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Tributes paid to paramedic Robert

The family of a Campbeltown paramedic who passed away after a battle with coronavirus has been overwhelmed by the community's support.

Robert Black died at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow last Saturday, May 2, after battling COVID-19 since early April. He fought for 12 days in the intensive care unit before succumbing to the virus.

Tributes to the 52-year-old on social media recognised him as a friendly, dedicated paramedic and a gentleman who had time for everyone. He was a proud father of Lorna and Andrew.

In 2018, when Robert was awarded a long-service medal after 25 years as a paramedic, he told the Campbeltown Courier he had the 'best job in town'. Robert was a talented keyboard player, a member of the Accent Players and had a regular slot on Campbeltown-based radio station Argyll FM.

Robert's wife Catherine said the family was grateful for the support received from neighbours, family, friends, colleagues, church congregations and the wider community. Robert, who contracted COVID-19 at work, is thought to be the first Scottish paramedic to die as a result of having the virus.

Aftercare for carers

Ardfern scientist leads research into long-term impact of pandemic

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Clapping for carers has become a feature of the coronavirus response, where the public applauds NHS and key workers each Thursday evening.

But what might the longer term impact be on the mental health of these staff after being on the COVID-19 front line?

A research scientist from Ardfern is leading the way on research into this important

aspect of the pandemic. Dr Alex Pollock is a Senior Research Fellow for the Nursing Midwifery and Allied Health Professions (NMAHP) research unit based at Glasgow Caledonian University and the University of Stirling.

Alex told the Advertiser: 'I've been employed by the NMAHP research unit since 2008, with a contract to work from home - so I live and work in Ardfern. My key role is to carry out systematic reviews of

research evidence from around the world on a particular topic, often with the aim of finding out what treatments work best for a particular condition.

'The research unit is focused on care delivered by nurses, midwives and allied health professionals, and there is particular expertise relating to mental health.'

Glasgow Caledonian University has been awarded £136,290 by the Scottish Government to fund three

research projects concerning coronavirus and its impact, part of a £5 million package to support rapid research projects in Scotland.

Working with colleague with Dr Pauline Campbell, Alex will receive £28,317 for research on 'Effective interventions to support the resilience and mental health of frontline health and social care staff during a global health crisis and following de-escalation'.

'It's a very small project in the

grand scheme of things,' said a modest Alex, 'but it's nice to be involved in something which is so relevant to the current crisis and to the well-being of frontline health and social care workers.'

'The use of existing expertise will mean work can start this month and is expected to be completed in six months, generating recommendations for government as we move through the COVID-19 emergency.'

Parade of thanks for NHS and key workers

A novel way of applauding the vital work of health and care staff has been introduced to Lochgilphead. There was no denying the spectacle as a convoy of commercial vehicles blasted horns and flashed lights in salute.

Turn to page four.



NHS staff at Mid Argyll Hospital accept the grateful thanks of the parade last Thursday. Photograph: Alison Litsler.

Pylon firms respond to public anger

Last week's front page story on public concern workers on the Inveraray-Crossaig power line upgrade are risking coronavirus spread prompted a number of readers to get in touch, with frustration and anger evident.

Claims by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) and its contractor Balfour Beatty in the article that strict

COVID-19 procedures were being followed were cast into doubt by locals.

Camp

These concerns - plus more recent public complaints about contractors setting up camp near Ford village and staying in Inveraray - were this week put to SSEN and Balfour Beatty by the Advertiser.

Turn to page three for their response.

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Police issue fresh Suzanne Pilley appeal a decade on



Suzanne Pilley.

Ten years after her disappearance, Police Scotland has renewed its appeal for anyone with information on the fate of Suzanne Pilley to come forward.

Suzanne left her home in Whitson Road, Edinburgh, on May 4, 2010 to go to her work in Thistle Street, Edinburgh, but the 38-year-old never showed up. A major missing

person investigation was launched, which became a murder inquiry.

David Gilroy was charged in June 2010, before being convicted of Suzanne's murder in March 2012.

Gilroy, now 57, is currently serving a life sentence with a minimum of 18 years.

While Suzanne's body was never recovered, the investi-

gation led by Edinburgh CID focused on the Rest and Be Thankful and Argyll Forest Park area, where it is suspected her remains have been hidden.

Detective Chief Superintendent Stuart Houston, from Police Scotland's Specialist Crime Division, said: 'We will continue to revisit this investigation and conduct fresh search activity whenever

we receive new information from the public. I urge anyone who believes they have any relevant information, but who hasn't yet spoken with police, to contact us immediately.'

Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland via 101. Alternatively, an anonymous report can be made to the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

POLICE FILES

Theft of fuel

At 1.45pm on Sunday April 26, at Riverside Filling Station, Lochgilphead, a 36-year-old woman failed to pay for fuel. The woman was traced, charged and issued with a recordable police warning.

Drugs charge

A man, aged 37, was arrested for allegedly behaving in an abusive manner at around 10.30pm on Tuesday April 28, at Coronation Terrace in Lochgilphead. He was searched and allegedly found to be in possession of cannabis. The man was charged and a report submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Cannabis found

At 9.40pm on Tuesday April 28 near Upper Riochan, Inveraray, a 24-year-old man was stopped and searched by police and found in possession of cannabis. The man was charged and issued with a recordable police warning.

At 5.15pm the following day, Wednesday April 29, a man, aged 23, was stopped and searched by police in Foulis Road, Inveraray, and found in possession of cannabis. He was charged and issued with a recordable police warning.

Drunk driver

A man, aged 44, was charged with drink driving after police stopped a vehicle at 10.20am on Saturday May 2 in Bishop-ton Road, Lochgilphead. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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

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Appeal for more fabric

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Volunteers sewing protective scrubs for health workers are so busy they need fresh donations of fabric

Leader of the 'Let's Get Scrubbing for the NHS' group Nikki Thompson said: 'In the past week alone our volunteers have made 150 sets of scrubs plus bags - which

makes a total of 350 sets so far.' The much-needed protective clothing is heading for Ardfenaig care home in Ardrishaig, Tarbert Surgery, Glasgow's Gartnavel Hospital and Kintyre Care Homes, while supplies already sent to Mid Argyll and Campbeltown hospitals have been topped up.

Nikki added: 'Not too shabby for a bunch of home sewers in Mid Argyll.'

As demand rises, the biggest

challenge for the group is sourcing fabric. We are looking for nice lengths of fabric, fresh duvet covers and flat sheets,' explained Nikki. 'Preferably rich colours or patterns in most colours except white, cream or pale pastels as they tend to be see-through.'

If you have something you would like to donate, contact the group via the 'Let's Get Scrubbing For Our Mid Argyll NHS' Facebook page.



Jessie MacLean from Tarbert Health Centre wearing scrubs gifted by the 'Lets Get Scrubbing for the NHS' group.



Davaar Island Safe Walking Times

	Morning	Safe Walking Times		Afternoon	Safe Walking Times	
	Low Tide	From	Til	Low Tide	From	Til
Fri, 1 May 2020	12:09	09:09	14:39			
Sat, 2 May 2020				13:26	10:26	15:56
Sun, 3 May 2020				14:39	11:39	17:09
Mon, 4 May 2020				15:39	12:39	18:09
Tue, 5 May 2020				16:29	13:29	18:59
Wed, 6 May 2020				17:15	14:15	19:45
Thu, 7 May 2020	05:46	02:46	08:16	17:59	14:59	20:29
Fri, 8 May 2020	06:29	03:29	08:59	18:43	15:43	21:13
Sat, 9 May 2020	07:13	04:13	09:43	19:27	16:27	21:57
Sun, 10 May 2020	07:57	04:57	10:27	20:13	17:13	22:43
Mon, 11 May 2020	08:43	05:43	11:13			
Tue, 12 May 2020	09:33	06:33	12:03			
Wed, 13 May 2020	10:31	07:31	13:01			
Thu, 14 May 2020	11:41	08:41	14:11			
Fri, 15 May 2020				12:56	09:56	15:26
Sat, 16 May 2020				14:02	11:02	16:32
Sun, 17 May 2020				14:57	11:57	17:27
Mon, 18 May 2020				15:45	12:45	18:15
Tue, 19 May 2020				16:27	13:27	18:57
Wed, 20 May 2020				17:04	14:04	19:34
Thu, 21 May 2020				17:38	14:38	20:08
Fri, 22 May 2020	05:52	02:52	08:22	18:09	15:09	20:39
Sat, 23 May 2020	06:22	03:22	08:52	18:41	15:41	21:11
Sun, 24 May 2020	06:53	03:53	09:23	19:16	16:16	21:46
Mon, 25 May 2020	07:30	04:30	10:00	19:56	16:56	22:26
Tue, 26 May 2020	08:11	05:11	10:41	20:42	17:42	23:12
Wed, 27 May 2020	08:57	05:57	11:27			
Thu, 28 May 2020	09:49	06:49	12:19			
Fri, 29 May 2020	10:48	07:48	13:18			
Sat, 30 May 2020	11:53	08:53	14:23			
Sun, 31 May 2020				13:03	10:03	15:33

Stay safe: Check weather conditions and hours of daylight before you go



In an emergency, dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard

Lockdown praise from police commander

Chief Inspector Marlene Baillie has thanked the Argyll and Bute public for their continued co-operation during coronavirus lockdown.

The police area commander for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands said her officers have been encouraging the public to stay at home and monitoring key locations where people tend to gather in good weather including beaches, dog walking routes and open air green spaces.

Local and road policing

officers have been patrolling trunk roads to discourage any risk taking activities such as speeding, which could result in an accident and put additional strain on the emergency services and the NHS.

Chief Inspector Baillie said: 'For the most part, the public's response has been excellent.'

'The majority have accepted police advice and only on the rare occasion have we had to revert to a warning or enforcement.'

'Enforcement is a last resort

but where people continue to flout the regulations and fail to comply repeatedly with police direction, officers will take the necessary enforcement action.

'Everyone - police officers and members of the public - has had to apply a degree of common sense in interpreting these rules.'

'Every incident or report needs to be considered on its own merits and decisions made as to how to proceed, done by applying common sense and proportionality.'

Survivor's plea to stick with COVID-19 lockdown rules

'Lucky to survive' Lochgilphead woman urges people to comply

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A Lochgilphead woman who contracted COVID-19 says she was 'lucky to survive' and has urged people to abide by social distancing rules.

The tragic death of paramedic Robert Black in Campbeltown after contracting the virus – see front page – has served to further underline the point.

Julie Gallacher is not one to seek the limelight, but felt she needed to speak out.

The 54-year-old mum and grandmother had no underlying problems, yet ended up in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow and spent five days on oxygen fighting coronavirus.

Medics told her she could have picked it up from anywhere – a letter or parcel or even from products she bought.

Julie said: 'I was very cautious, wore gloves when I went shopping and sanitized my hands when leaving shops and cleaned the products I purchased.'

She spent two weeks before contracting the virus in social isolation, away from contact with any family or friends.

When she became unwell, X-ray and blood results confirmed she had COVID-19 and as it took hold Julie said: 'I genuinely thought I was going to die. It was a horrible feeling as I felt so alone and I couldn't take anything with me.'

'Please, please abide by the rules set out concerning social distancing. I am lucky to survive'

While she spent those five days on oxygen fighting the disease, Julie's family and friends were left worried sick, unable to go near her.

Now clear of the virus and recovering, Julie drove home the message: 'Please, please abide by the rules set out concerning social distancing. The virus is here and anyone could catch it.'

'I'm lucky to survive and be able to share my story.'

She added: 'I would like to thank the Mid Argyll Hospital for everything – Jackie the nurse sat with me for three hours and Kelly stood outside the door to assist. Dr Harris acted really quickly and was so professional and caring.'

'I would also like to thank the paramedics who took me to Queen Elizabeth in Glasgow. The care at the hospital was fantastic and I can't thank them enough.'

'I would also like to thank my family and friends for everything. They have been so kind, making sure I'm okay daily.'

Right: Julie Gallacher thanked medical and nursing staff for their care.



A statement from Keith Inglis, project director for SSEN Transmission, on the Inveraray-Crossaig power line upgrade

'We and Balfour Beatty would again like to assure community members that the safety of our people, contractors and the communities in which we operate is paramount in everything we do, particularly in these challenging times.'

'We remain fully committed to work with the local community to help address any concerns where we can, whilst we continue to safely deliver this critical asset replacement, essential to maintaining local security of supply.'

'This asset is defined by government as critical national infrastructure, with its replacement deemed essential in line with the latest government coronavirus guidance.'

'In the last year, five faults have occurred on the two

transmission circuits the existing overhead tower line carries. Two of these faults occurred in the past week.'

'Had faults occurred on both circuits at the same time, as happened in March 2013 following the collapse of several towers in Kintyre, customer supplies in the area would have been interrupted, demonstrating the criticality of these works.'

Measures

'In response to COVID-19, we have introduced additional measures intended to help reduce the interaction between workers and the community, particularly in local shops.'

'This includes on-site catering, which will now see the vast majority of workers provided with breakfast, lunch and an evening meal,

introduced on Monday May 4. We have also increased the number of temporary accommodation pods on site, again helping reduce the presence of workers in the community.'

'We continue to remind all workers of their responsibilities to adhere to government guidance and social distancing when they are in the community and if there are examples of where this is not being followed when workers are using local services, please let us know directly by emailing Kelly.Scott@sse.com.'

'We would please ask that specific details are provided (including dates, times and locations) to allow us to fully investigate any claims and to allow appropriate action to be taken, where required.'



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Above and above right: The parade on Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, in colourful salute to those looking after us. Bottom left: NHS staff at Mid Argyll Hospital acknowledge the salute. Photographs: Alison Litster.

A parade of thanks

Lochgilphead companies salute key workers

Flashing lights and blasting horns on the streets of Lochgilphead in days not so long ago would have been met with more than a little annoyance.

But in these unusual times, the spectacle was greeted with cheers of support as an impressive array of vehicles from local companies headed to Mid Argyll Hospital to salute NHS staff and other key workers.

The event on Thursday April 30 was part of the now-weekly 'Clap for Carers' which recognises the work of people

looking after us during the coronavirus pandemic. Taking part were West Coast Motors, Coille Haulage, Mellex, Macleod Construction, D A Macdonald Contractors, Peter McKerral and Co and Stag Garage. Police Scotland and the Scottish Ambulance Service also had vehicles out in support.

Robert MacKay of West Coast Motors said: 'We had a really good turn out. It was great to see so many companies taking part. Even though there were some people

lining the streets to watch, everyone followed social distancing rules. It was a great sight to see, especially the hospital staff taking a few moments to come out to receive our thanks. This may be a regular Thursday night occurrence while we find ourselves in these difficult times.'

We welcome your photographs and videos as people recognise key workers each Thursday at 8pm. Send your photographs and video by email to editor@argyllshire-advertiser.co.uk




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Battered fish



Who can resist those soft flakes of fresh cod or haddock in tempting batter? Our healthy home-cooked version of the classic British takeaway is 100% tasty and 100% Free.

Ingredients

- 4 thick skinless cod or haddock fillets
- 2 eggs, separated
- Lemon wedges, to serve

Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C/Fan 180°C/Gas 6.
2. Line a baking tray with non-stick baking parchment. Arrange the fish on the tray and season lightly.
3. Whisk the egg whites in a large bowl until they form soft peaks. Whisk the yolks in another bowl and fold into the egg whites along with a pinch of salt. Stir to mix well and spoon the mixture over the fish.
4. Bake for 10-12 minutes or until the egg is lightly browned and the fish is cooked through.
5. Serve with Slimming World chips, mushy peas and lemon wedges to squeeze over.

* Both canned and frozen mushy peas are Free so there's no need to make them from scratch.

SYN FREE | Takes 25 minutes | Serves 4

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Argyll Bird Club Survey is hoping that with readers' help they can find out the size of the Swift breeding population and where they remain. Photograph: Jim Dickson.

Club focus on Swift's May return to Argyll

Species can be surveyed from home

Before coronavirus restrictions were imposed, Argyll Bird Club provided monthly field trip outings around mainland Argyll led by experienced bird watchers.

With most bird surveying suspended as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the club is relieved it has now chosen a species which can be surveyed from home within government advice.

Swifts are slightly larger than swallows and have an all-dark plumage with a short forked tail. They feed on flying insects and spend most of their life in the air – including when they sleep – usually coming down to earth to breed. They are

fast fliers, often chasing one another over buildings when they give a screeching call.

Swifts arrive back in Argyll in early May and breed in towns, villages and other buildings in Argyll. They spend around three months in Argyll, departing early-mid August to their wintering grounds in Africa. The British Trust for Ornithology's Breeding Bird Survey indicates the population of Swifts in Scotland has declined by around 60 per cent since 1995. A similar decline has taken place in England and Wales. The reasons for the decline are not fully known but are believed to be related to changes in insect numbers

and a lack of nesting sites as buildings are modernised.

Argyll is at the north-western limit of the world range of Swifts. Their distribution and numbers in Argyll is not well-known and the purpose of the Argyll Bird Club Survey is to try to find out the size of the breeding population and where they remain.

If you have a Swift nesting in your building, or near you, or would like to take part in this survey further information is available at <http://argyllbird-club.org/argyll-surveys>

For more information about Argyll Bird Club, email Jim Dickson at Argyllbirder@outlook.com.

IF IT'S URGENT, IT'S URGENT

GP surgeries and hospitals are still here for you.

If you have an urgent, non-coronavirus health concern, please don't wait. Promptly seek help for emergencies, present possible cancer signs and attend immunisation appointments.

Add your splash of colour to Inveraray

A drab feature in Inveraray has been brightened up with a rainbow of colour.

Protective timber fence around the town's disused community hall has been decorated with a gallery of paintings.

Inveraray Community Council has been running a rainbow painting competition

for children with a brilliant art kit prize up for grabs.

The competition has now been extended to children of any age. There is even talk of a bottle of Prosecco for the adult winner.

To get involved, hand your pictures in to Linda at Inveraray Co-op and they will be displayed on the fence.



VISITUS
www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Some of the fantastic paintings on display on the fence surrounding Inveraray's disused community hall
51_a19KeyWorkers01



Above: Budding poet Cara. Right: Cara's beautifully illustrated poem.

Cara's shining rainbow

Joanna Green from Ardrishaig sent us this poem, written by her seven-year-old daughter Cara.

When Cara's granny saw her

poem, entitled A rainbow's shine, she suggested readers of the paper might enjoy seeing it, to spread some rainbow hope and cheer.

A rainbow's shine

A rainbow's shine would make yours and mine run to each other. A rainbow's colour is just like this It's red, orange, yellow and green Then there's purple, blue and violet Oh! A rainbow's shine. Oh! Oo! A rainbow's shine for you!



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not leave the house for 14 days.

Do not go out even to buy food or essentials.

Stay at home to exercise.

nhsinform.scot/coronavirus

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Happy lockdown birthday to you



Lily Ann Galloway from Lochgilphead turned six years old on Saturday May 2. Lily made cakes and had a great time in the paddling pool on her special day.



Gillian Risby contacted the Advertiser to say her son Christopher celebrated his seventh birthday on April 27.



Left: Pokemon fan Archie Preston from Tarbert celebrated his seventh birthday on April 29 under lockdown. Archie had a great day under the circumstances and even had a special Pokemon cake.

Having a birthday during the lockdown is a strange, to say the least.

While the government guidelines on minimising social contact are in place, sadly we can't enjoy a birthday celebration with friends and family.

You can, though, have your birthday celebrated in the Argyllshire Advertiser.

Happy Birthday. Send us a photograph of your wee one enjoying their special day and we will publish it and wish them Happy Birthday.

Remember to include their full name, age, where you are from and a bit about what you did to make the day at home special.

Send your photographs to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



Above: Isla Davidson from Lochgilphead celebrated her first birthday with mummy Kirsten Smith and dad Gary Davidson on April 27.



Left: Looking forward to her 10th birthday this Sunday, May 10 is Aimee MacTavish from Kilmichael Glassary. We hope this brightens up your lockdown birthday Aimee.

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LOOKING FOR HELP DURING CORONAVIRUS?

We know times are tough right now. So, to help, here's a list of organisations that can offer support. Please cut out and keep this page of useful contacts for use when you may need them.



National Assistance Helpline

Staying at home stops the spread of coronavirus, and some need extra help.

If you are over 70 or receive the flu vaccine for medical reasons, you do not have any access to the internet, and do not have anyone to help you get essential supplies like food or medicine, then we have created a helpline just for you.

Call: 0800 111 4000 (Open office hours Monday to Friday)

Textphone: 0800 111 4114 (Open office hours Monday to Friday)

Please remember the helpline and textphone service are dedicated to helping those who cannot leave their home and who cannot get help online.

Health

www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus
0800 028 2816

(8am –10pm everyday)
for general information only

Call NHS 24 on 111 for advice
if symptoms worsen or if fever
is ongoing after 7 days

Shielding local support

www.gov.scot/covid-shielding-contacts

Feeling anxious or depressed?

NHS Inform:

www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus-mental-wellbeing

NHS 24:

Call 111

Breathing Space:

www.breathingspace.scot
0800 83 85 87

Scottish Association for Mental Health:

0344 800 0550
info@samh.org.uk

Samaritans Scotland Helpline:

116 123 / jo@samaritans.org

Advice for pregnant women

www.nhsinform.scot/ready-steady-baby or contact
your midwife if concerned.

Easy-read coronavirus guidance

[www.sclد.org.uk/
information-on-coronavirus](http://www.sclد.org.uk/information-on-coronavirus)
Helpline: 0141 248 3733

Social welfare and financial help

Citizens Advice Scotland:

www.cas.org.uk
0800 028 1456

Struggling with energy bills?

Home Energy Scotland:
0808 808 2282

Consumer issues

Advice Direct Scotland

www.coronavirusadvice.scot
0808 800 9060

Employment rights advice

www.acas.org.uk

Helpline: 0300 123 1100

Relay UK: 18001 0300 123 1100

Support for accessing your rights at work

www.stuc.org.uk

Email: info@stuc.org.uk

Call: 0141 337 8100

For business support

[www.findbusinesssupport.gov.
scot/coronavirus-advice](http://www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/coronavirus-advice)

Helpline: 0300 303 0660

Helping in your community

www.readyscotland.org

Advice for parents

www.parentclub.scot/coronavirus

Parentline Scotland:

08000 28 22 33

The Money Talk Team:

0800 085 7145

Information for Young People

www.young.scot/coronavirus

Information, friendship and advice for older people, their carers and families

www.ageuk.org.uk

0800 12 44 222

For people with dementia, families, friends and professionals

Alzheimer Scotland

[www.alzscot.org/living-with-
dementia/getting-support](http://www.alzscot.org/living-with-dementia/getting-support)

24-hour Helpline: 0808 808 3000

Scottish Autism Advice Line

www.scottishautism.org

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Domestic Abuse Helpline

www.safer.scot

Helpline: 0800 027 1234

Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline

www.rapecrisisscotland.org.uk

Helpline: 08088 01 03 02

CORONAVIRUS

**STAY HOME
PROTECT
THE NHS
SAVE LIVES**

Raise a glass to end of European war

A simple, respectful wreath-laying ceremony by Royal British Legion Scotland members in Inveraray will be one of the ways the 75th anniversary of VE Day will be remembered in Argyll.

Lochgilhead Armed Forces Day, meanwhile, was to have had VE Day as the theme for



Geordie Rhodick – 'Raise a glass on May 8'.

06_a25ArmedForcesDay58

the annual event on June 13, before coronavirus caused its cancellation.

However, Armed Forces Day committee chairman Geordie Rhodick said: 'As the theme this year was to be VE Day 75th anniversary, may I ask that all raise a glass, cuppa or whatever you have in your hand to this on Friday May 8 at 3pm, no matter where you are.'

Victory in Europe Day, generally known as VE Day, is a day commemorating the formal acceptance by the Allies of the Second World War of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces on Tuesday May 8, 1945.

This meant the end of almost six years of European war for the United Kingdom, though the brutal conflict in the Far East continued for another three months – until shortly after the US dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in early August 1945. Victory over Japan (VJ Day) is marked on August 15.



Left: Jean, aged 16, back row, middle, near Dunoon Pier on VE Day.

Argyll memories of victory in Europe

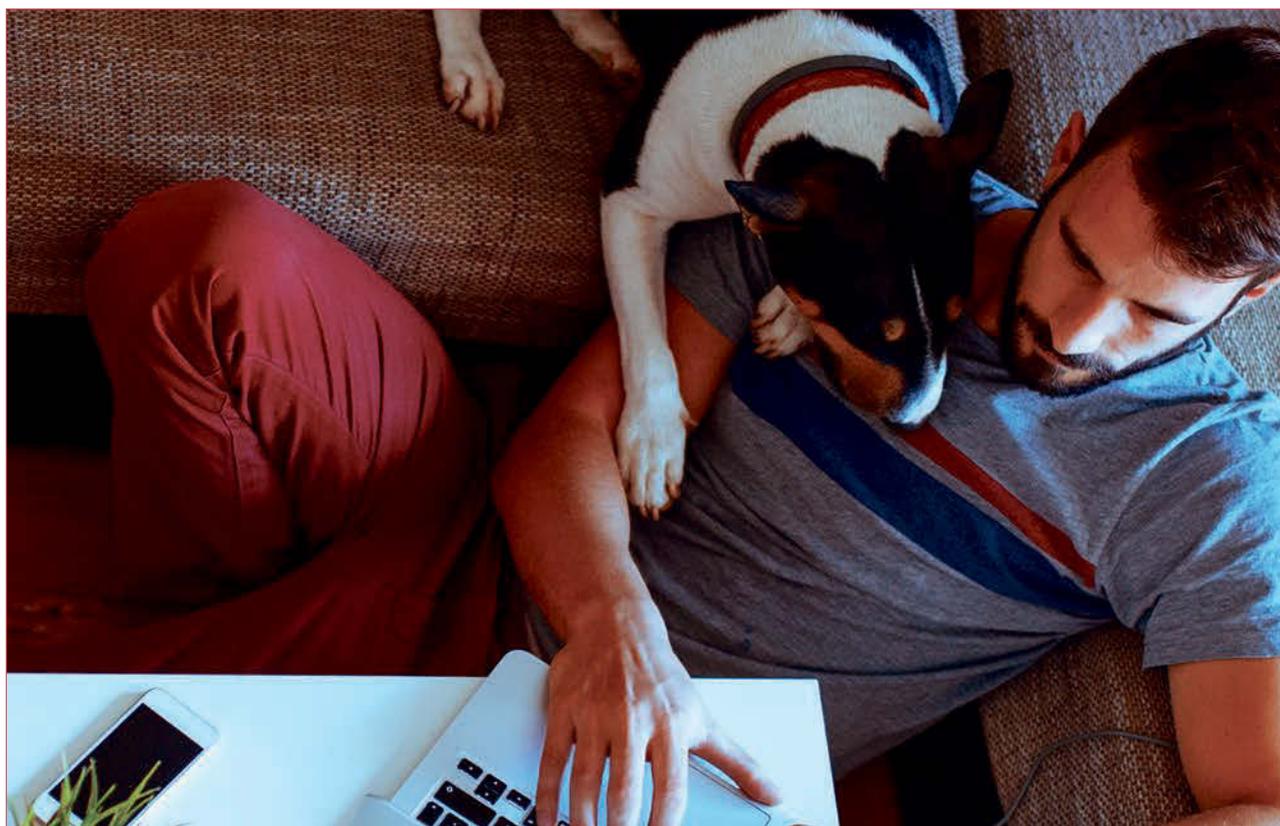
Tarbert girl Jean MacSporryn was at school in Dunoon when the Allies declared victory in Europe on May 8, 1945.

Her daughter Liz Wyroslawska sent us a photograph of her mum, Jean Grant (née MacSporryn) who was brought up in Tarbert.

Liz told the Argyllshire Advertiser: 'She was sent off to finish her schooling in Dunoon as an older teenager. This picture is with her friends on VE Day celebrating.'

Liz continued: 'Mum, who is now approaching 92 years of age, lives independently in Dumfries where she and my dad settled in 1953.'

'It's a hard time for her just now as the family are all over Scotland. We still have strong Tarbert links as my son Stefan married a Tarbert girl, Yvonne, 10 years ago.'



Just ask

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SJP12025 V1 (04/20)

Free bike loans to key workers

Bothy pedal power helps in lockdown

The Ardrishaig Bothy is helping key workers and other residents get around – using pedal power.

The Bothy has loaned out its fleet of 11 electric bicycles and six traditional cycles to help people commute to work, take their daily exercise and undertake other essential tasks.

The Bothy, a collaboration between Cycling UK and Scottish Canals, works with organisations to encourage more people to walk and cycle in the area.

The bikes are from the project's new e-bike loan scheme, a partnership with Mid Argyll Community Pool, which was ready to be launched when lockdown measures were introduced.

The free bike loans have gone out to key workers including a nurse, pharmacy staff, a teacher, a supermarket worker and a GP surgery practice manager. Other people have taken up the loans to help boost their physical and mental health. Many participants also received a helmet, lock and a puncture repair kit to help keep them on the road.

Alec Ohnstad, project co-ordinator for the Ardrishaig Bothy, said: 'We're delighted our e-bikes are being put to good use by key workers and

others who will benefit from them.

'Many people are using cycling to get from A to B during the lockdown, while others are finding it's a real boost to their health and wellbeing. When social distancing guidelines are relaxed we look forward to launching our e-bike library, but in the meantime we can't think of a better use for the bikes.'

Cycling journeys in Scotland have shot up during lockdown, with recent figures released by Transport Scotland showing a 120 per cent increase compared to typical levels.

Cycling UK is also providing free essential cycling services and repairs for key workers through the Big Bike Revival for key workers scheme.

The charity is working with more than 60 independent bike shops, recycling centres and mechanics workshops in Scotland – including Fyne Bike Cycle Repair in Ardrishaig. Key workers can access free bike servicing and repairs from the business and are encouraged to message via Facebook or call 07475 381234 to arrange an appointment.

Find out more about the Ardrishaig Bothy on Facebook, email alecohnstad@cyclinguk.org or phone 07887 567578.



Left: Health and Social Care Partnership manager Kate MacAulay sizes up pedal power.



Right: Teacher Sue Carter at Lochgilphead Joint Campus with her bike.

Coronavirus Help is here for those that need it most.

Staying at home stops the spread of coronavirus, and some need extra help.

If you:

- Have received a letter advising you to stay at home for the next 12 weeks
- Are a disabled person
- Receive mental health support
- Have dementia
- Are over 70, pregnant or received the flu vaccine for health reasons

We've created a helpline to assist you with essential things like food deliveries, medication or practical and emotional support.

If you can't get this help from family, friends or neighbours, call now on **0800 111 4000** or textphone 0800 111 4114

Or go to readyscotland.org for more information.

Mairi Henderson of Argyll Pharmacy in Lochgilphead at the Ardrishaig Bothy trying out a bike.



CORONAVIRUS
STAY HOME
PROTECT
THE NHS
SAVE LIVES

Coronavirus: Helping each other

Extraordinary kindness

The United Kingdom is pulling together as one, with people from all regions and all four nations of the country helping each other through the coronavirus pandemic.

As we all know, we must only leave our homes if we are key workers or cannot work from home, to do essential shopping

and for one period of daily exercise.

By doing this we will all help protect the NHS and save lives.

Despite the absolutely necessary restrictions on our normal lives, people are being encouraged to help neighbours in need where possible. This has led to some amazing acts

of kindness on every street, in every village and town across the country. Communities have never felt stronger. Today, we shine a light on just some of the people from communities across the country to showcase examples of ordinary people doing extraordinarily kind and helpful things.



CASE STUDY GAIL REDMOND

A CHARITY that supports families has noticed a sharp rise in requests for help due to widespread redundancies.

Gail Redmond of Via Wings' in the County Down town of Dromore, in Northern Ireland, says the charity normally gives out 85 food bags a month to people in need.

"But last week we gave out 105 already, many of which are going to people who are self-isolating," she said.

"One guy who contacted me on Friday, said: I have never asked anyone for help like this before.

But I have lost my job and can't afford to feed my kids right now.' You could tell that he was absolutely mortified and so humble. So many people have lost their jobs.

"We have told pensioners not to answer their door when we deliver, but one old lady insisted. We told her she shouldn't be doing that, but she replied: I just want to say thank you'.

"The older generation are so apologetic when asking for help, they all say:



GAIL REDMOND: 'Dromore area hit hard by redundancies'.

I'm sorry to bother you'."

Christian charity Via Wings is offering food deliveries and befriending to anyone who is self-isolating, elderly, vulnerable, an NHS employee, key workers, or those financially impacted by Covid-19.

Volunteers observe social distancing guidelines and food is carefully wiped down before being packed. Food and toiletry donations can be made

at Eurospar, Supervalu and Vivo in Dromore and Tescos (Boulevard) and Lidl in Banbridge.

Via Wings works with local schools and churches, social workers, care workers and other agencies.

"Working in unity is what our grandparents used to do, and that is what we need to get back to doing, caring for each other," Gail added.

"There is no ownership, we are just working together."

CASE STUDY NEIL MUSGROVE

AN ULTRA-MARATHON runner is putting his best foot forward after several running events planned for this year had to be cancelled or postponed.

Last year Neil Musgrove ran seven ultra-marathons and with none looking likely for this year he is running one in his back garden.

He is doing a mile a day in his back garden according to his running watch and is hoping to reach his goal of the 30 mile starting distance for an ultra marathon by the end of April.

For every mile completed, Neil is donating £5 to Leeds Cares and hopes that friends and family will join in with the challenge at their own homes and donate after every mile completed.

He said: "With no ultra-marathons to run I thought I'll run one of my own. Any experience I've had with Leeds Hospitals in the past has been positive, I want to support all of our amazing NHS staff who are currently under huge pressure and working in extremely tough circumstances.

"It is quite a few laps. All being well this takes me to a 30 mile ultra marathon distance. Yes it might get a little tedious but I am thinking of it as an ultra with a checkpoint, food and drink at every mile.

"My young niece and nephew have already got involved and I'm hoping to get my own



MARATHON MAN: Neil Musgrove putting his best foot forward for an ultra marathon in his back garden in Leeds.

PIC COPYRIGHT - NEIL MUSGROVE/SUBMITTED BY LEEDS CARES

kids involved too. I'm sharing the challenge with my colleagues and running club teammates so hopefully lots of us will get involved. Make it as interesting as you like. I am thinking about obstacles, singing, dancing, whatever. I would love it if people joined in. The only rules are it has to be a minimum of one mile. It has to be fully within your own property boundary. If you don't have a garden, special dispensation is given to use your street but remember the two metre rule."

All funds raised through Neil's challenge will go towards Leeds Cares' Support Your NHS Hospitals Appeal and provide vital support to frontline staff at Leeds Teaching Hospitals.

This includes, paying for care packages, assistance with travel

and accommodation where needed, as well as helping to fund other health and wellbeing initiatives to boost morale across the wards. He set a target of £750 on his JustGiving

page and has raised more than £550 already. Leeds Cares is the official charity

partner of Leeds Teaching Hospitals. The organisation supports NHS staff to deliver the best care for patients and their families, by raising funds for equipment, services, education and research.

Leeds Cares works collaboratively with all of the hospitals across Leeds (including Leeds Cancer Centre, Leeds Children's Hospital, St James' University Hospital and Leeds General Infirmary) to identify charitable projects and causes.



Nominate a community hero

Do YOU know a volunteer who deserves to be recognised for making a change in their community?

The Prime Minister recognises one person a day with a Point of Light award.

Read more or nominate someone at www.pointsoflight.gov.uk/

across our communities

CASE STUDY HARRY RAGLESS

A BOY with spina bifida and his father are both doing their bit for the community - but in completely different ways.

Harry Ragless usually spends 80 per cent of his time in a wheelchair due to his condition, which means his spine did not form properly in the womb and he has neurological damage to his legs and back and cannot feel his feet.

But inspired by the efforts of 100-year-old war veteran Captain Tom Moore, which have seen him raise around £30million for the NHS, Harry decided to raise money by walking with his frame and leg supports.

The determined six-year-old from Oaksheath Gardens in Durrington, near Worthing, has raised £2,400 and rising within days of his parents launching a fundraising page for his efforts - smashing his £100 target.

He said: "I feel really good. I was shocked."

His proud mother Selina Ragless said: "He has shocked us all. Because of his condition he tires easily but the other day he walked from our house to Vancouver Road, which is really far for him. We couldn't believe it."

As word of his exploits spread, Selina said people were coming out of their homes to applaud Harry, who attends West Park School in Marlborough Road, Goring, when he went out for a walk.

She said: "I feel overwhelmed to be honest. We owe the NHS so much; they have been there for him since he was born and will be there for him for the rest of his life. If we can give something back, that is all we want."

In fact, Harry's exploits grabbed the attention of Captain Tom himself - and his



WALKING TALL: Harry Ragless has raised £2,400 with the help of his father and his walking frame and leg supports.

picture was featured on the Second World War veteran's Instagram page.

Harry is not the only person in his family who is raising a smile in the community.

By day, his dad Steve is a warehouse manager - but during his daily walk, he dons his Stars Wars outfit to bring a bit of fun to the neighbourhood. The 45-year-old said: "I love it. From my own experience, I remember the first Comic-Con I went to in Birmingham and I saw all these stormtroopers standing outside, and I went into full fanboy mode."

The opportunity for him to get his own suit arose when a friend was selling theirs.

He said: "When I finally put it on, I just



STAR MAN: Steve in his dramatic outfit.

felt amazing in it. I love seeing the looks and smiles, and people tooting their car horns and waving. It brings a few smiles in these very strange times."

Selina came up with the idea for him to wear it after they were put in lockdown, and during their walks around the estate Steve has posed for 'socially-distant' photos with some of the children who have come out to see him.

In his spare time, Steve has donned the costume to a variety of events, including birthday parties, weddings and charity events.

When the Connaught Cinema has done showings of Star Wars films, Steve has turned up in his gear to raise money for Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, a charity which has helped Harry.

When asked if there was anything he wanted to say to the people who have donated so far to his campaign, Harry said: "Thank you."

To donate, visit [justgiving.com/fundraising/selina-ragless1](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/selina-ragless1).

CASE STUDY STENHOUSEMUIR FC

A FOOTBALL club initiative is supporting hundreds of families by delivering school meals to pupils during the coronavirus lockdown.

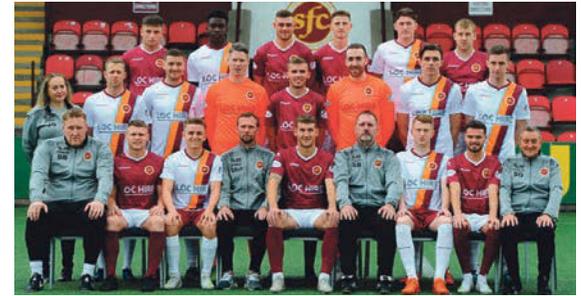
With the season shut down indefinitely, Stenhousemuir FC set up its community help hotline in mid-March to assist the most vulnerable members of society as the effects of the global pandemic began to take hold.

A 30-strong squad of volunteers was assembled in the first week to carry out everyday tasks like shopping or dog walking for those in isolation or for whom such activities would prove difficult. Since then, the number of volunteers has hit 80 although extra help remains welcome.

Government guidelines mean the volunteers can leave their homes to help a vulnerable person and, with almost every volunteer already assigned to an individual, more support is likely to be needed in the weeks ahead.

The idea has been well received by those who live in the Stenhousemuir and Larbert areas and beyond, so much so organisers opted to branch out and ease the strain on mums and dads by collecting and distributing school lunches purchased by Larbert High School to youngsters stuck at home.

Pupils from Larbert High and its cluster primaries are benefitting



ON THE BALL: Stenhousemuir FC players and coaching staff.

from the move.

On just one day last month, volunteers delivered more than 130 meals to schoolchildren.

Stenny chairman Iain McMenemy, who helped to organise the initiative, said: "We put out a few requests for further volunteers and the response to each has been really encouraging.

"We're doing one-to-one tasks for people like dog walking and shopping and we're putting in calls to make sure they're okay.

"The advice was clear: if you're going out for your own shopping, if you have to go to work, if you're going out for one bit of exercise or if you're helping a vulnerable person you're able to go out, particularly because some people have got nobody else.

"We have even had members of family from farther afield saying they have a relative in the area and they want to give you a call.

"We're still looking for volunteers as we're only in week three and the smart money is probably on this being extended for three months. We've also expanded out to do school meal deliveries for

a number of the schools. Carron Bathrooms got in touch and offered two vans so we now have three. On top of that, we're doing deliveries for Falkirk Foodbank."

Though Stenny officials admitted concerns over the impact COVID-19 would have on the club itself, their focus has always been on the "health and well-being" of the community.

When the community help initiative was first announced, Mr McMenemy wrote in a statement: "With the continuing spread of the coronavirus, Scottish football faces an uncertain future.

"It is quite clear that there will be a significant impact on football operations and finances and Stenhousemuir Football Club will no doubt be affected by this.

"However, there are other, more important matters to think about. The coronavirus is a very serious disease that will affect thousands within our communities.

"The health and well-being of friends, neighbours and members of our community should be our top priority."



HOME ADVANTAGE: Stenhousemuir players brought food directly to people's houses.

LETTERS

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

Coronavirus still a crisis in Argyll – stick to the rules

Two stories in this week's edition bring into sharp focus the seriousness of the coronavirus crisis in Argyll.

Our condolences go to the family and friends of Robert Black, believed to have contracted coronavirus through his work as a paramedic.

There was a happier ending to Julie Gallacher's fight with the virus, but it was a hard and lonely road. Julie issued a stark warning – obey the lockdown and social distancing rules for everyone's sake.

Talk at government level of being 'past the peak' is dangerous. The virus is still among us and every one of us has a responsibility to behave according to the rules.

In this sunny spell there have been people travelling to walk the hills, ignoring public health advice. And screaming motorbikes have been seen and heard.

That's all fine until the biker becomes wrapped round a tree or the climber is stranded on a cliff.

What of the people who risk their safety to save you?

People like Robert Black will always put service and duty first.

Listen to current advice, be sensible and some kind of normality might just return all the quicker.

Last week's front page story generated a big response from readers by phone, letter, email and on social media.

With a project under way to renew and upgrade the electricity line built in the 1950s between Inveraray and north Kintyre, there is concern over public safety during the coronavirus pandemic, with workers travelling from across the UK to work in Mid Argyll and mixing with the community.

In the article, SSEN said its contractors follow strict government and industry guidance and have introduced new operating procedures. Main contractor Balfour Beatty says it is adhering to the Construction Leadership Council's COVID-19 site operating procedures.

A selection of comments posted on the Argyllshire Advertiser Facebook page:

Jock Munro posted: 'I fail to see how two men in the front seat of a minibus or van can stay two metres apart. They are not wearing any form of facemask and are in and out of the Co-op in Inveraray every day.'

Graham Macpherson responded: 'A lot more than two came out the minibus the other day.'

Jimmy McCallum: 'As regards Balfour Beatty, how can they claim their employees follow the rules? Do they really think these guys go home to the Mrs and sleep on the couch?'

Jimmy McMahon: '...counted at least four Balfour Beatty vans outside the chippy last night with them all sharing same vans. No two metre distance and from what I am hearing some are still heading down to England at the weekends and back which it basically states at the bottom of the article. It would be different if they weren't going away back down south at the weekends but this isn't the case. If they have no accommodation this way, they should be furloughed like the rest of us.'

Simon Taylor: 'Is it really essential work when

we have power when most small businesses can't work because of this, but they can come from all over Britain and work in a small town? Should be made to stop like the rest of us.'

Julie Gallacher, who is recovering after contracting COVID-19 as featured elsewhere in this edition, wrote: 'It beggars belief how this is allowed. We can't see our children/grandchildren and others close to us because we are listening to the government about social distancing and our NHS and carers and other public persons are going out there putting themselves in danger to help us. It is a slap in the face and should be stopped. I simply can't believe this. Please stop this till it's over.'

Another man wrote (name and address supplied): 'This week in Inveraray the Balfour Beatty workers have been using the Co-op. On one occasion I went in and there was four van loads of them in there. About eight workers at least. No gloves/masks or social distancing.'

You can read the response of the companies involved on page 3.

YOUR PICTURES



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Fishermen's Mission here to help

Regular contributor Aileen Gillies sent us this week's photograph, which she has called 'What ewe looking at?'. Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



The Fishermen's Mission port officer for Kintyre, Oban and the Islands is reminding local fishermen he is available to support them, whatever their problems.

Chris Holden, who took over the role from Matthew Ramsay when he retired last year, says no fisherman or their family should struggle alone, especially at the moment with the industry hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Fishermen's Mission was set up in 1881 to help fishermen and their families weather the storms of life and it says nothing has changed.

Chris, who is based in Campbeltown, said: 'We are still here to help you.'

'If you are a fisherman on a UK boat, a retired fisherman or a member of a fisherman's family please do not hesitate to contact us. We know how difficult life is at the moment. We also know asking for help is never easy.'

'We are always here to listen and give practical guidance.'

'These are very difficult times and the support we can give you may make all the difference.'

'The Fishermen's Mission can help

you if you feel like you are struggling with money worries or feeling isolated. Together, we can get through this crisis.'

The Fishermen's Mission is ideally placed to help with expert knowledge of what's happening locally and nationally around coronavirus and how to get the support.

Chris added: 'Working alongside other maritime charities, the Fishermen's Mission can access funding and support not available elsewhere, particularly for fishermen's children.'

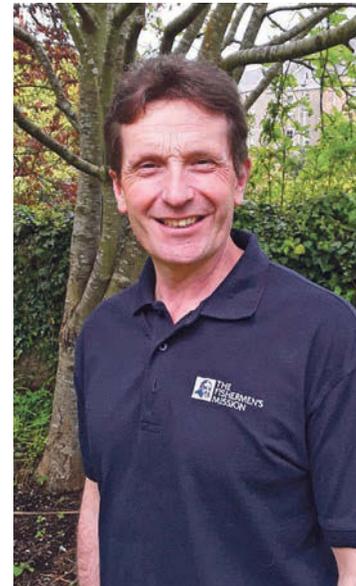
'Many fishing families with children have already contacted us for support so please do not struggle through this crisis on your own.'

'Pick up the phone and give us a call. We are here to help you and your family.'

Contact Chris by calling 07788 674376 or email kintyre@fishermensmission.org.uk

For more information about The Fishermen's Mission, visit www.fishermensmission.org.uk, search @thefishmish on Twitter or visit www.facebook.com/fishermensmission.

To support the charity by donating £2, text AFLOAT to 770085.



Chris Holden, Fishermen's Mission port officer for Kintyre, Oban and the Islands.

HAVE YOUR SAY

email us at editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



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Your weekly puzzle challenge

No. 1464

Quiz Challenge

1. What was the married surname of the actress born Sarah Kemble, who lived from 1755 to 1831?
2. Sika and muntjac are species of which animal?
3. Name the only country in Central America not to have a Pacific coastline.
4. From 1982 to 1989, which former BBC newsreader hosted the Channel 4 game show Treasure Hunt?
5. Comedian Richard Blackwood played a character named Vincent Hubbard in which TV soap opera?



Richard Blackwood – see Question 5

6. The vocal chords are found in which organ of the human body?
7. Whose 1981 version of the song Begin the Beguine topped the UK singles chart?
8. Which actress described her role in the Harry Potter films as “Miss Jean Brodie in a wizard’s hat”?
9. What A is a company which operates the US passenger railway system?
10. Name the winner of the Wimbledon 1997 ladies’ singles who was sometimes known as ‘The Swiss Miss’.

BOX CLEVER

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6				
		8		2
			5	

Fill the 6x6 grid with as many boxes as there are numbers printed. Each box must be either square or rectangular and must contain just one of the numbers. The numbers show how many squares there should be in each box.

COMMON LINK

The answers to the following five questions contain a word or words which have a common theme. Can you find the link?

1. What name is given to a female swan?
2. Comma, Grayling and Grizzled Skipper are all species of what type of insect?
3. Which character in Charles Dickens’s novel Great Expectations is described as a ‘pale young gentleman’ who challenges Pip to a fight?
4. What is the name of the Scottish biscuit traditionally made with white sugar, butter and oat flour?
5. Who directed the 1968 sci-fi movie 2001: A Space Odyssey?

SUDOKU

Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9, and so must each 3 x 3 box.

Easy

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Hard

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SOLUTIONS

EASY SUDOKU

2	9	7	6	3	1	8	4	5
7	3	6	2	8	5	4	1	9
6	2	1	7	4	6	5	3	8
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1	5	3	6	9	7	2	8	4
6	1	7	9	2	3	8	4	5
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HARD SUDOKU

8	3	7	1	6	2	9	4	5
6	4	7	3	8	9	2	5	1
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7	9	3	8	5	4	1	6	2
5	6	1	7	2	3	9	4	8
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BOX CLEVER

		5			
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		2		3	
3				2	
			5		

- COMMON LINK
- 1 Pen;
 - 2 Butterfly;
 - 3 Herbert Pocket;
 - 4 Shortbread;
 - 5 Stanley;
 - Kubrick.

QUIZ CHALLENGE
1 Sidons; 2 Deer; 3 Belize; 4 Kenneth Kendall; 5 Eastenders; 6 Larynx; 7 Julio Iglesias; 8 Dame Maggie Smith (plays Professor McGonagall); 9 Amtrak; 10 Martina Hingis.

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The Dochas Carer Centre

Are you an adult unpaid carer?

We are here for you

We provide a service to unpaid adult carers across the whole of Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles (MAKI). We have three teams:

- Support outreach worker team
- Trained counselling team
- Volunteer befriending team

We are available 10-4pm Monday to Friday and our service is open to any unpaid adult carers that needs support.

The Outreach/Support Team

This team are maintaining regular contact with carers via telephone. Our team is providing a listening ear during this challenging time and we have been fortunate to receive additional funding to support carers and those they care for with creative solutions to help with their mental and emotional health while in isolation.

Our website – www.dochasfund.org.uk and Facebook pages will be updated regularly with information and advice.

The outreach/support team can be contacted via the telephone number 01546 600022 or by emailing -enquiries@dochafund.org.uk

The Volunteer Befriending Team

Our volunteer befriending service called Circle of Friends is continuing to run. Volunteers are maintaining contact with the individuals they are befriending by telephone.

Our volunteer Co-ordinator, Ryan Taylor, continues to support this service.

If you have an interest in this service Ryan can be contacted via the telephone number 01546 600022

The Dochas Counselling team

The team are keeping up with their existing clients and people who are contacting them via the counselling service.

Visit the Dochas Facebook page for more information on the new counselling service set up to help during the Covid-19 crisis. This service is for people and their families who are living with long term conditions/terminal illness and bereavement.

Please telephone 07432 231217

or contact counselling@dochafund.org.uk and someone will get back to you to explain the process.

They can't obviously offer any face to face counselling at the present time, but we can offer you telephone, email or online support.



Mid Argyll Youth Development Services

Providing Information and Accessible Youth Friendly Services

Are you a young carer?

We are here for you...

MAYDS are still providing support for children, young people and families where we can. Anyone needing advice or help can contact the above at anytime.

We are providing our child and adolescent counselling services via skype, phone etc., and still open for referrals for any young person feeling isolated or in need of support. Our Young Carers are still being supported by our team across MAKI and again referrals are still being taken.

We have regular information and updates on our facebook page mid Argyll youth development services.

Online support is also available on www.cool2talk.org.

Contact 07788900049 or fiona@mayds.org.uk lynn@mayds.org.uk

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

SUPERMARKETS AND FOODHALLS

Co-op Stores

Lochgilphead, Inveraray, Ardrishaig Tarbert
Open Mon-Sat 7am-8pm
Key worker exclusive access: Mon-Sat 8am-9am,
Sun 10am-11am
Lochgilphead offering deliveries – Tel: 01546
602060

Tesco Express

Lochgilphead
Tel: 0345 671 9305
Open 6am-10pm
Your usual groceries and supplies inc Costa
Coffee machine
Fuel – pay on pump from 10pm-midnight
Hand sanitising on entry
Safe distancing rules apply

Riverside Filling Station/Spar

Lochgilphead
Open Mon-Sat, 7am-8pm, Sun 9am-6pm
All the usual food supplies
Hot food/rolls for take-away
Can deliver via the West Coast Motors service –
call ahead to arrange 01546 603858

McCaughey's Londis

Inveraray
Open Mon-Sat 8am-6pm
Cooked breakfast takeaway 8am-12pm
Post Office open Mon-Sat 8am-5.30pm
Can deliver – Tel: 07899 061575

CONVENIENCE STORES AND NEWSAGENTS

R S McColl's Lochgilphead

Open 7am-8pm daily

RS McColl's Inveraray

Open 8am-6pm daily

Ardfern Village Store

Open Mon-Fri, 8am -6.30pm
Sat 8am-1pm, Sun 9am-1pm
Food delivery available – Tel: 01546 870281

Furnace Village Store

Open Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 9am-1pm
Coffee machine still on!
Deliveries available locally – Tel: 01499 500668

Craobh Haven Village Store

Open 11.30am-9pm daily
Lots in stock and free hand sanitizer to locals
whilst stocks last!
Tel: 01852 500658

Danny's Hardware & Pet Supplies

Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am – 4pm
For Phone Orders, 07776 491 308
between the same hours,
10am – 4pm Monday to Friday only.

Mccolls Ardrishaig

Open 7am-8pm 7 days a week
Deliveries on special request
Social distancing measures in place
For info/orders Tel: 01546 606770 or visit our FB
page

Peter Law & Son, Ardrishaig

Open 5am-5.30pm 7 days a week
Deliveries available
Social distancing measures in place
For info/orders Tel: 01546 603481

FRESH FOOD SUPPLIES

Aray Fish, Fruit & Veg

Delivery to doorstep in Mid Argyll
Home delivery is free of charge. Minimum spend
£10.
Deliveries on the following days in these specific
areas (exact delivery days may vary dependent
on demand):
WEDNESDAY - Inveraray, Furnace, Minard &
Lochgair.
THURSDAY - Cladich to Ford (Lochawe-side),
Ardrishaig, Kilmartin, Kilmichael, Cairnbaan &
Lochgilphead.
FRIDAY - Lochgoilhead, Strachur, St Catherines
& Cairndow.
Visit website for full product list www.arayfish.com

The Argyll Café

Lochgilphead
Open Wed, Thurs, Fri Sat, 5pm-9m
Your usual favourites, although menu slightly
reduced
Collection only, strict social distancing measures
Order by phone or on the Facebook page
Tel: 01546 606225

DJ Campbell & Son

Dairy Produce
Daily deliveries
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Call Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm for orders

Marmalade Deli

Lochgilphead
Good levels of stock
Bulk orders available – full list on www.marmaladedeli.com
Order via email marmaladedeli@fastmail.com
or by phone 01546 606292

Featuring the businesses in Mid Argyll that are open and able to offer vital products and services to our community during the current Covid-19 pandemic. Many of these businesses are working under extreme pressure to bring quality products and services to the people of Mid Argyll and beyond. Please remember to exercise caution when shopping and only shop for essential supplies. Along with our wonderful NHS staff and carers, our local food, fuel, news platforms and home supply businesses are our community champions!

Murray Smoked Products

For all your essential fish and seafood supplies
Open Tues-Fri 8.30am-3pm, Sat 8.30am-1pm
Deliveries available within approx. 15 miles with
West Coast Motors
Tel: 01546 600262 – or message us on Facebook
CW Shellfish
Order on a Thursday for Friday delivery
Through FB page only please
Fresh prawns from £10 per kilo, Crabs £4 each

Ferguson Butchers

Lochgilphead
Taking orders by phone for collection
Fresh fruit and veg also
Tel: 01546 602400/403

Keara's Snack Shack

Lochgilphead
Taking orders by phone on 07765 550793 or
07717 095691
Medium Fruit & Veg Pack £9.50
Large Fruit & Veg Pack £18
No cash payments – Paypal or bank transfer only
Free local delivery every Friday

TAKE-AWAY FOOD

Grey Gull

Ardrishaig
Take-away available 12pm-8.30pm
Visit FB page for full menu
Collection only
Tel: 01546 606017
Accommodation available for essential/key workers

Salty Dog Café

Home-cooked meals
5 for £20
See FB page for full menu choices
Order by 8pm on a Sunday for Monday delivery
(local)
Collections can be arranged
Tel: 07497 003850

CHEMISTS/PHARMACIES & HEALTHCARE

Tarbert Pharmacy

Open 10am-4.30pm (closed 1-2 for lunch)
Social distancing and safety measures in place
including hand sanitizing on entry and sneeze
guards. 1 in, 1 out policy.
Tel: 01880 820232

Inveraray Pharmacy

Open 9am-4pm, Mon-Fri & 9am-1pm Sat (for
general supplies)
Dispensing for acute prescriptions available
9am-1pm, Mon, Wed, Fri (collection only
thereafter)
Social distancing and safety measures in place
including hand sanitizing on entry and sneeze
guards. 1 in, 1 out policy.
Tel: 01499 302133

Argyll Pharmacy

Lochgilphead
Open Mon – Fri 9am-5.30pm
Sat 9am-5pm
Please only order what you need, check
prescriptions are ready for collection BEFORE
coming to the Pharmacy, please phone where
you can for pharmacy advice
This goes against everything we believe in as
'good customer service' however we will be
here to support you in the best way we can
under these exceptional circumstances.
Please stay safe!
Tel: 01546 603217

VETERINARY CARE

Dalriada Vets

The surgery is running an emergency service for
all animals under our care (pets, farm animals
and horses). Please contact the surgery to
discuss with a vet if you think your animal may
need to be examined. We are providing vet
medicines, repeat prescriptions, flea, tick and
worm treatments and pet food, by arrangement.
Tel: 01546 602240

EXTRA HELP FROM COMMUNITY HEROES

Inveraray Community Council

Are you in self-isolation?
If you are following government guidelines
and self-isolating due to a new cough or fever,
we have set up a volunteer group for anyone
in Inveraray needing essential groceries or
prescriptions from local shops or chemist to be
picked up and delivered to your doorstep.
.Call Linda on 07388165366 or Aly on
07717885404. Open to Inveraray residents only.
Payment on delivery please. If you would like to
volunteer to deliver goods please let us know.

West Coast Motors Deliveries

West Coast Motors are offering FREE travel to
NHS workers and are also offering a FREE service
for pick up and delivery from Lochgilphead and
Inveraray.
When placing your order with the store, pay
over the phone by card. Let them know that
your order will be collected by West Coast
Motors. Email or phone Robert Mackay on
r.mackay@westcoastmotors.co.uk. Arrange
a 01586 555883 (leave a message with your
number if he's out) to arrange the pick up
from the shop/chemist. Arrange for yourself
or a volunteer to meet the bus at the bus stop
in your town/village. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR
LOCAL STORES WHERE POSSIBLE.

Information correct at time of going to press. Check www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk/openforbusiness for updated information. This page will run in the Argyllshire Advertiser every week for as long as necessary - printed information will be updated weekly.

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE FARMING SECTION:

TELEPHONE: 01631 568000

Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

E-MAIL: adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

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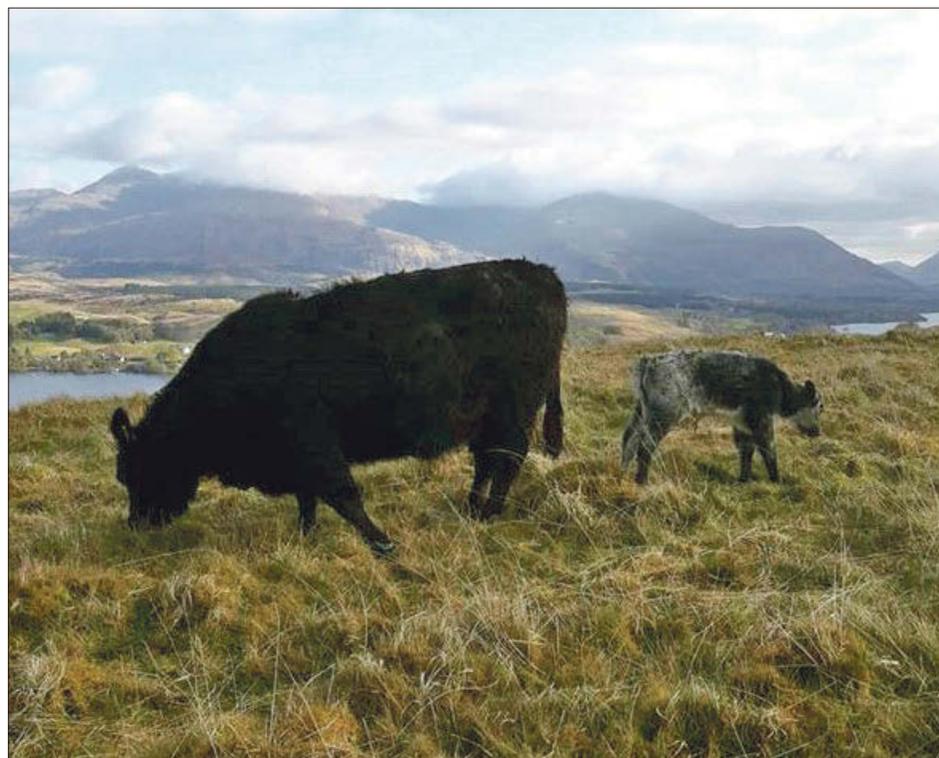
Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

Awe-some view for mum and new calf

Loch Awe-side farmer John MacPherson posted this photograph on social media of a cracking new-born heifer calf, oblivious to the fantastic view all around her.

The calf, born on the MacPherson family's Balliemanoach Farm, is of the traditional hill cattle cross breed known as a 'blue-grey' – her mum being a Galloway and dad a whitebred shorthorn.

Blue greys have always been in demand as hardy hill cattle and good mothers.



Mum and daughter oblivious to the stunning view around them.

Compare and improve your farm business

New benchmarking tools have been created to help farmers improve profitability by comparing their performance against other businesses.

The tools use information collected by the annual Scottish Farm Business Survey.

Published on the Farm Advisory Service (FAS) website, the Whole Farm Benchmarks and Enterprise Gross Margins tools allow farmers to check how their business compares to other dairy, specialist beef, mixed cattle and sheep, specialist sheep, specialist cereals, general cropping or mixed farms.

By comparing their performance against national performance levels, they can identify opportunities for improvement.

The Farm Business Survey is

carried out by SAC Consulting, part of Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), and is funded by the Scottish Government's Rural and Environment Science and Analytical Services team.

Keve Bevan, Principal Consultant at SAC Consulting, said: 'Looking for opportunities to lift profitability has never been more important given uncertainties created by COVID-19 and Brexit, but any search depends on knowing how well your farm is currently performing.'

While gross margins are useful for improving performance, farmers are advised to establish 'current performance' based on several years, to allow for factors such as the weather in a particular year.

For more information visit: www.fas.scot

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(UK) LTD
FARM GATES (UK) LTD

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MOBILE SHEEP SYSTEM

ON SALE FROM £1450.00 + VAT
(RRP from £3400 plus VAT)

The system is easy to move and erect where required and can be easily modified to suit your requirements

MAIN FEATURES:

- Made from high-tensile steel
- All hurdles are 8 railed x 970mm high
- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- Includes all joining pins/stakes

OPTION 1

10-foot race and 8-foot holding pen
£1450.00 + VAT

Comes with a n 80-foot holding pen and 10-foot race, 2x 2 feet swing gates and all joining pins/stakes included. Our system will safely hold 100 fully grown sheep (approx.)

PARTS LIST:

- 10 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x Joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2 feet swing gates



OPTION 2

20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen
£1795.00 + VAT

Comes with a 100-foot holding pen and 20-foot race, 2 x 2-foot swing gates and all joining pins/stakes included. Our system will safely hold 150 fully grown sheep (approx)

PARTS LIST:

- 14 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2-foot swing gates

MOBILE CATTLE SYSTEM (WITH JOINING PINS)

FROM £1,595.00 + VAT

Crush Gate optional extra £599.00

As standard our Mobile Cattle System comes with a 60 feet holding pen and 20 feet race, one sliding gate and all joining pins/stakes included. Our system will safely hold 45 fully grown cattle (approximately).

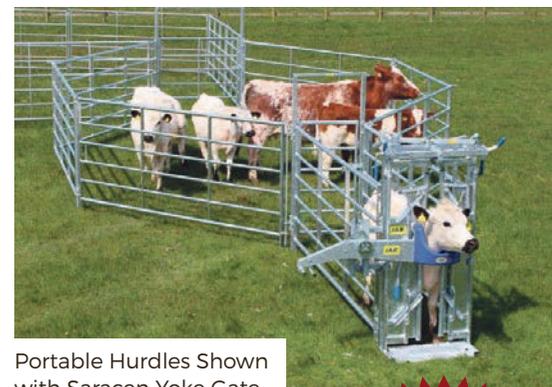
The system is easy to move and erect where required and can be easily modified to suit your requirements. Also ideal for TB Testing and the cattle sliding gate gives full control of the livestock from outside the race and stops the race from spreading out.

Main features:

- Made from heavy tubular steel
- All hurdles are 6 railed x 1.75 m high
- A funnel is incorporated into the race-way
- All hot dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3 m) long
- 20 feet race
- 60 feet holding pen
- Includes all joining pins/stakes
- Total 200 feet of penning

Parts list:

- 10 x 3m (6 railed) Cattle Hurdles
- 12 x Joining Pins/Stakes
- 1 x Sliding Gate



Portable Hurdles Shown with Saracen Yoke Gate with super Scoop.

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For more information or to place an order please send Farmgates UK Ltd a message:

Email: farm.gates@yahoo.com or call Ronnie Finney on 07789 276354

Bill retires from auction firm after 50 years in agriculture

Bill Jamieson is to retire from United Auctions after an illustrious 50-year career in agriculture.

An integral part of the sales team, sales executive Bill Jamieson was originally planning to work his last day at United Auctions on May 27 at the sale of store cattle at Stirling Agricultural Centre – two days after his 70th birthday.

The coronavirus outbreak put paid to that, however, and he will now be marking his last official day with the company from home.

Glasgow-born Bill has lived in Stirling since he started working with the company at Kildean mart in July 1989 after 20 years in farming.

Bill said: 'Farming was all I wanted to do since the age of seven when we went on holiday to Catacol Farm on the Isle of Arran.

'It was a fantastic education

each year because we helped them do everything.'

From 1969, Bill worked in various farming roles from dairyman at Camsiscan Farm near Kilmarnock, to farm manager at Sir William Lithgow's Drums Farms at Langbank and at Castlesteads Estate in Cumbria.

Position

In 1989, the late auctioneer Jimmy Weir encouraged Bill to apply for a position at the livestock auctioneering firm.

'I started out at United Auctions as market superintendent, staffing and running the yard at Kildean, Dalmally and on the island sales,' said Bill.

'The sales team knew I had good farming connections in Ayrshire so I soon became a canvasser there which expanded to drawing customers from Arran and over the years I've got business in from

Wigtownshire, Fife and up to Dalmally.'

He explained: 'The rostrum role is not for me. I'm good at communicating with people and a lot of my customers have stuck with me long-term and become good friends.'

Bill also made farming connections playing rugby. As well as playing at school and agricultural college, he played for Kilmarnock RFC from 1972-77 and was a top-five try scorer in the top divisions of Scottish rugby.

George Purves, managing director of United Auctions, said: 'Bill has been a valued member of our team for 30 years. In recent times he has been a mentor for some of our young team, sharing his knowledge and professionalism. With his great sense of humour, Bill always looks to lighten the moment, and he will leave a fantastic legacy

that will be with us for years to come. Although it will be a bittersweet day not being able to celebrate with him in person, we wish him a long, healthy and happy retirement.'

Reflecting on his long career, Bill said: 'It's a great job – hard work and long hours, but good fun.

'It's been terrific getting out and about meeting people and making lasting friendships. There have been some real ups and downs in the industry over the years, but we've come through it and way beyond because everyone has worked together as a team to keep it going and make the company what it is today.

'Now it's time for me to step aside and spend time with the family.'

Right: Bill Jamieson – a well known and popular figure.



Stoddarts

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HONDA TRX420FMC
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FULLY SERVICED WITH NEW TYRES
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Tuesdays
Weekly sale of prime hoggets, lambs and sale of cast ewes.

Thursdays
Weekly sale of prime cattle, young bulls and OTM Cattle.

Monday 18th May
Fortnightly sale of store cattle, young bulls also Native bred cattle.

Wednesday 20th May
Sale of Store Hoggets, Breeding Sheep to include Ewes & Hoggets with Lambs at foot.
Also sale of Young Calves & Stirks.

Further Details on any of the above sales and upto date trends please contact

Alastair Logan 07713 342514
Oliver Shearman 07730 046252
James Scott 07444 836360
Callum Buchanan 07542 917531

View our Market Reports on our website and facebook.

West Coast MOTORING

✓ GARAGES ✓ DEALERSHIPS ✓ PRIVATE SALES ✓ NEWS

Speed limits still matter during the Coronavirus lockdown

Road safety and breakdown organisation GEM Motoring Assist is asking drivers to pay close attention to the speeds they use while out and about during the current period of lockdown.

GEM says that speed limits continue to apply and that ignoring them brings significantly increased risks.

In London alone, for example, eight people have died and many others have been seriously injured in road collisions, with speeding being the most frequent factor identified by police.

GEM road safety officer Neil Worth commented: 'Restrictions on movement in the past three weeks have led to sharp drops in vehicle use.

But police chiefs across the country have been sharing examples of shocking behaviour by drivers who appear to be using the quieter roads as an opportunity to flout the speed limits.

'Speeding increases the risk of a collision which could lead to a serious injury or even a fatality. In today's climate that puts

unnecessary pressure on the NHS and could potentially deprive a desperate COVID-19 patient of vital medical care. We can help reduce this pressure if we are on essential journeys in the coming days and weeks – by respecting all speed limits, by challenging others who don't see speeding as a problem and by treating all speeding as socially unacceptable.'

GEM's top tips for slowing down

- Don't rush on a journey. Leave earlier and ensure you have plenty of time, with no reason to speed.
- Keep a close eye out for speed limit signs, and watch for clues that the speed limit may soon be about to change.
- Scan the speedometer frequently so you always know your own speed.
- Always ask yourself: is my speed both legal and safe? After all, the speed limit is just that – a limit, not a target, and there will be circumstances when you will feel much safer driving below the limit.



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RECRUITMENT

North Argyll House

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG

Currently recruiting for:

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Care Assistants from £9.18

Full and part-time permanent positions.

Good pay and conditions.

Experience not essential as training will be given.

Paid breaks and pension scheme.

For an application form contact manager

Morag A Telfer. 01631 562168

Email info@northargyllhouse.org

PUBLIC NOTICES

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/00599/PP	Erection of extension	Site 3 Kilmory Industrial Estate Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute PA31 8RR
20/00710/PP	Re-painting of shopfront	U Bet Jackpots 11 Main Street Campbeltown Argyll And Bute PA28 6AD
20/00665/PP	Use of land for the siting of 14no temporary cabins for the period May 2020 - May 2022 including associated car parking arrangements	Sinclair's Yard Furnace Argyll And Bute
20/00616/PP	Erection of dwelling house with integral garage, installation of sewage treatment plant and formation of access.	Plot 2 Land North Of Barr Na Criche House Ardpatrik Tarbert Argyll And Bute

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

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

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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

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

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

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

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

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

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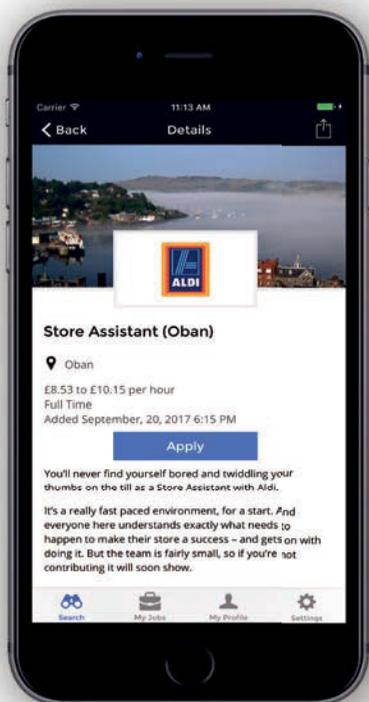
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Thought for the Week
with Marilyn Shedden

Empty chairs at empty tables,
Empty beach and empty glen,
Ghost voices echo round me,
When will they come again?
Pristine sand with only bird prints,
As the seagulls swoop and dive,
The breeze whispers very softly,
That nature is alive.
Sunshine dances on the islands,
As it finds the bluebells' haze,
Sparks the colours in the sea,
Then sets the sky ablaze.
The night sky is like velvet,
The stars have never been so bright,
For there is no pollution,
To dissipate the light.
But the world seems lost and lonely,
The human voice a hush,
Time is caught suspended,
No one needs to rush.
How long till this is over,
Till our freedom is restored,
Till fear won't haunt our every move,
And our doubts can be ignored?
When will our spirits soar once more,
When will our hearts rejoice,
At all the simple things we did,
In the days when there was choice?
So maybe in the future time,
When COVID is well o'er,
When we can walk and shop again,
And masks will be no more.
Perhaps we will remember
The sacrifices made,
By all who gave their everything -
Don't let their memory fade.
And when the world is free again,
When we can dine and dance,
When we can open wide our doors,
This is our second chance.
Let us reach out to our planet,
To enfold with love and care,
For if we fail to do this,
Our world just won't be there.
And let us fund the lifeblood,
Of all that is the best,
Give honour, praise and gratitude,
To our brilliant NHS.
Empty chairs at empty tables,
Are filling thick and fast,
Their voices fill the waiting air -
At last the worst is past.

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

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



DUNOON

Support for father inspires Jordan to row 5K a day

A young Dunoon man is rowing five kilometres on his indoor rowing machine every day during May to raise money for Spinal Injuries Scotland.

Jordan Doherty's fundraising feat was inspired by the support his dad Sean received after a 2015 motocross accident which left him paralysed from the chest down.

Jordan, originally from Helensburgh which is where his dad lives, has already raised £1,500 on his JustGiving page.

He said: 'The team at the spinal ward in Queen Elizabeth Hospital were amazing. The surgeons, the nurses, the physios all do their absolute best to get you back to as much normality as they can.'

To donate, search 'Jordan's Row 5k A Day For The Month of May' on the Just Giving website. And you can follow Jordan's progress on his Facebook page.



The Scottish Twinshock Scramble Club organised this lap of honour for Sean Doherty a year after his injury.

ARROCHAR

The former Forestry Commission visitor centre at Ardgartan, empty for almost a decade, has been converted to a foodbank distribution point to support people in Arrochar and Tarbet.

The building was due to be occupied by Argyll and Bute councillor Iain Paterson in time for the visitor season.

COVID-19 came along, so Mr Paterson has instead set up a community service along with his wife Fiona, with Forest and Land Scotland making the buildings available to him free of charge for as long as required.

Co-ordinated by Fiona and café proprietor Melanie Tonks, food parcels are being delivered, including homebaking from locals, many of whom are self-isolating. Telephone support is also provided.

The project has been supported by grant funding from the Hannah Stirling Loch Lomond Charitable Trust, secured by Arrochar and Tarbet Development Trust chairman Duncan MacLachlan.

ISLE OF GIGHA

A 20-year-old Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust director is on a shortlist of four people in contention for a Young Director award.

The award, organised by the Institute of Directors Scotland, recognises young directors who illustrate entrepreneurial and leadership potential.

Scottish Salmon Company employee Brandon Clements joined the trust board aged 19 and has been instrumental in developing plans to encourage young people to stay on Gigha - including new starter housing units and ap-

prenticeship roles at Achamore Gardens and in countryside management.

The Scottish Director of the Year Awards are due to take place in September 2020.

KILMELFORD

The four-star Loch Melfort Hotel at Arduaine, run by Calum and Rachel Ross, has been recognised at the virtual Scottish Hotel Awards.

The hotel won a national award for Small Country Hotel of the Year and received a special commendation for industry leadership.

Scottish Hotel of the Year was The Machrie Hotel and Golf Links at Port Ellen on Islay.

The prizes were announced in a live Facebook ceremony on Sunday April 26 after the cancellation of the annual gala awards dinner planned for the Sheraton Grand Hotel and Spa in Edinburgh.

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

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

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- 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 advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
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BIRTHS

GALLAGHER - David and Becky are delighted to announce the birth of Alice Eloise Gallagher on April 29, 2020, a sister for Jamie and first granddaughter for Jane and Sid.

DEATHS

BLACK - At the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Glasgow on May 2, 2020, after having fought so hard to come home to his family, Robert Campbell Black, in his 53rd year, 3 Hutcheon Court, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Catherine, devoted father to Lorna and Andrew, much loved brother of Macolm and Sheena and a good friend to everyone who knew him. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines.

ELLIOTT - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital on April 27, 2020, Sarah Elliott, in her 80th year, Flat 6 Greenwood, Woodlands Drive, Campbeltown, a dear sister, aunt and friend to all who knew her. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines.

LIVINGSTONE - Alasdair James. Peacefully at St. Gemma's Hospice, Leeds on April 29, 2020, Alasdair Livingstone, loving husband to Jo and father to Henry, beloved son of Andrew and the late Christine, special brother to Susan, greatly loved by Alison, Andrew and Jen, all their families and many other relatives. The funeral is private due

to current restrictions and will be held on May 18 in Harrogate. Sincere thanks to all the staff at the Bexley Wing, St James's Hospital, Leeds and St Gemma's Hospice.

MACKENZIE - Suddenly at the Golden Jubilee Hospital, Clydebank, on May 3, 2020, Kerry MacKenzie, in her 52nd year, 38 Tormhor, Carradale, dearly beloved wife of Arthur MacKenzie (Jock) and much loved mother of Steven, Jacob, Vanessa and Tina. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines.

THOMSON - Peacefully at her home on May 1, 2020, Marion Pauline Thomson, née Leitch, in her 85th year, of 24 Kilmartin, Argyll and formerly The Cairn Restaurant. Beloved wife of the late Ian Thomson. Adored mother of Gillian, Graeme and Amanda. Cherished Nanny of Douglas, Kirsten, Louis, Ian, Tessa and Zoe. Much loved daughter of the late William and Ruby Leitch and dear sister of the late Burton Leitch. A good neighbour and very dear friend to many. Marion will be sadly missed by all who knew her. In line with current government restrictions a private family service will be held at Kilmartin Cemetery on Friday, May 8, 2020.

WHITE - Peacefully at home in Clydebank on May 2, 2020, Gracie (Houldsworth), beloved wife of Allan and adored mum to Lorraine, Angela and Allan. A private cremation service will be held. Sadly missed by all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THOMSON - The family of the late John Thomson (Ian) would like to express their sincere thanks to all family, friends and neighbours for phone calls, cards, flowers, hampers, sandwiches and baking they received following the sudden death of their dad. Special thanks to all the paramedics and Peter who attended to Dad on Saturday. We would like to express our gratitude to the Carr Gomm Team, Argyll and Bute Homecare Team, Mari Allibone and the district nurses whose care and attention was first class and allowed Dad to be at home. Also to all the doctors, Campbeltown Hospital staff, OT and Physio departments for all their care given to Dad over the years. Heartfelt thanks to his dear friends Cathie and Davie, Duncan and Margaret, Mhairi and his niece Gavina who were so kind to Dad with their daily and weekly visits. Thanks also to Rev. William Crossan for his kind words and comforting graveside service. To Kenneth Blair and family for their professional support and guidance. Thanks also to the graveyard workers. Lastly to everyone who came out to show their respects to Dad which overwhelmed us and made it that bit more special in these difficult circumstances. Dad will be sorely missed by many. Thanks again and stay safe to all of you.

MEMORIALS

LIDDELL - In loving memory of our dear mum, Elizabeth, died April 2, 1990.

If memories bring us closer we are never far apart For you are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts Loved and remembered every day Missed more than words can say. - Evelyn and Hamish, Elaine, Robert, Grant and Stephanie.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown
Regular messages and devotionals will be recorded and available on: www.springbank-church.org.uk
Meetings will not take place until further notice.
Pastor Steve Davies
01586 551200
SC014646

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown
01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
stkieransrc.org
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Anyone requiring pastoral care or help please contact
Father Tony
(SC002876)

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South Kintyre Team Ministry
Serving Campbeltown Highland, Carradale and Southend Parishes



Charity Number: SC002493
Ministers:
Revd Steve Fulcher
Revd Chris Fulcher
01586830504
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Major Ruth Russell
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CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



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Rev Rodger Crooks will record the service for this Sunday and it will be available on our website (see below) and on YouTube.

Please contact us if you require help or would like someone to talk to or pray with you.

Rev Rodger Crooks
01586 554589
www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk
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PERSONAL NOTICES

THANK YOU

Neilina and Garry would like to thank very much family and friends for the lovely gifts, cards and social media messages on their golden wedding.

THANK YOU

James Ronald Kidd (Ronnie)

Christine and family would like to thank their many friends in Argyll for the cards, letters and telephone calls. Your kind thoughts and words have helped them all through this sad time.



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Source: YouGov 2018



A wise man once told a story

Two babies were in the womb. One asked the other "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied "Of course, there has to be something after delivery." The first replied "Nonsense, there is no life after delivery."

The second responded "I don't know, but maybe we will walk with our legs and eat through our mouths."

"That is absurd", the first replied. "The umbilical cord supplies our needs. Life after delivery is not logical. After all, no one has ever come back to tell us."

"Well, I don't know" replied the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother."

"You actually believe in Mother?" responded the first. "That is laughable. If Mother exists, where is she?"

"She is all around us. We are surrounded by her." Said the first "Well, I don't see her, so it is only logical she does not exist." To which the second replied "Sometimes when it is quiet, you can feel her presence and you can hear her loving voice calling."

This week would have seen a commemoration of VE Day, the start of Christian Aid week, and lots of other events. Instead we are still in lockdown, and

aware of a great deal of sadness, even in our own communities. And some will ask, "Why did God allow all this?"

To me, that is to ask the wrong question. We can see the effect of God in the caring and sharing, the rallying around of so many people; in the courage of our NHS workers. A survey last week (quoted on Radio 4) indicated 25% of the UK population are watching on-line worship services, and 44% are praying regularly.

The question I want to ask is "What does God want us to learn from this experience?" Perhaps that we need to continue caring, helping, looking out for each other and the planet, and continue to acknowledge the love of God which so many are re-discovering, even when the crisis is over.

The God I believe in promises "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6) and came to earth as Jesus to assure us "I am with you always to the end of time."

Revd Steve Fulcher,
Church of Scotland South Kintyre Team Ministry, serving the Parishes of - Campbeltown Highland, Carradale and Southend.



Marathon uphill challenge

Ardrishaig fundraiser answers charity plea to bridge cash gap

Ardrishaig woman Ruth Carruthers is facing an uphill challenge.

She is raising money for WaterAid to help provide clean water to people around the world.

And Ruth is doing it uphill. And downhill, then uphill... you get the drift.

As part of the 2.6 Challenge, she has been walking since April 26 from her house up a steep hill to the water treatment plant above Ardrishaig and back to her outside tap at the back door, in less than 26

minutes, every day for 26 days.

And, in a nice twist of fate, the plant sits about 260 feet above sea level.

Challenge

The 2.6 Challenge is a response by charities in the UK to the loss of income they experienced after this year's London Marathon was cancelled due to coronavirus.

The idea is to encourage lots of small individual challenges based in some way round the number 26 - matching the miles in a marathon.

Setting up a Just Giving page,

Ruth set a target of £260 which was quickly smashed, so this was raised to £785 - £1 for every one million people who have no access to clean water.

Earlier this week she had gone past her revised target and reached £1,067 - but your support would be greatly appreciated.

Donate

Ruth explained: 'If you'd like to donate to support WaterAid that would be great. It may be just a drop in the ocean, but it will help create a flow of clean water to people who need it

just as much as we do. The simplest way to donate if you have access to the internet is to search for Just Giving, then type Ruth Carruthers into the search box.

'If you aren't able to donate online, please contact me on 01546 603269 and we can speak about other ways to make your donation.

'Thank you so much for taking the time to help WaterAid.'

Ruth joked: 'And if I manage to shed 2.6 kgs while doing this 2.6 Challenge, that will be a bonus!'



Ruth signs the calendar to log her arrival at the water treatment plant. She stressed: 'I have permission from Scottish Water to attach it to their gates.' Inset: The view's not too shabby from the top.

'What skill - you couldn't get near him'

Recent articles about talented Lochgilphead footballer Neilly Dewar caught the eye of Ardrishaig man Jacky Stewart, who contacted the Argyllshire Advertiser to say: 'I read with interest the recent articles regarding Neilly Dewar and feel able to add further light on the background.'

'My uncle Johnny Weir was brought up in Govanhill, Glasgow, the youngest of seven which included my mother.'

'He did not enjoy good health and was advised to get out of Glasgow and move to the country, so he came to Ardrishaig in 1920. He was a clever man, well respected and involved in various organisations. He was appointed clerk to the

Health Board, secretary of Ardrishaig Bowling and Tennis Club and Mid Argyll Football Association, among other things.

'In the late 1920s, the football association chaired by Johnny Weir decided to invite one of the most famous Junior football teams at that time to play a challenge match against a Mid Argyll select. There were many excellent players in those days so Neilly, who had become a good friend of Johnny, knew selection would not be easy. He was selected and had a great game on the day and as a result was duly signed by Rutherglen and Glencairn - the first step in a brilliant career. The game was played on the Still Park which is now Glenfyne

Park housing. When Neilly was chosen to play for Scotland against England, my uncle Johnny hired a bus from Ardrishaig to Wembley to support their local hero. Before the game, Neilly sent my uncle a photograph in his Scotland strip signed with grateful thanks to Johnny Weir for giving him the chance. Neilly's father travelled on the bus and delighted in telling everyone he met about his famous son while enjoying the camaraderie.

'My uncle, though a Rangers supporter, went to see Neilly many times at Cathkin Park. As a 16-year-old I played against him when he played for Forestry Rangers who were members of the Mid Argyll

Welfare League which had a membership of nine teams at that time. You could not get near him, what skill - and that was at 50 years of age.

'My association with Neilly continued when I played with Lochgilphead Juniors and he was trainer. Lochgilphead Juniors were members of Campbeltown and District Association which had a membership of seven teams.

'Neilly was the last player to score against the legendary Celtic goalkeeper John Thomson while playing for Third Lanark.

'Sadly John Thomson died in an accident while playing in an Old Firm game three days later.

'I have fond memories of Neilly Dewar, a wonderful player and a true gentleman.'

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