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New Year

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and prosperous New Year

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Lord Lieutenant receives personal gift from Queen

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Campbeltown's Patrick Stewart MBE, the Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, has been appointed a Companion of the Royal Victorian Order in Her Majesty The Queen's New Year Honours List.

Established in 1896 by Queen Victoria, the Royal Victorian Order is a dynastic order of knighthood which is the personal gift of the sovereign, conferred without ministerial advice, recognising distinguished personal service to the Queen or the monarchy.

The award was announced less than two weeks after Mr Stewart, 74, who is due to retire as Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute in the summer, presented his mother, Ailsa Stewart, with a 105th birthday card on behalf of the Queen.

He told the Courier: 'I feel very proud and privileged to have received this honour

from the Queen. I have enjoyed enormously my time as Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute.

'I also look forward to the last few months in office. I cannot pretend that the role has not been without its difficulties, particularly in travel, but looking back it has all been very worthwhile.'

Chairmanship

He said that the most time-consuming of the tasks he has carried out as Lord Lieutenant was the chairmanship of the Argyll and Bute World War I Steering Group, which required, from the whole team, months of work researching and recording information about the contribution of the people of Argyll and Bute to the war effort.

It also required the preparation for and mounting of four major events, in each of the centenary years of the war, in Oban, Campbeltown, Dunoon and Islay. The last event was attended by the Princess Royal, the

Continued on page two



As the festive season draws to a close and a new year begins, the Courier is taking a last look at some of the Christmas fun which has taken place in and around Campbeltown. That includes the Lorne and Lowland Church nativity, which featured performances by the Sunday school children, the Boys' Brigade and the church choir, photographed here. See inside for more festive fun.

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Lord Lieutenant receives Queen's personal gift in New Year Honours

Continued from page one
Ambassador of the USA and other dignitaries.

Mr Stewart said: 'I also much enjoyed being present at important events in people's lives including centenaries and 60th and 70th wedding anniversaries, presenting the Queen's message of congratulations.'

'I had the huge pleasure and privilege to present my own mother with her 105th birthday card from the Queen. As far as I can find out, that is the first time a Lord Lieutenant has been able to do that for one of his or her own parents.'

He continued: 'I could not have achieved half of what I have done without the guidance and support of my wife, Mary Anne. She has been, and continues to be, a star, despite her own and substantial contributions to charitable work,



Patrick Stewart MBE, Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute. 25_c01patrickstewart01

including chairmanship of the Campbeltown Foodbank.'

The recent royal honour is not Mr Stewart's first. He was appointed MBE in 2000 in respect of his contribution to the UK fishing industry. Apart from holding other offices, he was secretary of the Clyde Fishermen's Association for almost 45 years.

Shopper-Aide is now £3,000 richer

Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide is now £3,000 richer thanks to pupils from Campbeltown Grammar School.

The grammar is one of the first schools to benefit from CalMac's partnership with the Wood Foundation's Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI).

S3 pupils worked in groups with YPI to choose and identify social issues they cared about in the community.

They then linked up with various local charities and worked with them to create a presentation on each.

CalMac Ferries' role was as funding partner and it provided the £3,000 grant.

And, to feel more involved in the process, CalMac undertook a mentoring scheme with the pupils; representatives from the ferry company attended the launch and worked with the groups on two more occasions,



The winning Campbeltown Grammar YPI team hands over the cheque for £3,000 to Susan Paterson of Shopper-Aide, front right.

providing input on business cases and presentation skills.

Charities represented in the final were Youth Impact, the RNLI, Woodlands Resource Centre and this year's winner, Shopper-Aide.

Each group delivered a presentation to all of S1 to S3 and some charity representatives. The judging panel this year was made up of Kim Fletcher, deputy head, PC Karen Cairns and CalMac representative Blair Moglia.

The judges had a tough job, saying that they found the standard of presentation excellent and it was a very difficult choice to make. The pupils worked extremely hard and all represented their charities well.

The judges picked Shopper-Aide as the pupils involved presented the clearest case

for how the money would be spent and how this would impact the local community.

With the help of volunteers, Shopper-Aide provides shopping and housekeeping services for the over-60s in Kintyre and also organises social events to prevent social isolation within this age group.

YPI is an active citizenship programme that empowers young people to make a difference in their local communities while developing new skills.

Blair Moglia, who was on the judging panel, said: 'The quality of the submissions was extraordinary from all the pupils involved.'

'All the charities were worthy causes but the winning team's presentation not only made a fantastic business case

but also grabbed the emotions of the judging panel.

'Tackling social isolation in the elderly is clearly something they really care about.'

The west coast ferry operator has committed to partnering YPIs in 11 schools across its area of operations.

As well as being on the judging panel, YPI offers CalMac employees an opportunity to mentor pupils in their journey through the programme.

Alex Reid, YPI Scotland national coordinator, said how delighted the organisation was to develop its relationship with CalMac further: 'Our thanks once again for CalMac's role in empowering #generation-change in the region to make a real difference in their communities.'



Davaar Island Safe Walking Times

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

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



www.explorecampbeltown.com

POLICE FILES

Parcel theft

A parcel containing a green Harkila baseball cap and a pair of green Harkila trousers was stolen from outside a flat at 17 Longrow, Campbeltown, at about 9am on Saturday December 21.

Abusive behaviour

A 27-year-old woman was arrested at 11.50pm on Tuesday December 24 at Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, for allegedly behaving in an abusive manner.

The woman then allegedly assaulted officers and resisted arrest. She was charged and a report submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Drug driving

A vehicle was stopped on the A83 near Campbeltown at about 11.05pm on Friday December 27 and the vehicle and its driver, a 49-year-old man, were searched.

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

He was then arrested for failing a roadside drug test and subsequently a blood sample was taken for analysis.

Police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information on the above or any incident to phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Brass band to play at Six Nations rugby test match

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

A packed Campbeltown Brass Christmas concert was described by conductor Katrina Barr as 'a great end to a great year' – one in which the senior band discovered it is to play the national anthem at two Scottish rugby matches.

All 35 members of the senior band will perform before the Scotland v England women's rugby match at Scotstoun Stadium on February 9, and again at Murrayfield Stadium before the men's Six Nations Scotland v France match on March 8.

Katrina told the Courier: 'It is amazing but a bit scary – there will be 60,000 people in the stadium and it will be televised.'

Campbeltown Brass was selected to perform the 'potentially once-in-a-lifetime' Murrayfield gig after being

recommended by Whitburn Band, Scotland's national stadium's resident brass band. Whitburn is unavailable on March 8 due to performing at the Scottish Championships, at which Campbeltown Brass will compete the day before.

Despite the recommendation from one of the most successful bands in Scotland, Campbeltown Brass still had to go through an audition process, submitting sound recordings and video footage of performances, before finding out it was successful.

To make sure the band is looking smart during the outdoor performances, Springbank Distillery has sponsored a full set of soft-shell jackets, emblazoned with the logos of both the band and the distillery.

The jackets will be used at other outdoor events, besides the rugby, including remembrance services and



Ranald Watson from Springbank Distillery presents members of the band with their new jackets, worn by those standing at the back, at the Christmas concert.

KC_c01ctownbrass01

while playing carols. In addition, the band has recently discovered that it is a finalist in the Argyll and Bute Youth Awards, which only take place once every three years, and members expect to find out in February if they are successful.

The recent Christmas concert, at which Ranald Watson

from Springbank Distillery officially presented the new jackets to the band, was described as 'a great success', and featured members of all Campbeltown Brass's bands, from beginners, to intermediates and seniors.

Held at the Kintyre Community Education Centre, the concert featured festive

songs, as well as film hits and pop songs.

'One that went down really well was the Schneewalzer,' Katrina said. 'It's a German snow waltz, which got the audience involved, standing up and sitting down, that kind of thing. And we played the 12 Days of Christmas, which is always good.'

Katrina added: 'Thank you to everyone for their continued support, especially parents of band members who take their children to practices every week.'

'Also to Tesco and the Co-op for allowing us to play carols in the lead up to Christmas and to everyone who donated for their generosity.'

Music festivals win grant cash

The Mull of Kintyre, Carradale and Jura music festivals are among 10 events in Argyll and Bute to receive a share of a fund of £90,000.

The money comes from a fund which was launched in 2018 to enable organisations running events and festivals to bid for financial support.

Announced

The 10 are spread across the area and were announced at the council's policy and resources committee, which sat before Christmas.

Earlier this year the council changed the rules for applications making the fund one that focuses on events which will generate the maximum economic value for Argyll and

Bute, as well as their cultural and social importance. These top money spinners include Cowal Highland Gathering, the Mull Rally and Tiree Wave Classic.

'The fund is supporting events that contribute significantly to the culture, heritage and economy of Argyll and Bute, and will have a strong appeal for local, national and international audiences,' said Councillor Jim Anderson, who is the policy lead depute for economic growth at Argyll and Bute.

'We are very fortunate in playing host to such a wide range of cultural events encompassing everything from literary and music festivals to Highland games and sport.'

Adventure Bugs' lantern walk



Under fives group Adventure Bugs celebrated the last session of 2019 and the winter solstice, albeit a few days early, by having a short lantern walk on December 20.

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Mother and daughter raise funds for Macmillan

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk



Susan Graham with her medal after completing the Great Scottish Run 10K.

The total money raised by a Kintyre mother and daughter, who joined forces to boost Macmillan Cancer Support's funds in memory of a loved one, has been tallied.

Susan Graham was sponsored as she ran the Bank of Scotland Great Scottish Run 10K in September, days after her mum, Elaine Ralston, hosted a coffee morning in support of Macmillan's 'world's biggest coffee morning' event.

This is the second time Susan, who has been a member of Campbeltown Running Club for more than 10 years, only taking breaks to have her two children, has run the Glasgow 10K.

Memory

She said: 'This time I wanted to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support in memory of my Auntie Carol. We lost her in August 2018 to liver cancer

so I wanted to honour her memory and raise as much as I could.

'The run was fantastic and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

I actually did a better 10K time than at the Mull of Kintyre run in May and I wanted to do my auntie proud.

'I was in Glasgow with friends and running buddies. It is a fantastic course and I will certainly be running it again in the near future.'

Lovely

Elaine's fundraiser, to which family and friends were invited, was held at Susan's house.

Susan said: 'Mum's coffee morning went well, we had a lovely morning.

We had a raffle to which people kindly donated, and there was tea, coffee, plenty of cakes and games.'

Susan's race sponsorship raised £1,050, and Elaine's



Family and friends attended Elaine's coffee morning. Elaine is sixth from the left, beside her daughter Susan.

fundraiser made £280, giving the pair a grand total of £1,330.

Susan said: 'I would like to thank everyone for their kind donations and support.

It was emotional on the day but I know Auntie Carol would be proud.

'Special thanks to my work colleagues at Cadenheads and Springbank, as well as

Jim Martin Supplies, Kintyre Larder, Peter McKerral and Co, McFadyens, Campbeltown Motor Company and Glenside Tractors for their generous and kind donations.'

TAX RETURN DEADLINE 31 JANUARY 2020

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Army Kidz meet Santa



The youngsters met Santa at the Christmas party.

The Salvation Army's children's group, Army Kidz, celebrated its Christmas party on December 21 at the Campbeltown Citadel.

All the youngsters had a great time and each excited child was happy to receive a lovely gift.

Games and plenty of party food filled the afternoon which was well organised by Margaret Raeside, children's worker, helped by Ruth Russell and some of the youth group members.

Finnie urges Argyll and Bute to reconsider tourist tax

Green MSP John Finnie has welcomed Highland Council's latest step towards implementing a tourist tax and encouraged Argyll and Bute Council to follow suit.

The measure was backed at a recent Highland Council meeting, and could raise millions of pounds for the council to invest in public

services and infrastructure. The Scottish Government has recently completed its own consultation on the issue with the results expected next year.

Other popular tourist destinations in Europe have successfully implemented similar charges with the funds being reinvested in local services.

Following Highland Council's decision, Mr Finnie said: 'We are fortunate that this part of the world is so beautiful that many people come to visit and spend time here. No one would wish to deter them. But the fact is that as well as bringing benefits, tourism puts a strain on services as well.'

Glen Scotia's £10,000 donation to golf club



GLEN SCOTIA
CAMPBELTOWN SINGLE MALT
SCOTCH WHISKY

Glen Scotia Distillery has raised more than £10,000 for Machrihanish Golf Club, a year on from the devastating fire which gutted the iconic clubhouse in December 2018.

Glen Scotia donated a single cask in aid of the golf club's charity campaign to rebuild the clubhouse. The bottlings have now sold out, raising more than £10,000 for the fundraising drive.

The new clubhouse is set to feature improved facilities, including a swing room, which can be used by professionals and members of the club for training purposes.

The money raised by Glen Scotia's donated cask will go towards equipment that will be used in the new room, including a simulator.

From the donated cask, Glen Scotia produced 196 bottles of single malt whisky, which were sold at the distillery's

visitor centre. The distillery commissioned a special bottle, which included the golf club's logo, along with the cask number.

The liquid showcases Glen Scotia's style – smooth, sweet with real depth, with flavours of fresh tropical fruits, vanilla, malt and oak. Each bottle was sold, with some travelling as far as Sweden and America with their new owners.

Glen Scotia also donated two special bottles that were signed by Darren Clarke, 2011 Open champion, to the club.

The club intends to keep a bottle to display on the new bar, with the other to be included at an upcoming raffle.

Willie Ross, captain of Machrihanish Golf Club, said: 'We are very grateful for the support we have received from Glen Scotia. They were one of the first organisations



Glen Scotia manager Iain McAlister, and Machrihanish Golf Club captain Willie Ross celebrate the funding boost.

to lend their helping hand and to have raised so much

money is truly incredible.' Iain McAlister, manager

at the distillery, said: 'Like everyone else in the local

community, we were absolutely heartbroken by the fire at Machrihanish Golf Club.

'It is central to life here on the remote Kintyre peninsula, bringing visitors to the area and providing a much-loved social destination for locals.

'It is highly rewarding to be able to support the campaign to rescue the club and I am looking forward to enjoying a dram of our single cask bottling at the clubhouse when it eventually re-opens.'

The destroyed clubhouse was not a listed building and is being redesigned by G1 Architects. The Glasgow practice also redesigned the £10 million St Andrews International Golf Club. Glen Scotia's sister brand, Loch Lomond Whiskies, is the official Spirit of The Open, golf's oldest and most renowned championship.

Pupils come a-carolling

Children from Castlehill and Dalintober primary schools were busy carol-singing over the weeks leading up to their Christmas holiday.

At Castlehill, the P7s were raising money for their trips to Edinburgh and Ardentiny in 2020 by singing carols outside Tesco and the Co-op, while the school choir performed at the town carol service, Elderberries, Kintyre Care Home and they sang in the school dining hall on the day of the school Christmas lunch.

Members of Dalintober's junior choir battled wind and rain as they crossed the Esplanade to sing at Aqualibrium, Tesco and the Co-op.



Dalintober's junior choir sang in the Aqualibrium, as well as the town's two supermarkets. 50_c01daljunchoir01



George McMillan with two of Castlehill's young choristers, his granddaughters Korri and Taylor.



Castlehill's P7s singing in the Campbeltown Co-op store.



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LETTERS

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or The Editor, Campbeltown Courier, Main St, Campbeltown PA28 6AE

Congratulations to Lord Lieutenant Stewart

Congratulations to Patrick Stewart MBE, the Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute, on being recognised in the Queen's New Year Honours List.

Mr Stewart first joined the Argyll and Bute Lieutenancy in 1987 and served as a Depute Lieutenant until 2002 when he became the Vice Lieutenant, finally being appointed as Lord Lieutenant in 2011.

Among the many, varied duties Mr Stewart has carried out, one of the most momentous must have been presenting his own mother with a 105th birthday card, on behalf of the Queen, in December.

Ailsa Stewart, once a wartime naval officer, is a remarkable lady. During her World War II service at Machrihanish, one of her duties was to brief crews who were later to attack the German battleship Tirpitz.

Mrs Stewart was living in Kew when she joined the Women's Royal Naval Service before being posted to Kintyre, where she met her future husband, Ian Stewart. They had two sons – Patrick, the Lord Lieutenant, and his brother, Johnny.

We hope the Stewarts, and all our readers and advertisers, have a very happy and healthy 2020.

Majority of Scots voted for unionist parties

There was an interesting pair of letters in the Courier two weeks ago from Messrs Wilson and Orr, but there are a couple of points that I will take issue with.

Firstly, as well written as both letters are, it would appear both writers have swallowed the 'Scottish Nationalist Party Big Bumper Book Of Independence Rhetoric' in one sitting.

Is there any sensible person out there in our country who really believes that Scotland and its people are 'imprisoned', or are 'a colony', or that we are 'abused', and we are somehow 'subservient'?

No? Thought not.

There is a real world out there and I suggest that it needs to be lived in by some people.

Secondly, both writers focus their ire on Boris Johnson and the Tory party, with five mentions for each, but is there a single, solitary reference to what currency we would use in an independent Scotland?

Or how we would reduce our deficit, per capita the biggest in Europe, upon independence?

Or is there any mention of what damage to our trade with the rest of the UK – may I remind you that is where over 60 per cent of our exports go – that would surely occur upon independence?

Not one. Nary a hint or a clue.

The SNP and its supporters would surely

be better served concentrating on important matters like these rather than demonising the Prime Minister of the UK at every turn.

Lastly, whilst it is beyond dispute that the vagaries of the 'first past the post' electoral system did indeed give the SNP a whopping 48 seats, so well done the SNP, it should also be mentioned that a mere 33 per cent of the electorate, and only 45 per cent of voters, gave their support to them, and the majority of people in Scotland voted for unionist parties.

This is proof, if any were needed, that despite Brexit and the current political climate, support for independence has not moved one iota since the 2014 referendum, which, may I remind you, the SNP lost.

The last referendum cost the taxpayer over £15 million ... I'm sure that money could be better used for education or NHS funding rather than pandering to the SNP and their faux grievances.

Michael McGeachy,
Campbeltown.

Scottish Government is in need of training

I hope and trust you enjoyed a good Christmas with fine presents. Those in the local media certainly deserve them. Unlike many of your colleagues in national broadcasting and media, locally-based journalists have displayed fairness, respect and even-handedness to communities.

Over recent Christmases, my wife decided that I needed training to become a more

interesting person. Her first present was to send me on a day's wine-tasting course. An excellent choice of which I remember little having consumed 15 wine samples over an extended lunch.

Another Christmas, I attended a weekend course on stained glass. Excellent and enjoyable training, even although I returned with plasters on each finger.

There is a real problem for people leading organisations to be given or even willing to undergo training. When you're top of the pinnacle, it's assumed you know it all. From the leader's point of view, any hint or indication that she/he could benefit from tutoring may be seen as a weakness.

Not having depth of knowledge in leadership can be very costly to an organisation or even country. Mistakes in defence issues, health provision, pension policy, welfare benefits have and are costing lives.

I am hoping Christmas presents will continue into New Year resolutions.

It would be good if generous, highly knowledgeable specialists, trainers and coaches offer their services at no cost.

And that Nicola Sturgeon, the First Minister, and her senior ministers and secretaries of state, will drop their 'know it all' approach and undergo appropriate and significant training.

Hopefully, that would save us, the taxpayers, having to spend unnecessary millions of pounds on ferries, unopened new hospitals and IT systems that don't work.

Finlay Craig,
Cove.

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The Editor welcomes letters and emails for publication, however we reserves the right to shorten, amend or refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although details can be withheld from publication. Phone numbers, if available, should be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please write to: Letters, The Campbeltown Courier, Main and Longrow South, Main Street, Campbeltown PA28 6AE. Email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Funding boost for coastline communities

I was pleased to be back in Bowmore for my last surgery of 2019 on Monday December 23.

I heard from many constituents while checking up on local road and pavements conditions.

The potholes brought to my attention have all been reported to our roads department with pictures included.

There has been some good news for infrastructure across Argyll and Bute with the recent announcement there will be a funding boost for local coastline projects.

Local coastline initiatives will share £1.158 million funding allocated to Argyll and Bute from the Scottish Government's Crown Estates Fund.

This includes coastal roads improvements, flood mitigation and emergency works of £292,000.

With Argyll and Bute having more than 2,500 miles of coastline, this funding award is much needed and long overdue.

There are so many shovel-ready projects that need to be undertaken across the Kintyre and Islands ward, so hopefully we can look forward to some rapid responses from Argyll and Bute Council to at least some of our many pressing infrastructure challenges.

**Councillor Alastair Redman,
Kintyre and the Islands.**

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



There is nothing like a good walk to blow away the cobwebs after the excesses of the festive season.

This week's photograph shows one of the best locations in Kintyre for one of those walks – the Gauldrons, at Machrihanish. The image, taken at sunset in November, was sent in by Alan Ogg, who said: 'It just captures, for me, this wonderful stretch of beach.'

Alan, who lives in Glasgow, met his wife in Machrihanish in 1967 while they were working in

the Ugdale Hotel, and it became their 'favourite place on Earth'. Alan said: 'I come down to this beautiful area a few times each year. My wife passed away three years ago but I still get great comfort from coming back to Machrihanish, and particularly the Gauldrons where we spent many happy hours.'

If you have a photograph you would like to share, please email it to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk, send it via the Courier's Facebook page or bring it into the Courier office to be copied.

that Slimming World feeling!

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FROM OUR FILES

TEN YEARS AGO

Friday January 1, 2010

Triple the fun at Christmas

Christmas was extra special at the Dalnaspidal Guest House, Tangy, for the Lavery Family.

It was the first Christmas for triplets Skye, Charl and Islay, and proud parents David and Lolita.

The triplets were born at the Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow, on May 29 last year; they weighed in at 5lbs 10oz for Charl, 4lbs 10oz for Islay and 4lbs 1oz for Skye. Since then they've gone from strength to strength and they're keeping mum and dad on their toes!



From left, Skye, Charl and Islay, celebrating their first Christmas.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday January 6, 1995

Posties lick Christmas rush

Campbeltown's posties had to deal with record numbers of Christmas cards and letters over the festive period.

A staggering 243,415 items were delivered throughout South Kintyre in the 25 days leading up to Christmas, with 12.3 million being handled throughout the area covered by the PA postcode – Argyll, Renfrewshire and the Western Isles – which was one million more than last year.

On Islay, 33,307 Christmas cards and letters were dealt with, as west coast posties battled through driving rain in the Christmas run-up.

Willie Durnan, the acting Royal Mail manager in Campbeltown, praised the efforts

of staff. 'Everything went smoothly even although the numbers of cards and letters went up,' he said.

'Thankfully, the public seem to have taken heed of advice to post early this year.

'We've really noticed the difference, with deliveries being spread over two or three weeks. It made life a whole lot easier for us.'

People in Scotland posted a record 154 million items of festive mail – 19 million more

than Christmas 1993. Volumes reached a peak on Monday December 19 – when 12.5 million cards and letters were posted in Scotland, more than twice the average handled in a day.

Petrol monopoly?

Campbeltown funeral director Alasdair Blair claims drivers were almost marooned earlier this week – because of what he calls the 'ridiculous petrol monopoly' in the town.

However, his claim that the County Garage's early closing times caused unnecessary problems was rebuked on Tuesday by the garage's Mike Carmichael.

Mr Blair said: 'I think it's ridiculous that the garage was closed at 2pm on Monday. Drivers were almost marooned.'

'Both my son, David, and a family from Greenock arrived at 2.30pm to find it shut. Luckily, we managed to get them to open although they were locking up, but surely having a monopoly doesn't give a business a licence to abuse people.'

'If it had been half an hour later they would have been stuck, and I'm sure others must have been hit. People coming from out of town had no way of knowing there would not be anywhere to buy petrol. I am so annoyed about the situation.'

Mr Carmichael said: 'The closing times over New Year were advertised, but even on Tuesday when we were supposed to close at 2pm we decided to stay open as there were unfamiliar faces about. We stayed open until those who would have been leaving had filled up.'

'If someone does get caught out, most people know that they can contact the police station, and they can get in touch with garage staff members to help them out.'

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday January 1, 1970

Students hit out at Kintyre hoteliers

Hoteliers in Kintyre are apathetic, according to the Scottish Hotel School students who recently conducted a survey in Kintyre as part of their training.

In charge of the work was Dr David Pattison, who is a lecturer at the Scottish Hotel School.

The director of the Scottish Hotel School, Dr John Fuller, said that the findings in Kintyre were symptoms of a 'general malaise' in the Scottish hotel industry. He added: 'I should

say that this so-called apathy is not confined to Kintyre. However, I do feel that the students did come to fairly sweeping conclusions.

'Perhaps it was a bit early for them to burst into print with pontifications about the hoteliers in Kintyre.'

ONE-HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday January 3, 1920

Campbeltown War Memorial

Campbeltown's War Memorial Committee have now issued their appeal for subscriptions.

It is addressed to residents in the burgh and parish, and should have a generous and immediate response. In the course of their circular the committee say: 'It has been decided to erect a monument in Kinloch Park to commemorate the men of Campbeltown Burgh and Parish who fell in the Great War.'

'Over 200 natives of this district gave their lives in our righteous cause, and that the memorial may suitably express the admiration and gratitude due to such sacrifice and devotion, the committee appeal for a sum less than £3,000. No district has responded more generously than ours to every call made during the war: and now that victory and peace have been secured, the committee come to the public confident that the support given will be worthy of our gallant dead, and may, in appropriate form, convey to succeeding generations the patriotic spirit and the heroic deeds which distinguished their countrymen in the supreme crisis of our race.'

'The committee, knowing the desire of each member of the community to have a share in this memorial to "The Boys who will Never Return," express the hope that none will hesitate to subscribe because of the modesty of their contribution, for no subscription will be too small, just as none can be too large, for so noble a purpose.'

The Hon. Treasurer of the fund is Major Thos. Mackelvie, C.M.G., to whom subscriptions should be remitted.

St. John's 141

The installation of office bearers and annual festival were observed by St. John's Masonic Lodge, No. 141, last Friday night, and were attended by as large a gathering of Masons – if not the largest – that the oldest brethren remember seeing in the lodge precincts on any similar occasion.

The lodge was constituted at 7 o'clock, when the installing Masters present were Bros. Neil Watson, Immediate Past Master, J. N. Mactaggart, P.M., J. B. Weir, P.M., and Colonel Charles Mactaggart, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.M.S.

The installation was carried out by Bros. Neil Watson, I.P.M., and J. N. Mactaggart, P.M., the new officer bearers being: R.W.M., Bro. John McCallum (Lochend); Deputy Master, Bro. John Smith (Barochan Place); Substitute Master, Bro. Alex. Shaw; Secretary, Bro. A. S. Paterson; Treasurer, Bro. Hugh Carmichael, jr.; Senior Warden, Bro. Peter McPherson; Junior Warden, Bro. Jas. H. Mackenzie; Senior Deacon, Bro. Alex. Kennedy; Junior Deacon, Bro. John McLaren; Inner Guard, Bro. J. Donald; Jeweller, Bro. C. McGaw; Architect, Bro. Dean of Guild McArthur; Tyler, Bro. P. McKay; Stewards, Bros. Dan Douglas, Donald McArthur, Stanley Noel, and Alex. Cook.

Afterwards the brethren adjourned from labour to refreshment, when a most successful and enjoyable evening was spent in song and sentiment. An excellent supper was served. The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and songs, readings and instrumental items were contributed.



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DOWN MEMORY LANE



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As a new year dawns, the Campbeltown Courier's hard-working staff have been having a bit of a clear out to make room for all the gifts Santa brought us on December 25.

In the process, we discovered a folder of unclaimed photos submitted for previous Down Memory Lane features.

The photographs range in age, from the early 1900s and even before, to just a few years ago, and mainly cover sporting and musical events as well as school groups.

Some have little bits of information about the event or year scrawled on the back but many are a complete mystery.

They must be very precious to their owners, especially those which are original, so if you can lay claim to any, please pop into the Courier office.

Right, could this be a singing group celebrating Mòd success?



The back of this photograph reads: 'Babette's Country Dancing, circa 1960/61.' Are you in the image?



Above, one of the oldest in the collection shows women working on the quay; and, below, do you recognise any of these faces?



Above, what was the reason for this outing?



Left, who are these proud, young sportsmen?

And, below, the only information we have is that this photograph was taken in 1972. While it looks like an annual school photograph, there is no name of the school.





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Kintyre man celebrates new year on Antarctica

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SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT



Elephant seals are among the animals he has spotted.



Getting up close and personal with a Weddell seal.

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

While Santa was busy getting organised for Christmas at the North Pole, a Kintyre man was hard at work at the South Pole.

Murdo MacLarty spent the festive period on Adelaide Island, Antarctica, at a place dubbed 'the world's most extreme construction site', where he has been working for the past two months.

His role as a steel-erecting supervisor involves him putting together a prefabricated wharf - 'Imagine a giant IKEA flat-pack project,' he said - which is part of an enterprise to upgrade a number of survey sites in Antarctica, including the continent's largest, the Rothera Research Station, where Murdo is stationed.

For more than 100 years, research teams have studied earth's polar regions, which are among the most remote and hostile environments known to humans, with temperatures barely rising above freezing, even in summer.

To ensure that the UK remains at the cutting-edge of climate, biodiversity and oceanographic research, the

British Antarctic Survey has partnered with specialist contractor BAM and engineering firm Ramboll for the upgrade project, in which the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has invested more than £300 million.

Many of the upgrades revolve around the Sir David Attenborough research vessel, which gained fame after almost being named Boaty McBoatface following the results of the NERC's 'name our ship' campaign.

'The best thing is no rain and 24 hours of daylight for four months'

Because the vessel measures 30m longer than its predecessor, stations including Rothera have to be adapted, and infrastructure upgraded, to allow the ship to dock.

The Rothera wharf project, on which Murdo is working, is a two-season project, involving the dismantling of the old quay and the construction of its replacement, due to be finished in April 2020.

Murdo has been involved

since the start of the project, previously completing a six-month stint at the South Pole and currently in the middle of a seven-month trip.

Murdo has worked with BAM on and off since 1997 and he has lots of experience working on marine projects, acquiring all the skills required for his role at the moment.

Undertaking construction in such an inhospitable environment is challenging as it is but Murdo has to work 12 hours a day, with only one day off a week.

'It is very busy so the days tumble by very quickly,' he said. 'You can't really go exploring as we only have a 14km area that is deemed safe. It has a flag line all the way round it and you can't go outside this area but you can go snowboarding and skiing in the area.'

'Boat trips are available too, weather depending, and you can go and look at icebergs and sometimes whales.'

In addition to whales, Murdo has seen a variety of wildlife, including Weddell seals, elephant seals, fur seals, penguins and blue-eyed shags.

He added: 'The best thing is

no rain and 24 hours of daylight for four months, but the worst thing is being in bunk beds with four in a room.'

Being five hours by plane from the nearest town means that when the workers arrive for their season, they are pretty much there until the end, no matter what happens.

Murdo said he didn't mind being away from home and working at Christmas and New Year, adding: 'The weather is better here anyway and we still get a good turkey dinner!'

On whether he would do another season at the South Pole, Murdo said: 'I'd possibly do it again, depending on how I feel after this trip. Seven months at work is a long time, and the weather is really poor by the time we leave.'

Never one to miss out on a unique experience, Murdo spent his free time in the summer, between his two seasons in Antarctica, working in Romania.

He said: 'I was a track manager for Red Bull Romaniacs, the world's hardest enduro motocross rally. I was part of a 20-man team marking out and preparing 800km of off-road track for more than 500 competitors. It was epic!'

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Murdo MacLarty is in the middle of his second season on Antarctica.



A penguin skating about nearby.



A penguin resting near the workers.



A fur seal basking on a rock.



An elephant seal.



A blue-eyed shag.



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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN CAMPBELTOWN AND KINTYRE

Celebrate André Rieu's 70th at Campbeltown cinema

André Rieu is celebrating a landmark birthday and is inviting cinema audiences all over the world – including in Campbeltown – to his party.

André Rieu: 70 Years Young, showing at Campbeltown Picture House this weekend, is the Dutch violinist's ultimate concert featuring musical highlights chosen by the maestro himself from his illustrious career so far.

This unique commemorative celebration is set to take viewers on an unbelievable journey around the world to André Rieu's most amazing concert locations, including Schönbrunn Vienna, Radio City Music Hall New York and the Coronation Concert in Amsterdam.

As part of the celebration, André Rieu reminisces with cinema host Charlotte



Hawkins about his life, love and music, while taking his audience on an exclusive tour

of his home in Maastricht. Bring your friends and kick off the new year together in

style, in the comfort of the cinema, with the most wonderful music from the birthday

boy – the King of Waltz! Through an incredible life with unparalleled achievement,

André Rieu, known as the 'King of Waltz', is celebrating his 70th birthday.

Photograph: André Rieu Productions.

world-renowned violinist Rieu is one of the biggest classical music artists in the world right now.

With more than 40 million records sold worldwide and selling more than 700,000 tickets each year – not to mention his July Maastricht cinema shows breaking box office records – it's no wonder he has been dubbed 'the maestro of the masses' by the New York Times.

Produced and distributed by Piece Of Magic Entertainment, André Rieu: 70 Years Young follows the success of his 2019 Maastricht concert 'Shall We Dance?' released in July, which also screened in Campbeltown.

You can catch the show at Campbeltown Picture House at 7pm on Saturday January 4, and at 3pm on Sunday January 5.

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Festive fun at grammar school

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Before the Christmas break, Campbeltown Grammar School put on a show for family and friends showcasing the many varied talents of its pupils.

The event, compèred by Beckie Shields, Alex Wotherspoon and Lara Sinclair, was opened by Kintyre Schools Pipe Band.

As well as several other group performances, featuring brass, strings, percussion and wood-wind instruments, the evening featured vocal arrangements, and solos by accomplished singers Erin Soudan and Hope Strang which really got the audience talking.

And it wasn't just the musical pupils' skills on show, with tasty mince pies and sausage rolls, made in the school's Health and Food Technology department,



Clockwise from top left: most of the performers who took part in the school show. KC_c01schoolshow01; Compères Alex Wotherspoon, Beckie Shields and Lara Sinclair kept the audience entertained. KC_c01schoolshow04; Lorna Millar and Cara Stalker serve home-made mince pies and sausage rolls. KC_c01schoolshow03; Kintyre Schools Pipe Band opened proceedings. KC_c01schoolshow02

served at the break. There were also crafted items up for grabs, and a Christmas cake raffled to raise funds to help support the school's minibus.

The festive show ended on a high, with the audience participating in a rendition of The 12 Days of Christmas, performing the actions as well as singing.



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From carol singing to Christmas

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Although we have now entered a new year, the festive fun is not over yet, as the Courier shares the final photographs from Campbeltown's

Christmas parties and events.

From fun and games at maternity and tiny tots parties, to music, family and snacks at Kintyre Care Home's celebration, it looks like fun was had by people of all ages at every event.



June Findlay enjoys a song with her mum, Nan Findlay.
20_c01christmas06





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parties, the festivities continue



Clockwise from top left: there was music, dancing and visits from family at Kintyre Care Home's Christmas celebration. Residents Annie Thompson, left, and Catherine Wareham, right, sitting in the green chairs, welcomed Helen Shaw, Catherine Murray, Kerri Ann Murray and Arthur Murray to the care home party. 20_c01xmasparties01; visitors to Kintyre Care Home, including Clare Lamont with her daughter, Rosie, and Tracey Lamont with her son, Thomas, took advantage of crafts which were on offer. 20_c01christmas07; the parents and babies who attended the annual Christmas party for Kintyre babies born during 2019, hosted by Campbeltown midwives; The infants who attended Kintyre Toy Library's Christmas party; The Boys' Brigade sang at the Lorne and Lowland Church's nativity service; The choir sang at the Lorne and Lowland Church's nativity service. Photographs: Kenny Craig



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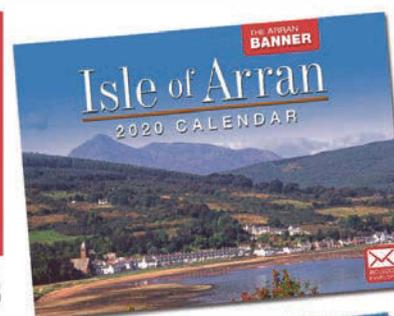
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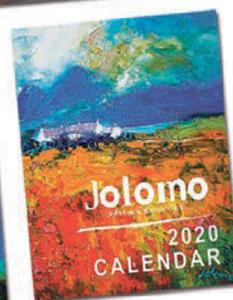
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NFUS president's New Year message

In his New Year message, NFU Scotland president Andrew McCornick has set out his wish list for not only the New Year but the new decade.

Heralding a new world for Scottish farming and crofting, Andrew considers the move away from Europe and the CAP after almost 47 years as one that will bring a massive change in how we look at our markets, our support and our people and will require significant negotiating skills and resolve to get the right outcome.

But will the politics make that more difficult? Andrew reminds readers that: 'NFU Scotland's role is not to get involved in political machinations. It is purely to get on with fighting for the best future for farming and crofting in Scotland regardless of the politics.'

Andrew's wish list for 2020 and beyond is based on the old adage: 'Plan like you'll live forever and live like you'll die tomorrow.' It includes avoidance of a 'no deal'



Brexit, access to EU markets, political engagement on new parliamentary bills, cast-iron guarantees on future funding, access to labour, a Standards Commission, and finally – sooner rather than later – a new agricultural policy for Scotland that allows the nation's farmers and crofters to play their part in meeting both the 2030 target for food and drink exports

and our obligation to reducing emissions.

As he enters the final year of his presidency, he writes: 'Over the past three and a half years, I have been deeply frustrated by the rhetoric and intransigence that has been pervading our political landscape. There has been too much focus on polarisation and not enough time delivering for the electorate. It is

NFUS president Andrew McCornick.

the season of goodwill. Our politicians need to take time out from politicking and bickering, get on with the day job, and deliver for the greater good across all parliaments in these challenging times.

'I truly believe we have more that brings us together than divides us and NFUS is a template to follow. Our members are a coalition of views that come together to fight for the greater common good. We have members in the highest hills; the remotest of islands; on the best of land and everything in-between. They all have different challenges and ambitions and yet, as an industry, we are interdependent on each other. In many ways, this is our strength and something that the political process can learn from.'

Andrew McCornick's full New Year message can be read at: www.nfus.org.uk/news/blog/presidents-blog-24-december-2019

Around the markets

Dingwall & Highland Marts Ltd, December 17 sold 12 prime cattle.

Prime heifers (12) averaged 196.6p (-0.9p) and sold to 204.0p per kg for a 565kg Limousin cross selling to Messrs John M Munro Ltd, Dingwall and £1,254.00 gross for a 660kg Limousin cross both from Bridgend Farm, Dingwall.

Other leading prices per kg:
Heifers: Bridgend Farm, (LimX), 200.0p, (CharX), 199.0p.

Other leading prices per head:
Heifers: Bridgend Farm, (LimX), £1,218.75, (CharX), £1,213.90.

New season lambs (290) averaged 186.2p (-7.5p) and sold to 211.1p per kg and £95.00 gross for a pen of 45kg Beltex crosses from Torgorm, Conon Bridge, selling to Messrs Fraser Brothers, Butchers, Dingwall.
SQQ 36.5kg to 45.5kg (204) averaged 186.7p (-7.6p) per kg
Feeding sheep (42) sold to £96 gross for a Texel ram from Teanluick, Beauly.

Other leading prices per head and per kg:

New season lambs: SUFFX – Torgorm, £89, 193.5p; Chev – Torgorm, £88, 200.0p; TexX – The Meadows, Culreach, £88, Dunain Mains, Inverness, 193.2p; Cross – Shewglie, Glenurquhart, £88, The Meadows, 188.9p; BF – Shewglie, £85.50; CHM – Dunain Mains, £84, 186.7p; Mule – Old Spital Farm, Glenshee, £82.50.
Feeding sheep: Tex ram – Strathaird Farms, Broadford, £88; TexX – 5c Balnabeen, Conon Bridge, £88; Chev – Shewglie, £80; TexX – The

Dell of Killiehuntly, Kingussie, £70.

Caledonian Marts Ltd, December 17, sold 2105 Prime Lambs, Ewes and Tups.

All lambs keenly bid for especially 39.1kg-52kg which averaged 201ppkg for 1225 sold. Overall average for 1522 sold was 196.5p (+13p on the week) which resulted in the dearest trade of the season so far. Top price of the day went to J Guthrie, Cuiltburn for a 50kg Beltex at £113.
Top price per kg went to R A Campbell & Sons, Meikle Seggie for a pen of 3 Beltex X Lambs at 41.3kg fetching 235ppkg.

Leading Prices:

Prime Lambs Per Head:-
Beltex £112 Cuiltburn
Beltex X £111 & £107 West Lundie; Texel £104 Aytoun
Texel X £103 East Lenniston
Continental X £103 Green-craig; Continental £102.50
Claish; Suffolk £94.50 Green-craig; Mule £85.50 Ditch; BF (Tups) £74 Culcreuch
BF Lambs £73 Glenturret Estates
Prime Lambs Per Kg:-
Beltex x 229p & 227p Meikle Seggie
Beltex 224p Borlick
Texel X 221p & 220p Ditch
Texel 221p Borlick
Continental 220p & 219p Meikle Seggie
Suffolk 207p Candy
Cheviot 206p Borlick
Mule 191p Innieshewan
BF 188p Glenturret Estates
Also forward were 583 Cast Ewes and Tups.

A good show of Ewes again met a great trade.

A highlight of the sale was a tremendous run of Ewes and Rams from P J & C Wood, Knockhill, Strathkinnes averaging £137.66 for 32 sold.

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AGM to focus on next generation

A discussion panel at the forthcoming Argyll and the Islands regional annual general meeting (AGM) will focus on the views of the next generation of farmers and crofters.

The AGM will take place on Friday January 10, starting at 11am in Tarbert Bowling Club. The morning session will see the regional AGM and the presentation of the Argyll and the Islands Stalwart Award.

The highlight of the afternoon will be a panel session chaired by the region's Next Generation Committee representative Ian Dickson from Scalpsie Farm, Bute.

Panel members include: Jenny Baillie, regional manager, Scottish Association

of Young Farmers' Clubs (SAYFC); Jenny Brunton, policy manager, NFU Scotland; Ian Davidson, national adviser, Scottish Land Matching Service; Colin Ferguson, chairman, NFU Scotland Next Generation Committee; and John McCulloch, chairman, SAYFC West Rural and Agri Affairs Committee.

Regional board chairman John Dickson said: 'As an industry, we need to focus on how we support the next generation of farmers and crofters to get them into the sector.'

'At NFUS, our challenge is how we encourage the next generation to also get involved in the union.'

'This panel will be an

opportunity for members to hear views on the future for the next generation of farmers and crofters in what are going to be challenging times.

'I would encourage those who are coming along to bring a young person with them – maybe a son, daughter, nephew or niece who is involved in your family business.'

'We want to ensure young people have a bright future in the sector and want them to become involved in agri-affairs, policy lobbying and NFU Scotland.'

'To help get the next generation involved, NFUS farming or crofting membership now entitles family members to be signed up at no extra cost.'

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PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12.30 –13.30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD. They can also be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk and at your Local Customer Service Point (check opening times).

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
19/02557/PP	Alterations and installation of external ramp and steps	Bank Of Scotland, Harbour Street, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6TZ
19/02581/LIB	Alterations to ruinous watermill to form Artists Retreat	Ardaily Mill, Isle Of Gigha, Argyll And Bute, PA41 7AA

Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed at all Area Offices, Council Libraries and on the Councils website.

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ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

EDUCATION SERVICE

REGISTRATION OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS SESSION 2020/2021

Children who attain the age of five years between 1 March 2020 and 28 February 2021 should be registered for education during the week commencing 13 January 2020.

Parents should take their children to the appropriate local primary school on one of the school days during the above week between the hours of 10.00am and 3.00pm.

A list of all schools can be found on the Council's website <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools>, this includes:-

- Gaelic Medium Education • Denominational Schools
- Non-denominational Schools

A leaflet providing information for parents on enrolment of children in school and giving details of placing request procedures (including under age placing requests) may be obtained from any school or from Education Services, Argyll House, Alexandra Parade, Dunoon, PA23 8AJ (Tel: 01369 704000).

ANNE PATERSON/LOUISE CONNOR, HEAD OF SERVICE, EDUCATION SERVICE

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

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TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION A83 INVERARAY SEAWALL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION BY THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS UNDER SECTION 55A OF THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

The Scottish Ministers hereby give notice that they have determined that the project to carry out structural repairs to the seawall adjacent to the A83 in the Newtown area of Inveraray within the Argyll and Bute Council area is -

(a) not a project which falls within Annex I of Council Directive No. 2011/92/EU ("the Directive") on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment as amended by Council Directive No. 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and Council;

(b) a relevant project within the meaning of section 55A of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984, and falls within Annex II of the Directive, but that having regard to -

(i) the selection criteria contained in Annex III of the Directive,

(ii) the results of the Environmental Screening Assessment and consultation with relevant Statutory Bodies: Marine Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and Argyll and Bute Council, (iii) the following information as detailed in section 55A(4):

The project is located adjacent to the A83 in the Newtown area of Inveraray. Over time, the condition of the seawall within the scheme extents has deteriorated as a result of scour action. Recent surveys have identified a number of areas of failure within the structure, consisting of voids of varying sizes.

The proposed works will see all voids identified within the seawall being shuttered and backfilled with foam concrete. Existing masonry units will be recovered/retained for re-use and be re-set with mortar on the facing of the seawall. The works will also construct an armour stone toe revetment along the length of the seawall, ranging in height between one and two metres.

The works are located on the shores of Loch Fyne, which below the Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS), is designated as a Marine Protection Area (MPA). The works are also partially within the Inveraray Conservation Area and the Inveraray Castle Garden and Designed Landscapes. A Marine Licence will be obtained from Marine Scotland prior to the works starting.

The Environmental Screening Assessment concluded that there would be no likely significant effects on the environment from the works.

It should not be made subject to an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Directive, and accordingly the project does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

In accordance with section 55A(5) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 -

(a) the criteria set out in Annex III that are relevant to the project are:

(i) the size and design of the whole project;

(ii) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;

(iii) the production of waste;

(iv) pollution and nuisances;

(v) the risk of major accidents and/or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge;

(vi) coastal zones and the marine environment.

(b) the main reasons for the conclusion that no Environmental Impact Assessment is required are:

(i) Potential construction impacts on local biodiversity, water, air, and noise will be minimised through good practice and environmental management measures;

(ii) No increase in traffic volume is anticipated and no changes to noise levels generated from traffic are anticipated;

(iii) During construction, there will be delays to vehicle travellers and non-motorised road users but this will be controlled through appropriate traffic management;

(iv) Residual impacts to the local landscape and land use are negligible/minor in magnitude;

(v) Works will be scheduled to exclusively operate at periods of low tide.

(c) the following features of the project which are envisaged to avoid or prevent significant adverse effects on the environment are:

(i) Works will primarily be focussed on restoring an existing seawall;

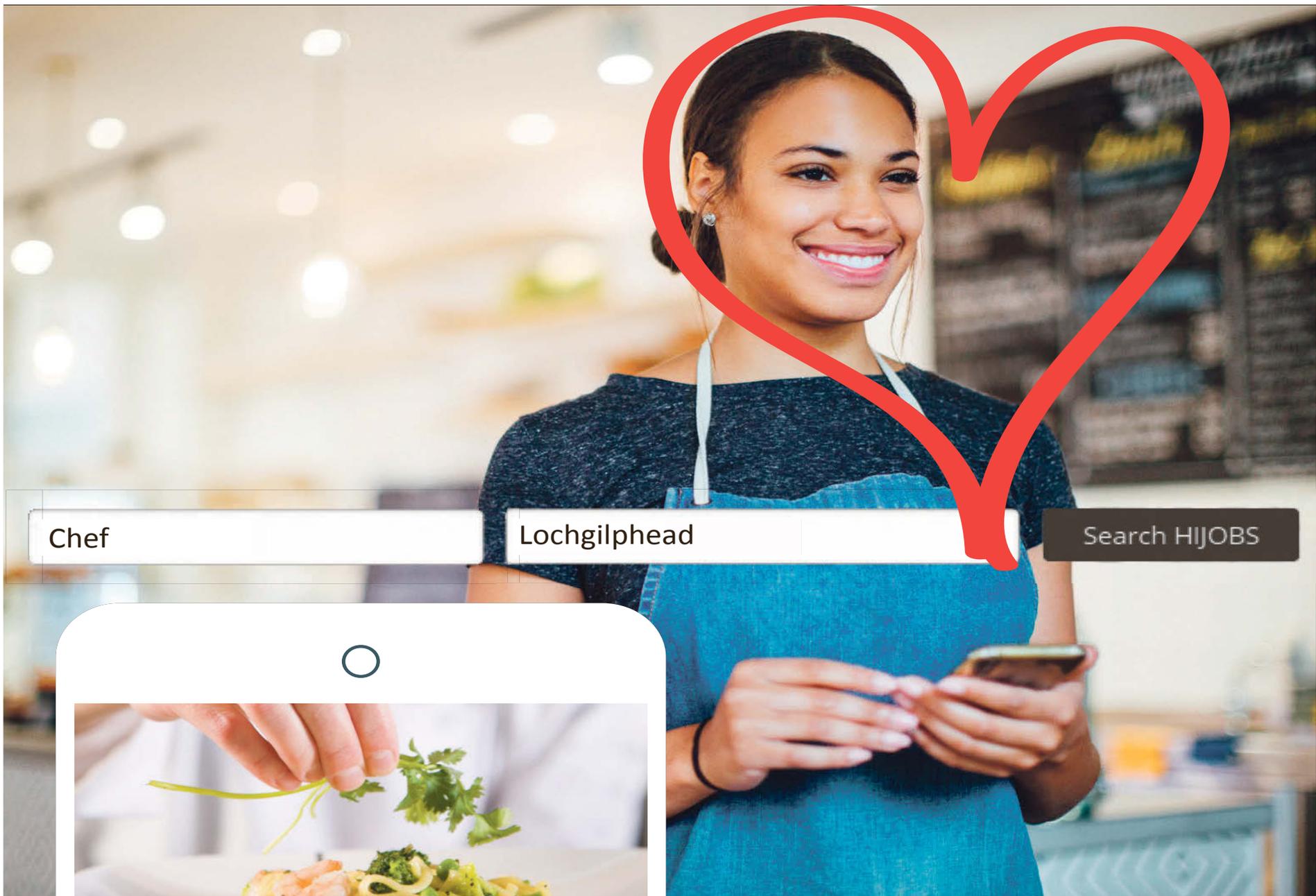
(ii) While the works are located adjacent to it, no works will take place within the boundaries of the Upper Loch Fyne and Loch Goil MPA or within the waters of Loch Fyne;

(iii) No significant cultural heritage features are noted within the footprint of the scheme;

(iv) The works are not located within an Air Quality Management Area or a Candidate Noise Management Area.

M. POLLAND
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF





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BICYCLES

CHILD'S PINK PEDAL GO KART - suit age 4-6, in Campbeltown, £15.00 Telephone 07778 942287

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JACK MURPHY

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DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

BOSCH FRIDGE FREEZER - large upright, fairly good condition, can deliver, £80.00 Telephone 01631 730323

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FURNITURE

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FURNITURE

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden

As I prepared to write Thought for the first week in a new year, a new decade even, I began to think back over these past 10 years.

I must admit to becoming very depressed as I thought of all the awful things that had happened in our own country and throughout the world.

I thought of Aleppo, the atrocities perpetrated on the Rohingya people, the unrest in Hong Kong, the terrorist attacks in Manchester, Paris, Boston and other parts of the world.

I thought of Grenfell, the Clutha disaster, the riots in Tottenham, the increase in foodbanks, the Arab spring uprising, the plight of the Palestinians, gun attacks in America, the deadly effect of climate change as Australia burns and the Arctic melts.

There seemed to be no good news.

Yet, we have just been celebrating the good news brought by God to his waiting people.

We have been celebrating the birth of a child who would come to show us a new way.

Is there hope amidst all the pain and the cruelty that is part of our world; amidst the devastation of forests, the extinction of many species; amidst the melting of the ice caps and the inferno in Australia – can we really hope into this new decade?

Yes we can.

In contrast to the bad news, there have been stories of courage, of faith, of hope, of endurance, of altruism.

These stories don't always make the headlines, but they are there – stories of kindness, stories of caring, stories of love.

In this new year, this new decade, please listen for these 'hope' stories and share them.

May God bless you with peace in the hearing and the telling.

JURA

Power teams help clear beach

by Hannah O'Hanlon
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Power line specialists working on the Inner Hebridean island of Jura tackled plastic pollution on the island's beach following the recent death of a stag found entangled in plastic tape.

Overhead line teams from PLPC working on Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks' (SSEN) £1 million electricity network upgrade cleared washed-up waste from the beach and surrounding areas.

Paul Campbell, team coordinator at PLPC, said: 'We saw reports in the media of a deer becoming trapped in some plastic tape close to where we were working on SSEN's



PLPC teams working on the Jura overhead line upgrade did a beace clean; and, below, just some of the waste they discovered during their effort.

of electricity to our customers. It's therefore vitally important we source competent contractors to work alongside our teams.

'We're delighted the PLPC team working in Jura took it upon themselves to support the local community in this way and I'd like to thank Paul and the team for going above and beyond while working with us on this project.'

SSEN is investing £1 million to refurbish the existing overhead electricity network on Jura, replacing equipment on the wooden electricity pole circuit from Lagg towards Islay that is exposed to salt water which can erode the equipment.

The project forms part of a multi-million-pound programme of investment to upgrade the electricity network serving Islay and Jura.

For more information on the Islay-Jura project, visit ssen.co.uk/IslayJura/

overhead line refurbishment works in Jura and took the opportunity to spend some time

clearing the beach of waste gathered along the coastline.

'Residents on the island mentioned plastic pollution had been getting worse over the past few years, so we wanted to do everything we could, as a considerate contractor, while we were working with SSEN to upgrade the island's power supply.'

Ross Fenton, head of South Caledonia region at SSEN, added: 'At SSEN, we pride ourselves on being a responsible network operator and our commitment goes beyond providing a safe and secure supply



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

DEATHS

HENDERSON - Peacefully at home, 74 Smith Drive, Campbeltown on December 24, 2019, Flora Henderson, in her 94th year, dearly beloved daughter of the late Arthur and Flora, much loved sister of the late Michael and Maurice, a loving auntie of Lorna and a much loved great aunt and great great aunt. Funeral service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church on Monday January 6, 2020 at 1.00pm, thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retiral collection will be held in aid of the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DOCHERTY - Karen, Peter and George would like to thank family, friends and neighbours and all who sent cards, flowers and messages of condolence following the sad loss of our dad, Peter McPhee Docherty. Thanks to Kenneth and Rhys Blair for professional services and to the Rev William Crossan for a lovely service. Thanks to all who paid their respects at the church and graveside. Thanks to the Ardshiel Hotel for the purvey. Finally, thanks to the community nurses and staff at Campbeltown surgery. The retiral collection raised £240 for the British Heart and Lung foundation.

MACDONALD - Malcolm and all the family would like to thank all relatives, neighbours and his many friends for their kindness, sympathy and support before, during and after their recent sad loss of George. Grateful thanks to Doctors, staff and ambulance crew of the Mid Argyll Community Hospital; to the Rev Hilda Smith for her comforting and fitting service; to Donald MacDonald, Funeral Directors for their compassionate arrangements; to Stag Hotel for catering and Morna's for lovely flowers. Finally, sincere thanks to all who paid their last respects and their generous donations which will be divided between Heart Foundation and Mid Argyll Community Hospital. A life well lived and will be sorely missed.

WALLACE - The family of the late Jessie Wallace would like to sincerely thank all friends and neighbours for their sympathy and support at this sad time. Special thanks to all at Southend Surgery and Campbeltown Hospital for their care and kindness shown to Jessie. Grateful thanks to the Rev Steve Fulcher for his comforting graveside service, and to Kenneth Blair for his professional services. Thank you to all who came to the Argyll Arms Hotel, Southend after the service. Finally, our deep-felt thanks to all who paid their kind respects to Jessie at the graveside.

IN MEMORIAM

MCCALLUM - In loving memory of Muriel, who passed away January 7, 2018.

Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard but always near, Still loved, still missed and held so dear. - Richard, Sharon and Wullie.

SELFRIDGE - Remembering our dad and grandad, Fred, who left us December 26, 2013. Always in our thoughts. Miss you so much. - Love Carol, Ali, Colin, Siobhan and families xx

TAYLOR - In memory of my dad Tommy who passed away December 30, 1998, also my brother Nick who passed away December 26, 2014. Missed but not forgotten. - David

CHURCH NOTICES

HIGHLAND PARISH CHURCH



SC002493

Sunday 5th January
The service will be held in Kirk Street Hall
All welcome

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

Sunday 5th January
11.15 am Morning Worship
Rev. W Crossan
Monday 6th January
Guild 2.00pm
New Hall
Tuesday 7th January
Tiny Tots 9.45 am
New Hall
BB Anchor Boys 6.00pm
Junior Section 7.15pm
Church Hall
Thursday 9th January
Choir Practice 7.00pm
Friday 10th January
Lunch Club 12.00 noon
New Hall

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow, Campbeltown

Sunday 5th January
Songs of Praise Service 11.00am
Pastor Steve Davies
All welcome
Wednesday 8th January
Bible Study 7.30pm
Pastor Steve Davies
Enquiries 01586 551200
www.springbankchurch.org.uk
SCO14646

ST KIARAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Sunday 5th January
THE EPIPHANY
Holy Communion 10.45am
Enquiries tel: 01586 551141
The Scottish Episcopal Church is a Province of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

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

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday 5th January
10.30am Morning Service
6.30pm Evening Service
Major Ruth Russell
Wednesday 8th January
Lunch Club 12.15pm
CAMEO 1.30pm
Make 'n' Munch Craft Group 7.00pm
Major Ruth Russell
All welcome
Scottish Charity Number SCO09359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 5th January
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 8th January
12.00 noon Bible Study & Prayer
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Sunday 5th January
11.00am Communion Service
Speaker - Andrew Chalkley
Refreshments after the service
Playgroup
Every Thursday 10.00 - 11.30 am
(Term-time only)
Pastor Mark Jasper
pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322
We meet at the SKDT Hall, Kirk Street PA28 6BL

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

"It's good to sing praises to our God"
Sunday 5th January
Services in Ardrishaig at 11.00am and Achahoish at 12.30pm
All welcome

CHRIST CHURCH SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Bishopton Road, Lochgilhead (SC013787)
Sunday 5th January 11.00am
Eucharist & Coffee
St Columba's, Poltalloch (SC031391)
1st Sunday of the month
9.00am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of the month
3.30pm Evensong
All welcome
Father Simon Mackenzie
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

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

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

Kilmartin
Sunday 5th January 10.00am
The Worship Group
All very welcome
(SC0 02121)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity number SC001002
Find real Peace this year - try Jesus
Sunday 5th January 11.30am Tayvallich Church Morning Worship
Saturday 4th January 10.30am - 12.30pm
Café Connect
Achnamara Hall
Wednesday 8th January 7.30pm Tayvallich Church
Kirk Session
All welcome
www.northknappdale.org

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 5th January
Skipness Service 10am
Tarbert Service 11.30am
Rev Chris Holden
All welcome
Tarbert and Kilberry Charity No: SC002622
Skipness Charity No: SC004280
For all church enquiries and pastoral care contact CFulcher@churchofscotland.org.uk

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE

Church of Scotland
Sunday 5th January Lochgair Church 10.00am
Inveraray Church 11.30am
Cumloden and Lochgair
Charity No. SC016097
Glenaray and Inveraray
Charity No. SC016665
All welcome

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It's a dog's life for former Ardrishaig man Alan Stewart

Off-road adventurer Alan Stewart is coming to the end of the latest chapter of his action-packed life story, but you can bet his very worn boots there will be something else on the horizon.

Raised in Ardrishaig, Alan, and his wife Fiona, are currently based in Aviemore, at the foot of the Cairngorm mountain range, where together they run the Cairngorm Sleddog Centre.

Climate change, however, has thrown up new challenges for the sport in this country and the 63-year-old, who now has to travel to Europe to train and run his dogs in competitions, has decided to call it a day.

'Sled-dogging is unlike any other outdoor adventure you can experience in the UK, but the dogs require cool conditions when they are out on a run,' he told us.

'That's not so easy to do now and the dog welfare is paramount, so I will keep the 19 working Alaskan huskies but once they come to their

natural end I won't be replacing them.'

For the Stewarts dog sledging is not just a hobby, 'it's a way of life', said Alan, who never raises his voice to his canine friends, instead he whispers instructions into a mini radio, the other end of which is attached to his lead dog's harness.

'I will miss the daily routine we have established over the 18 years or so, not to mention the dogs, but maybe it's time to slow down a bit and treat Fiona to a bit of a break.'

Fiona however, is not holding her breath.

'We ended up here because I said that I thought it would be nice to have a dog,' she said.

'I dread to think what is coming next, my request was for an extended holiday!'

For Alan, there are no limits. Having spent his youth shell-fish diving with local diver Sandy Munro, he trained as a commercial deep saturation diver while living in Sydney, Australia. His offshore work took him to the Middle East,



Alan and Fiona Stewart with one of their 19 working Alaskan huskies. 15_T51_Sleddogs11

India, China, Norway and the North Sea.

In 1982, he returned to Scotland where he underwent a saturation course at Fort William and became a mem-

ber of the 'Broady Bunch', a deep dive team led by superintendent Chris Broady. Alan continues to work as a dive rep during the summer season.

When he's not working, Alan enjoys off-road safari racing and remote motor bike trips in crazy places. A keen motocross and safari buggy enthusiast, one of

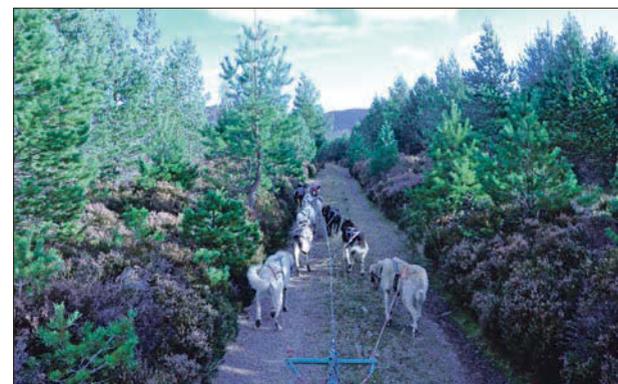
Alan's ambitions is to bring a safari racing championship to the Kilmartin area where he spent many happy years racing with the Mid Argyll motocross club.



Among his 'mushing' memorabilia Alan has a whole corner dedicated to fellow Scot Alexander 'Scotty' Allan whose racing exploits inspired Jack London for the main character of Call of the Wild.



Fiona plays a very active role in making sure the operation runs smoothly.



Alan built all the trails himself on the Rothiemuchas estate in Aviemore.



Charles Robertson, centre, wearing grey T-shirt, beat the other players to take the Boxing Day honours. KC_01darts01

Robertson wins Boxing Day darts at the Kilbrannan Bar

The Kilbrannan Bar was packed for its Boxing Day darts competition.

In the end, it was Charles Robertson who beat Kenny Docherty, with James Robertson and Jamie McGougan the losing semi-finalists.

Happy New Year and happy golfing with Dunaverty ladies

Dunaverty Golf Club's ladies brought 2019 to a very successful conclusion and are looking forward to another healthy and enjoyable year of golf in 2020.

The November and December medals were both affected by weather delays and had to be played a week later than scheduled.

Excellent

November medal scores were mostly grouped in the mid 70s nett but Elizabeth Marrison's scoring was excellent with four pars and two birdies.

Playing off 12, she came home with a net score of 66 and won the competition. Eleanor Hawkins was second with net 72.

The December medal was a very close result with two ladies both finishing on nett 71. Ailie MacBrayne, playing off 10, was very steady all the way round managing five pars.

Eleanor Hawkins gave her a good run for her money with four pars on her card.

Her final score was 89-18=71 with Ailie winning on with a better inward half.



The Kinloch Bar hosted the pool competition. KC_01pool01

Andrew nets winner in Kinloch Bar's pool competition

Andrew McCallum potted the winner in the Kinloch Bar's recent pool competition. Andrew was up against Charlie Martin in the best-of-three final, winning 2-0.

David is a Christmas winner

With just a few rain squalls and a brisk wind to conquer, Dunaverty Golf Club members took to the course in a bid to win the Christmas competition.

Early starters had the best of the day and David MacBrayne took full advantage of the conditions to post his best round of the season.

He reached the turn in 36 strokes, a score which was only matched by Ari Techner.

Even with three bogies on the final stretch David still managed to record 36 strokes while Ari fell back

slightly on 38. Best inward half was recorded by Robert Coffield who started on the back nine with two birdies and one bogey to card an excellent 33 and take second place.

David and Robert had the best scratch score with both on 72. CSS was 64. This was the first round of a two-round event with the second event held yesterday.

Result: 1 David MacBrayne 72-12=60; 2 Robert Coffield 72-9=63; 3 John Brown 75-10=65; 4 Bill Brannigan 78-12=66(bih); 5 Ari Techner 74-8=66(bih); 6 Alex Arkell 80-14=66.

SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

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£4150

IF NO ONE WINS THE JACKPOT FROM THIS GAME WE WILL GIVE THE CLOSEST ENTRY A GUARANTEED £2000 FROM THE JACKPOT FUND

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph below. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1. If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

This game has a jackpot of £4150. If no one wins the jackpot outright then £2000 will be awarded to the person closest to the exact centre of the ball. The £2000 nearest prize will be taken from the jackpot fund. The competition will continue as normal from the issue dated 16th January 2020 with a jackpot fund of £2150. No other near miss prizes will be awarded for this game. In the event of a tie the prize money will be split evenly between all winning entries. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

TO ALLOW FOR DISRUPTION TO THE POSTAL SERVICE / HOLIDAYS THIS GAME WILL RUN OVER 4 WEEKS - CLOSING DATE 2PM MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2020

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 2pm Monday 13th January 2020. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into any of our offices - The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban; The Lochaber Times, High Street, Fort William; The Campbeltown Courier, Main Street, Campbeltown or The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final

decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes. Winners' names and home towns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB or hand in to any of our offices as detailed above.

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It's a dog's life for former Ardrishaig man Alan Stewart

Happy New Year and happy golfing with Dunaverty ladies

Hardy runners brave bitter cold at Slog in the Sand

More than 30 brave souls took part in this year's Slog in the Sand, despite the rain and cold wind on the day.

Stuart McGeachy was the first man home in the Boxing Day 10K on Westport beach, in a time of 39.43 minutes, with Dom Sharkey second (40.32), and Ewan Smith third (40.55).

The first woman to cross the line, and in seventh place overall, was Jennifer Campbell in 47.40 minutes, with Mairi Littleton second (47.47), and Fiona Cook third (50.46).

There was also a fun 5K run. A spokesperson for Campbeltown Running Club (CRC), which organises the annual event, said: 'Congratulations to overall winner Euan Charlwood who was almost too fast for the 5K marker, and Niamh Quinn who was too speedy and missed the turn and did a lot more than 5K!'

The spokesperson added: 'Well done to all the Sloggers!'

We raised over £100 for the Sunshine Room at Campbeltown Hospital.

'Thank you Coastguard, CRC committee, Suzy Ferguson, Ruth McGougan and Iain McGougan for timekeeping, Allan Reid for use of van and the particular efforts of James Murdoch for having the tent up and tea/coffee waiting on us!'

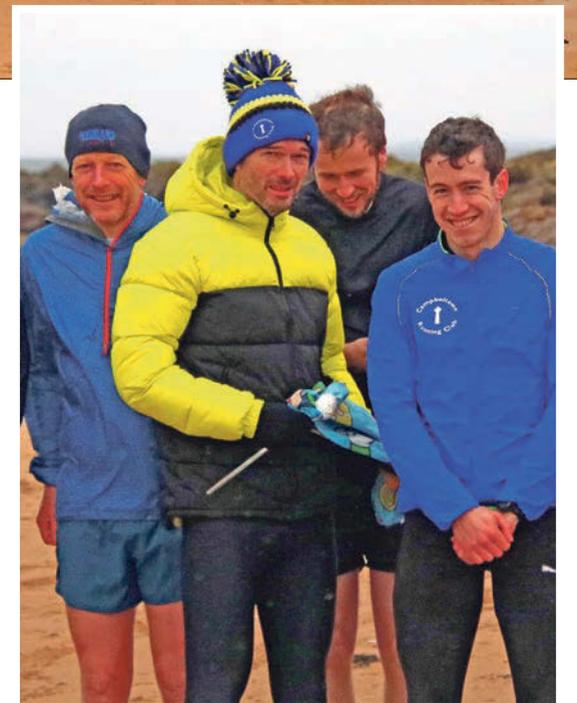
Slog in the Sand 2019 results: 10K results: 1 Stuart McGeachy 39.43; 2 Dom Sharkey 40.32; 3 Ewan Smith 40.55; 4 Alan Anderson 41.13; 5 Stewart Ireland 45.33; 6 Johnny Girvan 47.38; 7 Jennifer Campbell 47.40; 8 Mairi Littleton 47.47; 9 Darren Renton 48.20; 10 Fiona Cook 50.46; 11 Elaine McGeachy 52.49; 12 Archie Cook 53.45; 13 Christopher Anderson 54.56; 14 Charlie Anderson 54.57; 15 Malcolm McMillan 56.40; 16 Caroline Clark 60.19; 17 Russell Kay 61.13; 18 Lea Watson 63.52; 19 Ronald Watson 63.52. 5K results: 1 Euan Charlwood 21.17; 2 Laura Campbell 25.24; 3 Rachel McGeachy 29.10; 4 Gail Williams 30.53; 5 Margaret Sinclair 31.53; 6 Jamie Harvey 33.05; 7 Nancy Hope 34.01; 8 Ailie Williams 36.45; 9 Paul Williams 36.45; 10 Sarah Simpson 37.08; 11 Niamh Quinn 40.56; 12 Karen Robertson 41.59; 13 Fiona Quinn 41.59.



The brave runners before the race. KC_01slog01



Organisers and time-keepers, from left: Ruth McGougan, Iain McGougan, Elaine McGeachy, James Murdoch and Suzy Ferguson. KC_01slog05



The top four men, from left: third placed Ewan Smith, winner Stuart McGeachy, Alan Anderson, who was in fourth, and Dom Sharkey, second. KC_01slog02



The front-runners take the lead as they make their way along Westport beach. KC_01slog04



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