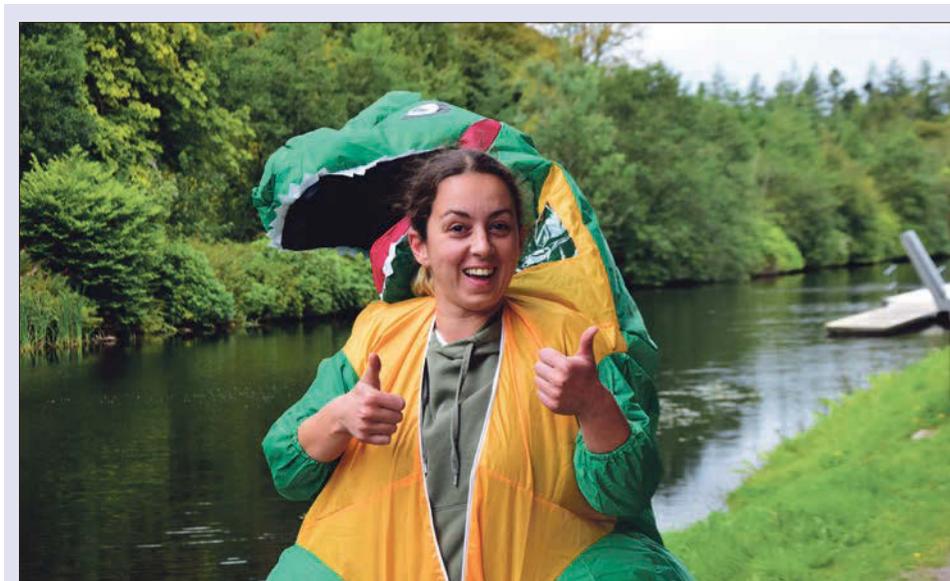


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# School Covid safety lapse prompts council apology



## Thumbs up for male mental health

Charlene 'Charlie' Glencross was in good spirits as she and pal Scott MacDonald stepped out on a sponsored walk along the Crinan Canal wearing seven-foot-tall T-Rex costumes. Charlie and Scott were raising money for the charity Brothers in Arms, which works to help men improve their mental health and reduce male suicide in Scotland. More on page 10. 51\_a36DinosaurWalk05

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Argyll and Bute Council has apologised and launched an investigation after its Covid-19 safety procedures at a Mid Argyll primary school fell short.

Parents of pupils at Kilmartin Primary School were alarmed after it emerged a teacher had been allowed into class last week – despite a family member displaying potential Covid-19 symptoms.

Posting on social media on Sunday August 23, the teacher asked about Covid-19 mobile testing after a family member experienced cold-like symptoms.

Rather than self-isolate, they went into work the following day, Monday, before being tested for the virus on Tuesday – and is understood to have been permitted to return to the classroom after the test, but before the result.

After complaints to the

school, head teacher Namaste Bevan emailed parents, writing: 'I apologise for the added worry and stress that concerns this week have had on anyone in our school community and I will continue to try to safeguard the wellbeing of staff and pupils and assess and manage risks in a calm and considered way...'

Council education manager for Mid Argyll Wendy Brownlie told parents on Wednesday: 'We have had a full discussion with the school regarding the correct processes and procedures and are assured they will follow the new guidance issued yesterday afternoon.'

'The school are very sorry this happened and are making every effort to ensure the environment is kept as safe as possible.'

The teacher was not at the school from Wednesday onwards, but returned this week after the test proved negative.

A spokesperson for Argyll

and Bute Council said: 'We are looking into queries raised with us about procedures at Kilmartin Primary School and a Covid-19 test.'

'We apologise to parents for worry caused.'

One parent, who did not wish to be named, said: 'The fact that children and families have been potentially exposed in this small rural community is outrageous.'

'As parents, we are concerned Argyll and Bute Council has a lack of understanding of the seriousness of what they did and the potential damage they could have caused.'

Mid Argyll councillor Dougie Philand said: 'I will be asking the head of service what has happened and why.'

Fellow council member Sandy Taylor added: 'It is important people in positions of authority and those working with the public, above all, are seen to be abiding by and promoting this best practice by doing the right thing.'

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## POLICE FILES

Speeding and  
no trailer licence

Police charged the 33-year-old driver of a vehicle towing a caravan for speeding at 8.45pm in Poltalloch Street, Lochgilphead.

The driver was also charged with not having a trailer category on his driving licence. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Breach of bail  
conditions

At 7.40pm on Friday August 28, in Front Street, Inveraray, a man, aged 28, was charged with breaching bail curfew conditions which require him to be within an Oban address overnight. The man was held for court and a report was submitted to the procurator fiscal.

## Cannabis charge

A woman, aged 20, and a man, 17, were charged with possessing cannabis when police stopped and searched a car on the A83 at Minard at 6.30pm on Friday August 28.

They were issued with recordable police warnings.

## A82 bike crash witness appeal

Police have appealed for witnesses after a serious road crash on the A82 between Balloch and Arden on Monday August 31.

Around 5.10pm two men were travelling on a black Suzuki motorcycle northbound on the A82 near its junction with Auchenheglish Lodges.

When the motorcycle slowed to turn right it was involved in a collision with

a silver Volkswagen Golf estate which was driving behind them.

The driver and passenger were thrown from the motorcycle on to the north-bound carriageway.

Emergency services attended and the 21-year-old passenger was taken by ambulance to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital where medical staff earlier this week described his

condition as critical. The driver, aged 23, was taken to the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, from where he was later discharged.

The 46-year-old driver of the Volkswagen estate was not injured.

Inspector Archie McGuire from Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Road Policing Unit said: 'It is imperative we speak to all witnesses to gain a full

view of what happened. Motorists with dashcams who were in the area are also urged to check their footage and contact us if they have captured either vehicle on the road or anything else which could be significant.'

Contact the divisional road policing unit at Dumbaron through 101, quoting incident number 2478 of Monday August 31, 2020.

## Tarbert sewer upgrade project begins

A £3.4m project to upgrade Tarbert's sewer pipes started on Monday August 31 after delays for many different reasons – not least the pandemic.

The scheme aims to tackle sewer flooding by increasing the capacity of the local sewer network.

It will involve installing almost 350 metres of new sewer pipe, with large diameter sewers being put in place along Barmore Road, Harbour Street and on a section of School Road.

The upgrades will also help prevent items which are wrongly flushed down the

toilet, such as wet wipes, from ending up in the sea during severe storms.

The project is being delivered by Scottish Water's alliance partner amey Black and Veatch (aBV).

Paul Milligan, aBV communications manager, said: 'There are three issues going on in the area. We have the tidal surge, surface run-off from the steep hill and the hydraulic capacity of the sewer network not being fit for purpose. This means when the area experiences storms and there's a tidal surge, waste water back-ups and causes flooding in homes and



Tarbert is getting a better sewerage system. 06\_a32Tarbert01

local businesses. By increasing the sewer capacity we can help reduce this flood risk.'

Ruaridh MacGregor, Scottish

Water's corporate affairs manager for the west area, added: 'The work will benefit residents and businesses in Barmore

Road and Harbour Street affected by sewer flooding in previous years.

'There will be some traffic disruption but we have done and will continue to do all we can to help minimise disruption where possible.'

'This will bring reassurance to the businesses and families that have in the past been affected by sewage flooding,' said Councillor Anne Horn. I look forward to this project progressing and the benefit it will bring to the village.'

The work will be carried out in phases to help minimise disruption.

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# 'Permanent solution' promise

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

The Scottish Government has committed to finding a 'permanent solution' for the Rest and be Thankful.

Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity, made the announcement at the A83 Taskforce group on Thursday August 27.

The move was welcomed by

## Government in road pledge

those attending the meeting as a step in the right direction.

Councillor Aileen Morton, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Our communities along with the council have lobbied Scottish Government for more than a decade asking them to find a permanent solution to the ongoing issues that affect our major trunk road.'

'Whilst we are relieved there is now a recognised case for

investment and a commitment to move away from temporary mitigation measures, we still need construction timescales and a date for the new route to open. It is simply not enough to talk about the options and agree a consultation phase.'

'For years, closure of the A83 has seriously impacted our communities. The early signs are encouraging but we must see swift progress maintained

until the new route is fully operational.'

Speaking after the taskforce meeting, Mr Matheson said: 'I understand the frustration and disruption landslips at the A83 Rest and be Thankful bring for local communities and drivers.'

'I have instructed officials at Transport Scotland to accelerate our work to consider alternative infrastructure options for the A83. A dedicated team will be established to do a more detailed assessment,

in parallel with the Strategic Transport Projects Review. Stakeholders will be involved in this process and we will publish recommendations for a preferred corridor in spring 2021. In the meantime, work will continue on the next catch pit and we will continue to consider further catch pits at the site. A new geotechnical survey of the hillside will also be carried out to build on the previous work.'

Work will begin on the

next phase of catch pits in September.

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell commented: 'The latest closure has confirmed that nothing less than a new permanent route will do and the agreement by the Scottish Government to accelerate work on that, in keeping with the request made by the Argyll and Bute Council leader, myself and two other MSPs weeks ago meets the timetable we set to get things moving.'

## BEAR hopes to open A83 at Rest by Monday

Repair work at the site of the August 4 landslide is on track to allow the reopening of the A83, under traffic light control, by Monday September 7 - weather permitting.

Five weeks after the latest landslide missed 'mitigation' catch-pits and damaged the carriageway before crossing the old military road below, repairs are almost complete.

Trunk road management firm BEAR Scotland said this

week progress on complex repairs at the site has been good with road resurfacing under way.

The surfacing work covers the section of road which was excavated to install new culverts beneath the carriageway, with further work being carried out on a new safety barrier and road edge beam to support and stabilise the road.

Once repairs are complete, one lane of the A83 will re-

open with teams continuing with work to construct a temporary catch-pit at the base of the steep channel formed by the most recent landslide to provide further mitigation and protection for the A83.

Preparations are under way to build the next 'permanent' catch-pit beside the previous pits, completed in 2019, to help provide further landslide resilience.

Eddie Ross of BEAR

Scotland said on Tuesday: 'We're closely monitoring the weather forecast and provided there are no significant issues we hope to re-open the route by Monday. We thank the local community and road users for their patience while we address the landslide at the Rest. Argyll remains open for business and our teams will continue to work around the clock to re-open the A83 as quickly and safely as we can.'



Contractors are said to be making good progress with repairs.

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# Tayvallich welcomes new shopkeeper

Tayvallich residents are delighted their essential village shop and popular coffee shop are being passed into the safe hands of new tenant Nicholas Mes.

The shop building has been there for as long as anyone can remember and was bought by the community in 2008. It has been successfully run by tenants since then but the current operator, Abigail Haworth, is moving on.

Since she gave her notice earlier this year, Tayvallich Community Company has been looking for someone else to take it on. The lease was first advertised in March this year but interested parties at that time were put off by corona-

**'We were genuinely worried the shop would have to close but we have been incredibly lucky to attract Nicholas to take up this great opportunity'**

virus restrictions. However, a recent advertisement attracted more interest and Nicholas emerged as the ideal choice.

The shop is a vital hub for the village and the coffee shop, with its stunning waterside

terrace, has become popular with locals and visitors.

Lockdown forced the temporary closure of the coffee shop, but the shop has remained open throughout and has been providing a delivery service to the community for essential supplies and for delicious ready-made meals. Abigail has been much praised by the community for her service and now plans to go back to her full-time career as a writer.

Abigail and Nicholas have been working together for the last few weeks to allow time for Nicholas to get to know the business and its customers.

Kevin Williams, chairman of Tayvallich Community Company, said: 'Abigail has



Nicholas looks forward to serving Tayvallich's 'special community'.

been providing us with a great service for the last two and half years and, during the lockdown, she stepped up to the mark. We are sorry to see her leave the shop but delighted she will be staying on as part of our community.

'We were genuinely worried the shop would have to close but we have been incredibly lucky to attract Nicholas to take up this great opportunity to be at the heart of a vibrant community. His enthusiasm is encouraging.'

Nicholas has a background

in owning and managing retail and food-related businesses in South Africa and took over Tayvallich Shop officially on September 1. His wife, Zelda, is a secondary school teacher in the North East of Scotland and will be joining Nicholas later in the year.

'I am looking forward to taking over the shop and serving this special community,' said Nicholas. 'My thanks go to Kevin and the Tayvallich Community Company directors for all the kindness shown to me during this transitional

period. Thanks also to Abigail and her staff for all the help and understanding, and to the village community for their patience with a newcomer trying to learn all their names whilst hidden behind masks.'

The shop building in Tayvallich dates back many years and was extended in the 1990s to include a café. The last private owners tried to sell it in 2007 but the only offer they received was from someone who wanted to knock it down and build a house on the site.

Following public meetings, Tayvallich Community Company was formed as a non-profit making organisation with everyone aged over 16 in the area being, in effect, a part owner.

There was an immediate appeal for pledges to help to buy the shop building to which there was a huge response from residents and holiday homeowners. An application to the Big Lottery Fund resulted in a grant which, together with the pledges, paid for the purchase of the building plus a significant upgrade and the construction of the current coffee shop veranda and terrace.

An Awards for All grant in 2013 enabled the community company to refurbish the shop's interior and to upgrade paving outside.



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# Don't close the door on our public toilet

## Hotel staff will continue cleaning Crinan block

An appeal has been made to keep Crinan's public toilet open after it was revealed many council-run facilities will close after October.

At the most recent virtual meeting of Argyll and Bute Council's business continuity committee on August 13, it was agreed 35 public conveniences would remain open until the end of October.

After that, only a core set will remain open due to cost concerns in light of the Covid-19 crisis. It is estimated between 10 and 15 toilet blocks would have to close.

Most of the region's public conveniences have reopened after being closed since March during the pandemic lockdown.

Crinan's tiny block, overlooking Crinan Basin, opened in mid-August - but only



The Crinan toilet block - 'necessary', says Frances Ryan.  
51\_a36CrinanToilets01

after a hotel agreed to take on cleaning duties.

Owner of the nearby Crinan Hotel, Frances Ryan, explained: 'The toilet is owned by the council and has been there for more than 50 years. It is necessary as Crinan is a des-

ertination and it can completely spoil a day out to find there is no public toilet.

'After contacting everyone, including Mike Russell MSP, a solution was found through Jim Smith, Argyll and Bute Council's head of roads and

infrastructure services, who passed the matter on to council officers Tom Murphy and Paul Martin.

Discussions were opened with the community council and an agreement was reached that the toilets would be open daily from 11am till 4pm and cleaned by a member of the hotel staff.

'The council will continue to financially support the community with this till October.'

It is understood longer-term arrangements are to be discussed between the local authority and North Knapdale Community Council.

Mrs Ryan added: 'The council should have included Crinan in the list of toilets it provides as it is a fairly busy tourist destination. We are happy for a member of staff to clean the toilets.'



Mrs Campbell with her sons Iain and Craig.

## Campbell family enjoys birthday celebrations

There was much to celebrate at Badden Farm, Lochgilphead, during August, with Jenny Campbell BEM turning 90 years of age and her twin sons Iain and Craig celebrating their 60th birthdays.

A small garden party was enjoyed by the family.



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

Parents have every right to be angry after events last week at Kilmartin Primary School.

As Sandy Taylor said, it is incumbent on every one of us to abide by the rules, but for those in positions of responsibility it is vital. To take the risk, however small, of transmitting this deadly virus in a community with a significant elderly population, including many relatives of the pupils themselves, is inexplicable.

The staff at Kilmartin do a great job and that makes the situation that bit harder to understand.

Health authorities this week revealed that two pupils from Hermitage Academy in Helensburgh have tested positive for Covid-19.

We simply cannot take any chances in schools or elsewhere.

**Sceptical?**

After following events at the Rest and A83 for many years, it is hard not to respond to the pronouncements of Mr Matheson with: 'Aye, we'll believe it when we see it.'

But despite hearing similar promises from the same source two years ago, let's be generous and give our politicians and civil servants the benefit of the doubt. For now.

We look forward to something other than the cheapest option being selected this time around.

**The Rest – an open letter to Michael Matheson MSP, Minister of Transport**

Dear Mr Matheson,

As a resident of Minard for the last 22 years, I am well used to the issues of the recurrent landslides affecting the A83, in particular at the Rest and be Thankful.

I am directly affected as I work in Helensburgh as a vital NHS worker and I have family members, neighbours, friends and colleagues living in Mid Argyll and Kintyre who also work beyond Arrochar. The ongoing issues with the Rest are causing significant stress and hardship.

In recent weeks, the uncertainty over which route will be open – Old Military Road (OMR) or the detour via Loch Lomond and Dalmally – is causing a huge amount of stress and logistic challenges. All these roads are vital artery routes that carry freight/timber/vital supplies as well as being the route for emergency vehicles and hospital transport – never mind the regular day-to-day business access for people living in Argyll. Many of us have to attend medical appointments in Paisley, Glasgow or the Vale of Leven – a lengthy detour that is potentially also subject to closure makes for a harrowing journey.

It is a massive concern to me and all residents in Mid Argyll and Kintyre that this main route is potentially very dangerous and increasingly unreliable with the worsening weather we are experiencing in recent years.

It strikes me as shocking and diltory on the part of our Scottish Government that it has not yet made headway in securing a permanent solution to provide a safe reliable route that provides vital access for Argyll residents to the central belt. The issues with road closures at short notice have caused stress for those accessing hospital appointments, getting to work, getting vital supplies, travelling further afield, travelling home – necessitating longer journey times, missed appointments, bus transport delays never mind the additional costs in fuel/wear and tear on vehicles plus fatigue and stress causing hardship in having to factor in additional times.

Argyll relies on visitors to our beautiful region and this unsafe route is negatively impacting on the income to the area tourists and visitors should be bringing. The journey from Inveraray to Arrochar normally takes 30-35 minutes. The OMR is adding up to 25 minutes to that. The Dalmally detour takes about 70 minutes so adds around 35 minutes. With increased traffic and potential traffic queues, the actual time is often far in excess of an extra 35 minutes – often more like 50 minutes.

I have a neighbour who recently started working as a firefighter in Dumbarton. When there is uncertainty over the OMR being open, he is leaving at 4am to ensure he arrives for his shift. Driving home after a heavy 12 hours is often not possible because of fatigue, so he has to factor in overnight stays away from his family. This situation is occurring for many who live and work on opposite sides of the Rest.

I ask the Scottish Government and ministers

stop dragging their heels and respect the rights of the people of Argyll to have a safe transport network by implementing a immediate plan to make a safe route in and out of Argyll instead of continuing to waste cash and put people's lives at risk with this temporary, not-fit-for purpose patch up job.

Liz Taylor-Feeney, NHS physiotherapist, Minard.

**Options for the A83**

Sir,

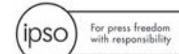
The curse of the A83 is like a pandemic, it comes suddenly and affects all our lives in various ways and there never seems to be a cure that is effective over the long term.

This latest landslide has one good outcome, in that our politicians have supported a resolute action to – once and for all – provide a permanent solution.

That's all well and good but what will the answer be from the Scottish Government. Will it be more of the same chipping away of the hillside?

There are several options, with differing price tags. The first could be a forest road, upgraded to allow traffic one way while the old military road provides travel the other way when landslides occur. And these landslides will come again and again. This would be the cheapest option and allow a reasonable flow of traffic.

Canopies over roads are great in countries that have a lot of snow but, as has been pointed out, debris from landslides does not melt away and has to be cleared. There would be an ongoing cost and closure of the A83 would be inevitable.

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## YOUR PICTURES



Lochgilphead reader Liz McLean took this week's reader's photograph. Liz said: 'There is lots of wonderful scenery around Loch Glashan, but this is one of my favourite views.' Send your favourite photographs for publication to [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

An elevated road, built well away from the existing road along the Rest, is a costly option but would give reassurance to those businesses in Argyll and hopefully to those considering setting up new concerns. It is this reassurance everyone needs.

The A83 is terrible from Tarbert to Campbeltown. It's a narrow, winding, pothole-ridden road linking up villages and towns along its route. It is essential as it brings business and travellers to and from Argyll. If one part of this road fails there is closure and everyone suffers. A rail link and ferries would be a good addition to a reliable road. This would help revive Argyll's economy and that is what politicians should be passionately arguing to get done.

Derek Anstee, Inveraray.

### Who would pay for tunnel?

Sir,  
Possible solutions mooted to address the Rest and be Thankful A83 problem include the construction of a tunnel, but who would pay for it?

I often hear Kate Forbes complaining the Holyrood administration's ability to borrow is constrained by Westminster, which suggests further inaction is the most likely short-term outlook. My suggestion is a contract should be awarded to a private company under which they would build the tunnel, operate it for say 25 years and recover their costs through regulated toll charges before returning it to public ownership.

This type of model has worked successfully in countries such as Norway.

TH Forrester, Ford.

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# Appeal to only book a Covid test if symptoms are present

As the Scottish Ambulance Service takes over the country's mobile Covid-19 testing units, the health board has asked people to book a test only if symptoms are present, writes Colin Cameron.

The return of schools in August has seen an increase in requests for Covid-19 testing and this week Dr Tim Allison, director of public health for NHS Highland, appealed to members of the public to book a test only if they have symptoms.

Dr Allison said: 'We have seen a sharp rise in the number of requests for tests since the schools have gone back, particularly from parents concerned about their children.'

'Anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 should be tested. You can book a test for yourself, someone you care for or a child in your care but you only need to book a test if you have

symptoms or you have been explicitly asked to get a test by our public health team. A test can be booked by calling 08000 282816 or by visiting the NHS Inform website. You do not need to call NHS 24 to organise a test.'

Symptoms of Covid-19 can include a new, continuous cough, fever, or loss of or change in sense of smell or taste. Testing should also be arranged in the first three days of symptoms appearing, though it is effective until day five.

Dr Allison added: 'If someone in your household develops symptoms you will need to self-isolate but, unless you also have symptoms, there is no need for you to be tested unless you go on to develop symptoms.'

'If you are contacted by Test and Protect to tell you that you are a close contact of someone

with Covid-19, you do not require a test but you must isolate for 14 days. A test will not change the need to self-isolate. If you do develop symptoms and are ill and worried about your health, you should call NHS 24 on 111. Please do not call NHS 24 unless you feel you need medical advice to deal with your illness.

'I thank everyone for all their efforts as we continue to fight this virus.'

'Covid-19 is still here and it is important everyone continues to follow the national guidance to keep them and others safe.'

The Scottish Ambulance Service this week took over the running of Scotland's Covid-19 mobile testing units from army personnel.

As part of the transfer, around 500 positions have been created across the country for as long as the service is needed.



The Lochgilphead mobile testing unit at the Riverside on Sunday August 31 as ambulance staff took over from the army. 51\_a36CovidTesting\_Gilp01

Health Secretary Jeane Freeman said: 'I want to thank the armed forces personnel who have been running the mobile testing units in

Scotland since they were set up in April.'

'Transferring operational delivery to the Scottish Ambulance Service will help

to ensure mobile testing units continue to support testing in communities and provide a sustainable, long-term response to the pandemic.'

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# Every dog has its international day

Lockdown over the past five months may have been torture for some – but you can bet your tail our dogs have loved every minute.

All that company, attention and getting out for walks more than ever before. A dog's idea of heaven. They have been our

constant companions, so it was only right our devoted, unassuming furry friends should have a day devoted to them.

International Dog Day fell on August 26 and to celebrate we asked readers, via our social media pages, for photographs of their dogs.



Amber Williamson from Kilmichael sent us this photograph, left, of her gorgeous seven-year-old springer spaniel Willow.



Left: Meet Duke, Kaleidh Macleod's 'big, lovable' basset hound. Kayleidh said: 'Happy international Dog Day!'



Bentley enjoying a forest track walk in the snow. Thanks to Bentley's owner Mandy Awcott for the photograph.



Formerly of Ardrishaig and now living in Ellon, Aberdeenshire, Emma Turnbull's one-year-old dog Harvey, a mini goldendoodle, does a good impression of a rug.

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All that time spent. All those efforts made. All those tears shed. Let's not go backwards. The more we stick to the coronavirus guidance now, the sooner we can move forwards, as one, to better days.

#WeAreScotland

**CORONAVIRUS**  
**STAY SAFE**  
**PROTECT OTHERS**  
**SAVE LIVES**



All set for their Jurassic jaunt to Cairnbaan. 51\_a36DinosaurWalk08



Charlie and Scott don their costumes. 51\_a36DinosaurWalk01

# Duo's Jurassic jaunt for good cause

Two Lochgilphead pals stepped out on a charity walk along the Crinan Canal last week.

Nothing too remarkable about that, you might say.

Except Charlene 'Charlie' Glencross and Scott MacDonald did it while wearing seven-foot-tall T-Rex costumes.

Setting off from Miller's Bridge on the outskirts of Lochgilphead at 2pm on Sunday August 30, they walked to Cairnbaan before making their way back along the canal towpath.

### Mental health

Charlie, 31, and 33-year-old Scott were raising money for the charity Brothers in Arms, which works to

help men improve their mental health and reduce male suicide in Scotland.

Charlie explained: 'We've both lost male friends to suicide, so Brothers in Arms, based in Scotland, was an easy choice to make.'

### Costumes

As for the dinosaur costumes, she added: 'We watched a clip of a dino-

saur paddle boarding on a canal and decided that wasn't a very safe idea, so we opted for a big walk instead.'

The pair took time for some socially-distanced refreshments at the Cairnbaan Hotel.

Through their Just Giving page 'Charlie & Scotty boys big Dino Walk' they have raised £1,065 and counting.

Charlie added: 'What an afternoon. It got a bit sweaty about five minutes from the Cairnbaan Hotel, but we had a few pints waiting for us, then we headed back. There was a nice welcome party.'

'Thank you to everyone who has supported us. There is still time to donate through our Just Giving page.'

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# A different Argyll visitor economy

VisitScotland regional director David Adams McGilp says Argyll and the Isles faces new challenges brought about by coronavirus.

He said: 'This has undoubtedly been the toughest summer we have experienced. COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the tourism and events industry. Businesses and operators are dealing with the economic fallout of shutting down one of our region's most important industries and employers, worth nearly half a billion pounds of revenue annually. They are also investing in safety and hygiene measures and adapting to a shift in consumer behaviour.'

'VisitScotland launched a £3 million marketing campaign as restrictions on the tourism and events industry lifted in July. Only in Scotland can travelling so little make such a big difference - encouraging Scots to rediscover the joy of experiencing their own country. This was backed up by The Moment for Change - Get Tourism Ready support measures to make sure businesses and operators were ready to keep visitors and the local area safe, including the Good to Go scheme, to inspire confidence.'

David added: 'As a member of the Argyll and Bute Economic Resilience Forum, we have been working together to help guide the tourism and events industry through the strategic and operational changes in the immediate and longer term future. VisitScotland staff have been supporting businesses across Argyll and the Isles to help them cope with these new challenges during an immensely stressful time.'

'Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Helensburgh and Dunbartonshire has been benefiting from the changing consumer demand for open spaces and outdoor activity and experiences. We have to make sure all our communities are part of this and that's why the Extra Mile marketing campaign is so important,

so visitors can explore every inch of our fantastic tourism product and no community is left behind.

'We must encourage as much investment in transport and amenities as we can. VisitScotland administers the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund projects, with five projects currently earmarked for Argyll and Bute to make sure areas can cope with increased demand. We have to ensure visitors and communities can live in harmony with enough resources for both.'

'Our Visitor Charter, alongside initiatives from destination organisations like Explore Jura and Islay, sets out how tourists can enjoy the area responsibly, respecting fellow visitors and communities.'

'We are already adjusting to new safety and hygiene measures and visitors are taking confidence from this and adhering to these changes. We are seeing a rise in new domestic tourists enjoying extended Scottish holidays, perhaps for the first time. This inevitably brings challenges and VisitScotland is working to reach inexperienced campers who may not be familiar with the Scottish Outdoor Access Code or our messaging and channels.'

'VisitScotland, along with partner organisations including Keep Scotland Beautiful, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, NatureScot, Scottish Tourism Alliance and Wild Scotland, launched a working group to focus on collaborative activity facing into the challenges and opportunities of the boom in camping.'

'Responsible outdoor tourism messages have been promoted across some of the biggest commercial radio stations across Scotland and social media channels. There has been rallying support from influencers across Scotland. There's already been some fantastic video, which contains some swearing, on BBC Social

from outdoor adventurer Calum Maclean to get the serious message about responsible tourism over in a more informal way.

'With unprecedented change to our way of life comes great innovation. The surge in de-

mand for self-catering is leading to businesses responding while Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Helensburgh are among the locations featured in touch free visitor guides available to download from [downtowncitymaps.com](http://downtowncitymaps.com) to

devices. This has been a very different summer season for everyone, but our wide-open landscapes and coastline will continue to draw in visitors through autumn and winter if we can keep rising to the challenges we face.'



David Adams McGilp.

## Move your body, improve your mood.



For tips on staying active to look after your mental health visit [clearyourhead.scot](http://clearyourhead.scot)



Scenic Crinan – just one of the many gems Argyll has to offer. [51\\_a36Crinan01](#)



# Study uncovers the secret lives of basking sharks

The first study to successfully track a basking shark using a robot camera has shed new light on the behaviour of the world's second-largest fish.

An autonomous 'SharkCam'

underwater vehicle was deployed off Coll and Tiree last summer to observe and gather footage of the behaviour of basking sharks.

The REMUS SharkCam

technology is owned and operated by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and the project is funded by WWF/Sky Ocean Rescue, NatureScot, WHOI and the University of Exeter.

Little is known about the underwater behaviour of the globally-endangered species, despite basking sharks being prevalent in the waters off the west coast of Scotland.

The SharkCam followed three basking sharks below the surface of the water, collecting video of their behaviour from a distance as they swam off the coast the Hebridean islands.

#### Published

The international team of researchers recently published their findings in the journal *Animal Biotelemetry*, and they reveal that the sharks spending an unexpected amount of time swimming near the seabed - a behaviour which has not often

been reported for the species.

Notably the sharks were not seen to be feeding - which researchers believe adds weight to the theory that the species visits Scottish waters not to feed but to breed.

#### Innovative

Dr Suzanne Henderson, marine ecosystems manager with NatureScot (formerly known as Scottish Natural Heritage), said: 'While we weren't lucky enough to capture courtship or mating behaviour on camera this time, this innovative study has shed more light on the lives of these spectacular giant fish.'

'The fact that the sharks spent much more time swimming just above the seabed than we previously thought, and with their mouths closed, is really interesting, particularly as the species is often seen as a pelagic or near-surface filter feeding shark. It suggests we may have to rethink not only how many



A basking shark captured by SharkCam near the seabed.

Photograph: WHOI.

basking sharks are in Scottish waters, but why they are here, as it's likely not only the plankton they come for.

'The insights the technology has provided about the habitats the sharks use are also invaluable, and will help inform how we protect and conserve the species in future.'

Fieldwork for the project

took place in the proposed Sea of the Hebrides Marine Protected Area (MPA) - one of four possible MPAs currently under consideration by the Scottish Government.

The area is one of only a few worldwide where large numbers of basking sharks are found feeding in the surface waters each year.



The team at WHOI prepare to deploy their underwater robot camera. Photograph: Jane Morgan WWF UK.

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## Around the markets

A good selection of quality bred lambs were presented on Friday August 28 to a strong turnout of buyers at Dalmally Auction Mart.

United Auctions sold 2,594 sheep of all classes. Lambs (2,227) averaged £57.53 (+£13.45) per head and 201.75p/kg (+0.53p/kg).

Leading prices per head  
Lambs - SuffX - £68.50, Greenfield. TexX - £89.00, £76.50, Stonefield Farms; £76.50, Ardachuple; £75.50, 15 Keil Croft; £75.50, Blarghour; £75.00, Clachan Farms (Kilniver); £75.00, Bonawe HF; £73.50, Greenfield; £73.00, 15 Keil Croft; £70.50, Blarghour; £70.00, 15 Keil Croft; £70.00, Boorach Beag; £70.00, Home Farm. BeltX - £74.00, Ichrachan. Chev - £79.50, £66.50, 2 Keil Croft; £66.00, Ichrachan; £65.50, Tigh-Airigh; £65.00, 2 Keil Croft. Cross - £70.50, Ardachuple; £66.00, Ederline; £64.50, Bragleenbeg; £64.00, Lephinkill. Mule - £65.50, Home Farm; £64.00, Ederline Estate; £64.00, Ardachuple. BF - £74.50, Innisчерoch; £70.00, Greenfield; £60.50, 2 Bonawe Croft; £60.00, Lephinkill; £59.00, Ardchonnell;

£58.50, Innisчерoch; £58.00, Tayvallich Estates.

Ewes - TexX - £90.00, 2 Bonawe Croft; £64.00, Craig Farm. Chev - £62.00, Craig Farm; £60.00, Kilchoan Management. Cross - £51.00, Rhynachulaig. Mule - £60.00, £52.50, Bonawe HF. BF - £50.00, Castles Estate; £45.00, Blarghour; £40.50, Ardchonnell.

Leading prices per kilo  
Lambs - SuffX - 216p, 2 Bonawe Croft. BeltX - 233p, 225p, Ichrachan. TexX - 239p, Brenchoille; 236p, Boorach Beag; 235p, Ichrachan; 234p, Blarmafoldach; 233p, 231p, 15 Keil Croft; 224p, Blarghour; 222p, Brackley; 222p, Bonawe HF. Chev - 248p, 237p, Kilchoan Management; 235p, Ardchonnell; 233p, Castles Estate; 231p, Tigh-Airigh; 225p, Maam Farm; 224p, Kilchoan Management; 222p, Castles Estate. Cross - 243p, Ederline Estate; 230p, Drimnin Estate; 222p, Bragleenbeg; 220p, Ederline Estate. Mule - 212p, Ardachuple. BF - 202p, 2 Bonawe Croft; 188p, Innisчерoch; 186p, Tayvallich Estate; 184p, Balantyre Farm.

# How do food heroes stay relevant?

Retaining new customers is the overriding challenge faced by many food and drink businesses in Scotland as lockdown eases.

Staying relevant and embracing developing market trends is key, says Ceri Ritchie, head of food and drink at SAC Consulting, part of Scotland's Rural College (SRUC).

'The cynics say the majority of customers will just revert to type and move back to their traditional mainstream UK grocery multiple buying habits - and many probably will,' said Ms Ritchie.

'But research suggests they will share their shopping basket over a number of outlets and, if this is so, what can local food and drink businesses - the lockdown heroes - do to make sure they are part of this?'



Ceri Ritchie.

As lockdown eases, local retailers need to think laterally about how they can package and promote their range and offers to take advantage of this, said Ms Ritchie. 'It's more important than ever to keep close to your customers, take the opportunity to speak to them and gather feedback to

understand what influences their buying behaviour and make your business and your product relevant. Research your customers.'

Food and drink businesses must remain relevant to ensure customers remain loyal by embracing consumer trends, including socialising at home, holidaying in rural places and healthy eating as well as a renewed appreciation for local produce.

Ms Ritchie continued: 'Socialising is largely happening at home with barbecues, parties and picnics and the great British staycation is a major opportunity and not just for the summer season. Businesses need to emphasise their community role, their place in the locality, their local story or link to local traditions, heritage celebrations,

landmarks and activities. Can you provide the 'walkers picnic', the 'Munro baggers lunch' or the 'beach brunch'? Many people are still working from home and potentially looking for easy cook food and healthy snacks or, those going back to work, seeking healthy pre-packed options for hygiene reasons. Looking forward, what will consumers want this Christmas? What will your unique e-Christmas offering be?'

She added: 'Perceived value for money will be an increasingly important issue for consumers. Your offer needs to match your customers' perceived needs and aspirations.

'Local food and drink businesses were the heroes of lockdown and have the opportunity to continue to be the heart of their community.'

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# Could your ideal school be independent?

Most parents spend a great deal of time seeking out opportunities for their children.

Finding the right educational environment for your child has a big part to play in how they develop interests and make life decisions, and Scotland's wide selection of independent schools can give you that freedom of choice.

Each SCIS school has a distinct ethos and values, but whether co-ed or single-sex, day school or boarding, each one will

encourage your child to be the very best they can be. The question is which one is right for your child?

#### A healthy and diverse mix of backgrounds

Around 30,000 children in Scotland attend an independent school – around 4 per cent of pupils in Scotland. This healthy mix of backgrounds, abilities and nationalities makes for a vibrant, modern student body that mirrors the real world and will serve your child well for the future.

#### Fee assistance

You may be surprised to learn how affordable an independent education can be. In 2019-20, over 3,000 children received means-tested fee assistance, with

18 per cent of those benefiting from a free place.

#### The independent school advantage

The schools' reputation for academic excellence is an obvious attraction for many parents. Staff have ready strategies to help every child excel, whether it's extra stimulation for someone showing clear ability, or a different approach to turn the light on when the topic is tricky.

#### Continuity of care

Independent schools offer an exciting array of on-site clubs and experiences to help children grow both physically, socially and in confidence. Your child will have the opportunity to try all sorts of endeavours,

from coding to musical theatre, in a safe environment at school.

#### See for yourself

All schools welcome visits from prospective families throughout the year where staff can show you round, give you a feel for life at the school and answer any questions you may have. Look for details of open days on school websites, although this year things might look a bit different with schools creating virtual open days.

**For more information, advice and guidance on choosing an independent school in Scotland visit the Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS) website at [www.scis.org.uk](http://www.scis.org.uk)**



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ESMS offers more than 300 clubs and societies, as well as unrivalled opportunities in sport, music and drama, outdoor education, trips and community involvement, all with the intention of helping your child discover their talents, explore something new, have fun and make new friends.

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For more information or to arrange a personal visit, please contact our Admissions Team at any time. Email: [admissions@esms.org.uk](mailto:admissions@esms.org.uk)





*You may be surprised to learn how affordable an independent education can be. In 2019-20, over 3,000 children received means-tested fee assistance, with 18 per cent of those benefiting from a free place.*



## Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS)

The Scottish Council of Independent Schools' role is to provide parents with impartial information, advice and guidance, as well as keeping independent schools abreast of educational developments, training opportunities and legislative change, enabling the independent schools sector to make a worthwhile contribution to the development of education in Scotland.

- to advance education via curriculum development and the training of teachers
- to communicate and negotiate with the Scottish Parliament, the government, and public and private bodies on behalf of the independent sector
- to provide impartial information, advice and guidance to parents
- to advise member schools and their governing bodies on educational developments and legislation affecting independent schools (eg, education, taxation, welfare, health and safety).



# Merchiston Castle School

Many schools can boast about their exceptional academics, university successes, extensive sporting and co-curricular programmes, internationalists, specialist sporting academies, welcoming atmospheres and stunning grounds and facilities. Indeed, we can do that as well. What makes us different, however, is a combination of things: our size, a genuine focus

on the needs of the individual, and the fact that we really understand boys and how to get the very best out of them. It is a potent trio. It is what enables us to know our boys really well and to understand what makes them tick. Our community's well being is central; without it no one will ever achieve their best. That is why wellbeing underpins everything we do. Our

boys thrive because they are known, understood, valued, and supported in everything they do. They are encouraged to make the most of their talents, and to look after one another in a safe, caring environment, to ensure that the school years are a happy time for all. Our successful sport offering supports positive mental wellbeing as much as physical fitness levels. This healthy-body, healthy-mind approach extends to carefully selecting raw, natural ingredients for meals and educating pupils about the importance of good nutrition.

**Best School Food UK – Golden Whisk Awards 2019**



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“A balanced curriculum, excellent pastoral care and a high A level pass rate make Merchiston one of the UK’s leading independent schools.”\*

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0131 312 2200 admissions@merchiston.co.uk

**MERCHISTON.CO.UK** f t i

Charity number: SC016580 \*ukboardingschools.com

Scholarships and Means-Tested Financial Assistance Available

‘The strength of a school environment where the foundation of every activity is built on wellbeing considerations has borne fruit in these recent months of hardship and stress for so many,’ says Senior Deputy Head Alan Johnston. ‘Because young people and staff at Merchiston are used to talking about their wellbeing, they reacted openly and honestly to our questions about how they are feeling about the new approaches that we have all had to put in place.’ Merchiston is a remarkable school where boys make lifelong friends and community connections whilst gaining a world-class, global, outward-looking education. We would love to talk to you about your son and, more importantly, talk with him to work out what makes him tick, discuss where he wants to go next and make sure he has the toolkit to get there. We know that choosing a school for your son is an important decision, which is why we treat every application individually. No two families are the same, so there is no typical process. We offer many opportunities for you and your son to visit us throughout the year so that you can decide what the best fit is for you as a family.

**Great City Prep – ‘The Best of the Best’ The Week 2019**

‘In order to join the WLSA, schools must pass exceptionally high requirements to become an associate. Such rigorous standards include obtaining remarkable academic results, demonstrating a holistic approach to student wellbeing, and championing respect and concern for different peoples and cultures.’ World Leading Schools Association.

Our success proves that what we do works.

Contact Director of Admissions, Mrs Kay Wilson  
Tel: 0131 312 2201 Email: admissions@merchiston.co.uk

# Weekly boarding in the west of Scotland



As the west of Scotland's only day and boarding school, Lomond School welcomes families from around the world to enjoy a first-class education and lifestyle from ages three to 18. Our unique location in the coastal town of Helensburgh, on the edge of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, provides a perfect setting to deliver a rounded education which inspires achievement and enquiring minds.

From Junior 1 to S6, our dedicated and talented teaching staff deliver a rich and varied curriculum which ensures children are encouraged to love learning right from the start and are challenged and inspired throughout their school career. We aim to harness each child's talents and strengths to ensure they become the very best that they can be.

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speaking for themselves; we were delighted to see all our 2020 S6 leavers this year achieve their first choice University place.

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Lomond School provides a great place to live and learn for families based in Scotland, offering a range of Flexible Boarding options which can be taken up on a short or long-term basis.

Contact our Registrar to find out more.

**T:** 01436 672 476

**E:** [admissions@lomondschool.com](mailto:admissions@lomondschool.com)

**W:** [lomondschool.com](http://lomondschool.com)

\* Only schools authorised by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme (DP), or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorisation will be granted.



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- An inspiring place to learn & grow

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## WANTED ALL 4X4'S & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

We buy for retail, breaking and export so no matter the age or condition we can make a cash offer. Young or old, all makes and models, engine problems, farm used, accident damaged, mot failures etc.

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FAST PAYMENT AND COLLECTION.  
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**T: 07885 203020**

**Email: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk**

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**Tel: 07546 788945**



## WANTED MOTOR HOMES

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email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com**

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# RECRUITMENT

## Friendly Housekeeper in Oban/Scotland wanted for independent care of a 4 Star B&B (6 rooms)

Tasks:  
\*preparing and serving an original scottish breakfast  
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**15 - 20 days a month**  
**7 hours a day**  
**Good payment**

Applications: kristina.jungclaus@hoteljungclaus.de



## Self-employed Estate Worker – Lochgair (approx 4 days per month)

Day rate negotiable – dependent on experience.

MacArthur Green is a carbon negative environmental consultancy. We require a self-employed estate worker to help deliver our Reserve Management Plan.

### Job Description

The estate worker will be expected to undertake the following task and will have the appropriate experience, training and qualifications to undertake these activities.

- Fence removal/erection.
- Rhododendron removal.
- Invasive plant species removal (e.g. Japanese knot weed, Himalayan balsam).
- Bracken control.
- Bird and mammal box maintenance.
- Removal of Sitka spruce trees.
- Tree weeding.
- Completing Risk Assessment and Method Statements.

### Essential Criteria

- Relevant experience of estate work.
- Valid driving licence.
- Relevant qualifications for undertaking estate work tasks stated above.

Please send a CV to Judy McKay – [info@macarthurgreen.com](mailto:info@macarthurgreen.com)

**COURIER COURIER**  
RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT



## Finance Officer

Salary: £21,000 p/a pro rata.  
Closing date: 9am, 17/9/20.

For more information and to apply, visit <http://www.kilmartin.org/home/get-involved/vacancies/>.

## Part Time Bookkeeper

required for our Office at Torlundy, initially 1 morning a week But 2-3 mornings at certain times of the year.

Experience to Trial Balance would be preferable, knowledge of PAYE an advantage.

Apply in the first instance with CV to Lochaber Fisheries Trust Ltd, c/o Mrs B Collins, Cuiladaroch, by Lochailort, PH38 4NA.

Argyll and Bute Council require a qualified vehicle mechanic to join our team at The Plantyard, Bishopston Road, Lochgilphead. Permanent position. 37 hours. Salary £26,005 - £28,359 Please apply through [myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://myjobscotland.gov.uk) Advert ref:- ARB06848



Argyll and Bute Council require a qualified vehicle mechanic to join our team at Jackson Quarry workshop, Millpark Road, Oban. Permanent position. 37 hours. Salary £26,005 - £28,359 Please apply through [myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://myjobscotland.gov.uk) Advert ref:- ARB06852

Argyll and Bute Council require a qualified chargehand vehicle mechanic to join our team at Roding garage, Campbeltown. Permanent position. 37 hours. Salary £28,320 - £30,944 Please apply through [myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://myjobscotland.gov.uk) Advert ref:- ARB06899

## Part time housekeeping staff required

Up to 18 hours per week over 3 days  
Due to remote location applicants must be able to drive and have their own transport

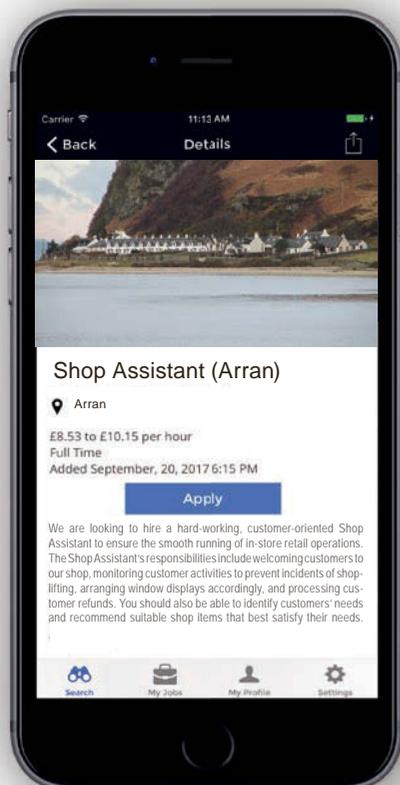
Email CV to [agnes@crear.co.uk](mailto:agnes@crear.co.uk) or call Agnes 07741 579 450

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WIND FARM TRUST

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

Grants may be available for Capital or Revenue funding to support Projects, Group's, Halls, charities and Churches within the West Kintyre Community Council area, ranging from Whitehouse in the north to Kilkenzie in the south.

Advice, details and application forms are available from the Convener via email:

[margaretpratt@btinternet.com](mailto:margaretpratt@btinternet.com)

Closing date for receipt of applications Wednesday 30th September 2020

Disbursement meeting: will take place mid October via virtual meeting TBA

### 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](http://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](mailto: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
20/00320/PP	Installation of replacement windows and doors	46 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead Argyll And Bute, PA31 8NE
20/01397/PP	Erection of timber conservatory and formation of garden walls with railings	1 Ferry Land, Inveraray, Argyll And Bute, PA32 8UX
20/01191/PP	Erection of agricultural building	Low Machrimore Farm, Southend, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6RQ
20/00954/PP	Erection of timber garden shed (retrospective)	Ground Floor Flat, Nessbank, Big Brae, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6UQ

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](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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[www.signalcell.net](http://www.signalcell.net)

or visit the Signalcell page on Facebook

## PERSONAL NOTICE

### Surprise message to all ladies of Monday's Social Club

Hope you are all well, miss you all very much

Thought this was a nice way to get in touch with you all

Take care and keep smiling and this is for hall staff as well

Love from Cathie D xx

#### 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.

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

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

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

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

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

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

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

does not materially detract from the advertisement.

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

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

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

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

12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions. Published by Wyvex Media Limited, P.O. Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB, Tel: (01631) 568000 [www.obantimes.co.uk](http://www.obantimes.co.uk) and registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. <http://termsandconditions.wyvexmedia.co.uk>

**Thought for the Week**  
with Marilyn Shedden

I have just read an extremely interesting book called 'God and the Pandemic' by Tom Wright.

One question that is posed is: 'How do we live with this problem and how do we come through it? What – as well as lament – is the calling of the church in the midst of it?'

The church's mission began, according to St John, with three things which have become familiar to us in recent days.

It began with tears, locked doors and doubt.

The disciples were in hiding behind locked doors with tears for shattered dreams and what might have been.

Tears, locked doors and doubts seem to go together. Together they sum up a lot of what we are globally at this time. Tears in plenty, of course, with so many lives cut short. Locked doors: well precisely. Fear is real. Fear that every stranger in the street might give me that deadly virus and it could kill me within a week. I might be able to give it to them as well, so lockdown – behind closed doors.

And so between the tears and the lockdown, there is doubt. Is there any room left for faith, for hope?

If we are locked away from all but a few, is there any room for love?

These are hard and pressing questions. If the earliest disciples found Jesus coming to meet them in their tears, fears and doubt, perhaps we can too.

The call to Jesus' followers as they confront their own doubts and those of the world through tears and behind closed doors, is to be agents for Christ through actions.

Actions that right wrongs, challenge unjust systems, feed the hungry and hold the world to account in the power of the Spirit.

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

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



**CARRADALE**

Members of Carradale Community Trust (CCT) were tempted to get the champagne out last week after finally getting a community composting centre ready for use.

It has taken the trust more than six years to complete the project following a number of delays, most recently the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The idea for a composting centre was put forward as part of a village plan many years ago and East Kintyre Community Council asked CCT, then Network Carradale Limited, to deliver the project. Alan Walker, chairman of CCT, said: 'We are now ready for garden waste. We appreciate the support from SSE which provided hardcore and digger time and to East Kintyre Windfarm Trust for funds to equip the project. Hopefully the centre will stop fly-tipping of garden waste alongside forest tracks.'

**INVERARAY**

Inveraray Castle and gardens have been enjoying a successful season since re-opening in mid-July.

New arrangements include a one-way route through the castle that gives visitors access to some of the private bedrooms and one of the original spiral staircases built to allow servants to move through the castle behind the scenes.

Castle manager Alyce Paton said: 'We are thrilled with the reception so far. Visitors are so considerate of each other while inside and those I have spoken to seem to understand what a big undertaking it has been for us to open safely this season. The new route and additional rooms seem to be popular, especially for those who have visited before. My personal favourite is the new entrance to the garden across the saloon bridge which you may recognise as the entrance for Duneagle Castle in Downton Abbey'

The intention is to continue opening Thursday to Monday until the end of October, with the possibility of an extension into November and December if there is sufficient demand.



The Lochgilphead Co-op team has been raising awareness for SAMH.

**LOCHGILPHEAD**

Staff at Lochgilphead Co-op have been putting in the miles to raise awareness for a national mental health charity.

The energetic key workers have been walking, running and cycling to raise funds for the Co-operative's partner charity, the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH).

Zoey Glencross, who has been organising the fundraising efforts, said: 'We understand it's been a hard time, which is why we haven't set ourselves a huge fundraising target.'

'It's more about raising awareness of the charity and giving back a little where we can.'



Right: Pedal power from Andrew John.

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email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

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be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

- Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
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- Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

DEATHS

BLACKWOOD

Peacefully at the Mid Argyll Hospital after a short illness on September 1, 2020, Jean McIntosh Blackwood, nee McNeill, aged 88 years of 3 Caledonia Court, Ardrishaig. Formerly Ard Creagach, Ardrishaig and Ardlamy, Gigha. Beloved wife of the late Bob Blackwood, much loved mother of David, Janette and Robert and loving Granny of seven. A dear mother-in-law and auntie. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. A private funeral service will be held at Keil Cemetery, Isle of Gigha on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 12noon. Donations, if desired, to Ardrishaig Parish Church. Enquiries to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors 01546 602226.

CAMPBELL - Suddenly at his home, on September 1, 2020, John (Beano) Campbell, in his 57th year, of 31 Dewar Avenue, and formerly of MacDonald Terrace, Lochgilphead. (Former Wood Cutter). Dearly loved Dad of John, Scott and Darren. Beloved son of the late Hugh and Louie Campbell. Dear brother of Elspeth, Christine and Marion. A much respected brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. A private funeral service will be held at Woodside Crematorium on Thursday, September 10, 2020.

LEWIS - Peacefully at home in Glasgow on August 25, 2020, after a short illness, Caroline Halse Young, in her 76th year, daughter of the late Prof. Andrew McLaren Young and Mrs Margie Young, formerly of Dalsmirren Farm, Southend; dearly beloved wife of the late Robert Lewis, and loving and much loved mother of their daughter Nicky. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines.

MACVEAN - Peacefully at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead on August 31, 2020, Alasdair John MacVean, aged 87 years of Dalvore, Kilmichael Glassary, by Lochgilphead (formerly of the Stag Garage). Dearly loved husband of the late Elizabeth (Betty) MacDonald. Loving father of John, Angus, Peter, Elizabeth and Eric. Cherished brother of Mary MacKellar. A dear brother-in-law, uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and very dear friend to many. A private funeral service will be held at Achtnabreac Cemetery, Lochgilphead on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 12 noon. Donations can be made in memory of Alasdair to Alzheimer's Scotland and Cancer Research.

MCCORKINDALE - Peacefully at home, Machariorch, Southend, on September 1, 2020, Neil John McCorkindale, aged 71 years, dearly beloved husband of Jennifer, much loved father of Morag, her partner James and Mairi. A proud grampa of Jake, Alan, Craig and Andrew, loving brother of Louise, Archie and James, a loving uncle, a good friend and neighbour and a loyal member of the community. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Neil John's funeral will take place on Saturday, September 5, 2020. The cortege will leave the family home at 12.00 p.m. travelling down Blasthill Brae to Southend, through the village to Keil Cemetery. Family, friends and neighbours are welcome to pay their last respects to Neil John on our journey. Please remember to observe social distancing.

MCFALL - On August 31, 2020, peacefully at Campbeltown Hospital after a short illness, Margaret (Maggie) McFall, aged 55 years, beloved long term partner of

Gordon Baillie and dearly loved mother of Gordon and Andrew and dear mother-in-law of Emma. Sorely missed by all. A private funeral service, owing to current restrictions, will take place at Patchan Cemetery.

NICOL - Peacefully after a short tough illness at the Beatson Hospital, Glasgow, on August 31, 2020, Christine Margaret MacDonald, in her 50th year, Tombreac, Inveraray, dearly beloved wife of Hugh Andrew Armour Nicol, much loved mum to Cara and Andrew, loving daughter of Donnie and the late Margaret MacDonald, beloved sister of Donald, and sister-in-law of Wendy, Suzanne and the late Judith. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Christine's funeral will take place on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The cortege will leave from 16 Knockscalbert Way, Campbeltown at 1.00 p.m. travelling down Prince's Street, along the Esplanade, round the cross, up Main Street and Longrow on our way to Patchan Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Christine may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

SIMPSON - Archie, Ingatestone, Essex, died July 23, 2020, in his 82nd year, beloved husband of Betty and father of Ian.

WALKER - Kenneth Harold. Formerly of Ardrishaig died peacefully in Oban on Monday, August 17, 2020, aged 97 years. He will be deeply missed by his family and those who knew him. His funeral service will take place in Oxford on Friday, September 4, 2020. Any enquiries to The Individual Funeral Company - 01865 714130.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MACKINNON - The family of the late Cathie MacKinnon would like to

express their thanks for all the flowers, cards and messages of sympathy they received. Special thanks go to The Good Care Group and Enable carers who took care of Cathie for the last two years and enabled her to stay in her own home till the end, their kindness and compassion was un-failing. Thanks also to the Tarbert Medical Practice and the Community Nursing Team for their support. Thanks to Robert Macleod for a lovely personal service at Cardross and to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their professional care and attention to detail. There are no words to express our heartfelt thanks to Sharee, Betty, Kayleigh and Sarah.

WILCOCK E M - The family of May would like to thank everyone for their support, including those who paid respects on the day and generous donations to the RNLi. Also to funeral directors D MacDonald and Rev Macleod for guiding the family through this sad time - and again to staff at Ashgrove for their care of May.

IN MEMORIAMs

GODDARD - Agnes, died September 6, 1999. Miss and love you always. - Mum, Sandra, Ali and family. Love and miss you very much. - Twinkle.

MACFARLANE - Treasured memories of Joe, a much loved husband, dad and grandad who died September 6, 2014. Always in our hearts you'll stay Loved and remembered every day - Inserted by Cath and family.

MEENAN - Fond memories of a much loved dad, father-in-law, granda and great-granda, Denis, who died September 5, 2019. Loved, missed and remembered every day. Jamie, Margaret and all the family

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



*I rejoiced with those who said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord. Psalm 122 verse 1*

**Our building is open for Sunday services.**

You would be welcome this **Sunday, 6th September at 11am** when Kelvin Moller from Clachan will be conducting the service. MASKS are now required in churches, in line with current Scottish Government Covid 19 guidelines. [www.springbankchurch.org.uk](http://www.springbankchurch.org.uk) <https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch> Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary SC014646

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown 01586 552160 Rev Tony Wood [stkieransrc.org](http://stkieransrc.org) **Public Mass will be celebrated on Wednesdays and Sundays at 10am.** Anyone wanting to attend a public Mass should register with Fr. Tony by telephone or email. 01586 552160 [campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk) Please give: Name, address, telephone no., and number from the household wishing to attend, and the date of the Mass. Live streaming on Facebook will continue. (SC002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



South Kintyre Team Ministry **Sunday morning Worship** 10.00 am Highland Church Campbeltown SC002493 10.00am Saddell and Carradale Church SC002609 11.30 am Southend Church SC005484 COVID 19 Precautions apply Ministers Revd Steve Fulcher Revd Chris Fulcher 01586830504 [www.kintyreparishes.org.uk](http://www.kintyreparishes.org.uk)

SALVATION ARMY



**Sunday 6th September Worship service 3pm Covid 19 measures in place** If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046 Major Ruth Russell Scottish Charity Number SC009359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



**Sunday 6th September** 11.15am Worship Service Rev Rodger Crooks **Wednesday 9th September** 12 noon Prayer & Bible Study Covid-19 Government guidelines apply to all meetings *All welcome* [www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk) Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



**We invite you to join us for our weekly online service available from 10:30 each Sunday morning, on our Facebook page and website** Pastor Mark Jasper 01586 554 092 [pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](mailto:pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk) [www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk) SC043322



ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

**Sunday 6th September 2020** "I remember you in my prayers" (Philemon verse 4) There will Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches. **Wednesdays** from 12:45pm to 1:15pm in Ardrishaig Church "A Time of Quietness"

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**in Mid-Argyll & Arran** Christ Church, Lochgilphead Sunday 11am Holy Eucharist SCO 13787 Fr Simon Mackenzie 01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

**Resumption of Public Mass at St Margaret's: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10.30am Saturday: 6.30pm Sunday: 10am - St Margaret's; 12.30pm - All Saints, Inveraray.** Booking essential due to restricted capacity To book, please contact Fr. Ronald by telephone or email. Name, address and contact details required for track and trace purposes. Masses from St Margaret's will continue to be Live Streamed via our YouTube channel. Full details on our website: [www.lochgilpheadcatholic.com](http://www.lochgilpheadcatholic.com) and our Facebook Page. [lochgilphead@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:lochgilphead@rcdai.org.uk) Fr Ronald Campbell 01546 602380 (SC0002876)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

charity number SC001002 Although our buildings are closed we are still active. Our website is full of information & links to keep you informed & provide opportunities for worship on-line Please look it up & keep in touch [www.northknapdale.org](http://www.northknapdale.org)

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor, Kilmartin **Sunday 6th September** Service at 10am Rev Walter Ritchie *A very warm welcome awaits* Please wear face covering

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**Kyle Selfridge.**  
06\_a20RedStar\_Kyle01

## Kyle on the move from Sweden to sunny Spain

Former Lochgilphead Red Star player Kyle Selfridge is moving to sunny Spain from the chillier climes of Sweden.

Defender Kyle flew out earlier this week to Spain to join Almuñecar City in a season-long deal. In February this year he joined Swedish side Ytterhogdals IK.

Kyle's footballing career started, aged eight, as a member of Lochgilphead Soccer Centre. Over the years the 21-year-old has played in Oban, signed with Dumbarton FC, aged 13, played for Tarbert before Ardencaple FC and, for three seasons, with Lochgilphead Red Star.

Founded in 2017, CD Almuñecar City is an international Spanish club and senior team for FC Malaga City Academy.

With players from across the globe, the club has achieved two successive promotions since its creation and competes in the highest regional league in Granada.

Posting on Twitter, Kyle said of his return to football post-lockdown: 'Can't wait to get back to doing what I love.'

# Hannah and Ian win McKerlie Pairs

Sunday August 30 saw the 39th annual McKerlie Pairs at Lochgilphead Bowling Club, the final tournament of the 2020 season.

Normally held as an open event, this year it was played as a closed club competition.

With a healthy entry of 10 pairs, members enjoyed competitive bowling throughout the afternoon.

League one ended in a three-way tie and a count back on scores was required to decide who would progress to the semi-finals.

League two saw winners

Michael Heafey and John Kennedy earn their place in the first semi-final, where they would face the runners up of league one, Archie MacVicar and Donald Crawford.

The other semi-final was contested by new members Anne Moore and Libby McGuinness facing Hannah Johnson and Ian Guy, winners of league one.

Both semi-finals were extremely close, but it was the duo of Archie and Donald who would face Ian and Hannah in the final. This was the third consecutive final for Archie

and Donald, though with Hannah leading the way for her pairing, they were certainly up against it.

A thrilling final for the last tournament of the season resulted in a final score of 6-2 to Ian and Hannah and a deserved victory.

The members also took part in a charity spider which was won by Rose MacVicar.

The club thanks Phyllis Angus and family for their continued support for this event and members look forward to hosting the 40th anniversary event next year.



The McKerlie Pairs finalists – winners Hannah Johnson and Ian Guy, with runners-up Archie MacVicar and Donald Crawford.

# Kenny is Tarbert champion



The top three – Bruce MacNab, winner Kenny MacFarlane and Iain Macalister.

Last weekend saw the final two rounds of the Tarbert Golf Club championship, with Kenny MacFarlane holding a four-shot lead over Archie Black and Iain Macalister.

Playing in the second last group, Bruce MacNab shot a level par 66 to move to the top of the leaderboard by one shot from Kenny and three from Iain, who shot 73 and 71 respectively. Jimmy Litster came in with a fine 69, while Lewis Preston and James Smyth had nett 63s to keep them in the hunt for the nett trophy.

Interesting new pin positions and excellent conditions greeted the players on Sunday August 30. As can happen in championships, things can change quickly.

Bruce held a three-shot lead at one point on the front nine but nine holes later Kenny had a three-shot lead. With two holes to play, Kenny held the lead by one and with an excellent birdie two at the 17th

led by two on the final hole. He was not going to let his lead slip and a par four at the last secured a well-deserved victory. Best gross score on the day came from John MacNab with 66 and best nett for Peter Cupples on 60.

A delighted club captain Kenny MacFarlane paid tribute to the hard-working green staff who had the course in excellent condition and thanked everyone who supported the event. This weekend members are asked to gather at 11.30am for a midday shotgun start in the 'Wee Joe' Memorial.

Club championship: 1 Kenny MacFarlane 283; 2 Bruce MacNab 285; 3 Iain Macalister 288.

Nett trophy: 1 Kenny MacFarlane 249; 2 Lewis Preston 253; 3 Archie Black 256. Senior championship: 1 Bruce MacNab 139; 2 Iain Macalister 144; 3 John MacNab 146. John Reid Quaich: 1 Bruce MacNab 123.



Winners Alastair Craig and Stuart Turner.

## Neil McCallum Memorial Trophy

Ardrihaig bowlers enjoyed a fine afternoon's bowling on Saturday August 29 when they competed for the Neil McCallum Memorial Trophy.

After a hard-fought but entertaining round robin competition, the winning pair was Alastair Craig, skip, and Stuart Turner, lead.

The Crawford MacDonald Cup will be held on Saturday September 5, starting at 1pm.



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