletic 1, Lochgilphead Red Star 1, Red Star win 5-4 on penalties; Neilston 9, Tarbert 1; St Convals 3, Campbeltown Pupils 3, Campbeltown win 5-4 on penalties.

This Saturday's fixtures: Central Scottish AFL Division 1B - Cambusnethan Talbot v Oban Saints; Greater Glasgow Premier League Division Three - Oban Saints GG v Boswell; Scottish Amateur League Premier Division One - Dunoon v Neilston; Lochgilphead Red Star v Campbeltown Pupils; Premier Division Two - Cardoss v Tarbert.

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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.

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Former Tarbert sailor in running for RYA award

Ruairidh Scott is on the crest of a wave this week after been short-listed for this year's RYA Scotland Awards.

Ruairidh, who is originally from Tarbert, is nominated in the Performance of the Year category after becoming J70 World Champion and being placed second at the Dragon World Championships in Freemantle.

Further significant victories, including the overall winner of the J Cup, the J70 Nationals and the HM King Juan Carlos Trophy, have all made for an extremely successful 2019 for the sportsman.

The RYA Scotland Awards, now in their eighth year, are an annual celebration of the people who make a difference across the recreational and competitive boating community in Scotland.

Nominations were sought from across a variety of categories to highlight the events and people who make a difference to people's time afloat – from epic performances to inspiring examples that enable so many people to enjoy Scotland's waters safely and successfully.

Working for Southampton-based company North Sails UK, Ruairidh is one of the world's most successful One Design keelboat sailors.

He managed the 2019 J70 campaign, including the J70 Europeans in Lake Garda and the Worlds in Torquay. The team based itself in Torquay for a total of two and a half weeks for the Worlds and set out a strict regime of training, racing and rest. As a result the team felt confident going into the Worlds with a second



Ruairidh Scott, right, has been nominated for a RYA Scotland Award; and above, with his teammates at J70 Worlds.

Photograph: sportography.tv.

place at the pre-Worlds ultimately resulting in winning the 2019 World Championships.

Ruairidh said: 'I feel very honoured to be shortlisted for an RYA Scotland award. I was lucky enough to win the RYA Scotland Young Sailor of the Year back in 1997, so it's wonderful to be in with a chance of winning another RYA award.'

'2019 has been a fantastic year for me, with podium places in two of the toughest keelboat One Design classes in the world. Living on the south coast of England has been a necessary sacrifice in order to follow a career in high

level sailing, so it's even better to be nominated in the region I still refer to as home.

'Sailing is a wonderful sport and demands a lot of time, effort and dedication in so many areas in order to be successful. The process I have brought to both the J70 and the Dragon has ultimately resulted in fantastic results through being consistent in all areas. My time in the Scottish Sailing squads and in Tarbert helped build the skills necessary to put together a good campaign.'

The 2019 awards' winners will be announced at The Falkirk Wheel on Saturday January 25.



Sports club lotteries

Numbers drawn in Tarbert Football Club lottery on Monday January 13 were 1, 12 and 19. There were no winners, so the £1,000 jackpot must be won next week.

Also drawn on Monday, Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery draw numbers were 3, 6 and 12. Elsie Adams won the £1,200 jackpot, so next week's prize pot goes back to £100.

This week's Kilmory Camanachd Club lottery numbers were 12, 13 and 17. There were no winners, so next week £300 will be up for grabs.

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