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Relief as £1M water upgrade completed

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

A Kintyre couple, who had to wade through 'filthy' flood water at their front door on several occasions over the last five years, are 'relieved' following the completion of an upgrade to Scottish Water's network near their home.

Iain Ferguson, of Benrioch, near the Moy, spoke to the Courier after the £950,000 project, which involved replacing approximately three miles of pipework between Campbeltown and Machrihanish, was finished.

Iain said: 'My wife and myself are very pleased and relieved to get this confirmation that Scottish Water has finally completed the job.'

'It took more than four years of complaining and countless

bursts and floods from the old main to cajole it into action but at least the contractors got on with the job and completed it expeditiously and professionally over the last 12 months.'

The project began in January 2020 but was delayed for some months due to Covid-19 restrictions.

McFadyens Contractors Ltd carried out the work on behalf of Amey, which was assigned by Scottish Water.

Georgina Reid, Scottish Water's corporate affairs regional manager, said: 'Following a history of bursts on the network, causing interruption to supplies for customers, we're extremely pleased to announce that this work has now been completed.'

'We're sure that the upgrades we've made here will give the community some comfort,

with increased resilience in the water network improving the service we provide.

'Our customers in the area can continue to enjoy fresh, great tasting drinking water.'

Councillor John Armour welcomed the news that the work had been successfully delivered.

He said: 'I am delighted that after highlighting this serious problem, with many bursts over the last few years, the new system has now been completed.'

'It will be a great comfort to those impacted by the loss of service due to the bursts and also a relief to residents who have, at times, found themselves knee-deep in water outside their front doors after bursts.'

Continued on page two.

Ardshiel owners crowned Whisky Guru of the Year



Marion McKinnon and Flora Grant, above, owners of Campbeltown's Ardshiel Hotel, won the Deanston Whisky Guru of the Year honour at the 2020 Scottish Bar and Pub Awards. This year's awards ceremony was held virtually, but that did not stop the Ardshiel team from putting on their glad rags and toasting their success. For more, turn to page two.

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Relief as £1M Kintyre water upgrade completed

Continued from page one.

'With Amey using a Kintyre business to carry out the work, it helped to ensure precious jobs were sustained during what has been a very uncertain time for everyone over the last nine months.'

While also welcoming the news, Councillor Donald Kelly feels Scottish Water could have done more to prevent further disruptions occurring in the area.

He said: 'I am pleased that this section of the pipeline has been completed but feel that the entire length should have been done. To leave the section between Stewarton and Drumlemble is, in my opinion, just asking for further problems.'

'That said, I do welcome Scottish Water's commitment to resolving a situation at Low Askomil but would welcome engagement between the company and the residents of Glenramskill in an effort to resolve an ongoing problem on that side of the loch.'

Campbeltown's Kate retires after 29 years



Kate McKay with her special OT-themed retirement cake.

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

Campbeltown's occupational therapy (OT) department is saying goodbye to one of its longest-serving employees, as Kate McKay retires after 29 years' service.

OT assistant Kate doesn't officially finish up until December 31 but she spent her last day with her colleagues in Campbeltown Hospital last Wednesday. She received cards, gifts and flowers, and a special OT-shaped cake featuring a toilet seat and a bath board, equipment used by staff in the OT department. The cake, made by fellow OT assistant Hannah McGeachy, was in the green and white colours which traditionally featured on OT uniforms.

OT is a branch of health care that helps people of all ages who have physical, sensory or cognitive problems to regain independence in all areas of their lives.

Although based at Campbeltown Hospital, Kate's job took her all over Kintyre, from Whitehouse to Southend and everywhere in between.

She said: 'Our role involved the rehabilitation of anyone with any disability, getting them back to their potential.'

'We did this in the community or in the hospital. We would do as much as we could for people who were unwell in hospital then continue their

rehabilitation with them in their home environment.'

Kate explained that the role has changed a lot in recent years because of advances in medicine and preventative care meaning fewer people require treatment.

The Covid-19 pandemic has also caused changes in the last few months, during which time Kate has been working from home, assessing clients over the phone before her colleagues treat them.

Kate, who was born and brought up in Kintyre, described her job as 'very rewarding', but added: 'Now just seemed the right time to go. I've enjoyed my work completely, working with all the clients.'

Asked about her plans for retirement, Kate said: 'I've got three wee grand-daughters, including a wee one who is just five weeks old, so I'll spend more time with them. I'd like to thank all my colleagues and clients over the years.'

Linda Currie, Argyll and Bute lead allied health professional, told the Courier: 'We would like to wish Kate a well-earned and very happy retirement. Kate has served an amazing 29 years in the NHS and we thank her for her service throughout the years.'

Joanne Mitchell, OT team lead for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay, added: 'We are all very grateful for Kate's hard work and dedication to our service. She will be missed.'

POLICE FILES

Witness appeal

Police are investigating and appealing for witnesses after the windscreens of a black Vauxhall Corsa car was smashed in Burnbank Street, Campbeltown, sometime between 8.30pm on Tuesday November 24 and 11am on Wednesday November 25.

Woman assaulted

A 31-year-old man was arrested and charged after allegedly assaulting a woman in New Parliament Place, Campbeltown, around 3am on Saturday November 28.

Shop vandalised

Police are investigating and are appealing for witnesses after a large window in the Olfactory shop, Longrow, Campbeltown, was badly scratched and damaged sometime between 9pm on Friday November 27 and 8am on Saturday November 28.

Deer on roads

Police are appealing for drivers to slow down and be prepared for deer, especially at night, after several incidents on the Carradale road recently.

Racial abuse

Police are investigating and are appealing for witnesses after a man allegedly made racially offensive comments towards another man in Main Street, Port Charlotte, Islay, at 4.30pm on Saturday November 28.

Anyone with information on the above or any incident should call police on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111.

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Ardshiel owners win top whisky prize

The Ardshiel Hotel's owners picked up one of 20 prizes up for grabs at a prestigious awards ceremony dubbed the 'Oscars' of the hospitality industry.

Marion McKinnon and Flora Grant were awarded the Deanston Whisky Guru of the Year accolade at the 2020 Scottish Bar and Pub Awards which, this year, went virtual for the first time in 25 years.

Hundreds of industry operators, staff and members of the public tuned in to the live broadcast on Wednesday November 25.

The awards are organised by the publishers of DRAM magazine who, this year, were determined to honour the 'fighting spirit and resilience' of the people that make up Scotland's hospitality industry during this 'heavy Covid

weather' as well as their 'all-round excellence'.

Speaking to the Courier after the Ardshiel's win, office manager Amanda Grant said: 'For Flora and Marion to be nominated for this new category is a great achievement in itself, especially when you read the description: Are you passionate about all things whisky, with a bold and industrious spirit? Do you love to share your whisky knowledge with your colleagues and customers, but dare to do things a bit differently? To me this definition is written with them both in mind and totally 'gets' everything they are about.'

'I could not be prouder of them being acknowledged for everything they do. This has been a challenging year for all and the hospitality industry

continues to be hit hard.' Flora said: 'This is a fantastic category to be included in and I am overwhelmed to receive this award. Thank you to all our staff and customers for their continued support.'

Marion added: 'I'm really pleased. It's great to finish off this year with something to celebrate.'

Susan Young, event organiser and DRAM publisher, said: 'I take my hat off to everyone in this industry who has worked night and day to keep pubs and restaurants open safely and responsibly and people in jobs despite the challenges of Covid. I wanted these awards to not only honour the finalists and the winners but everyone in Scottish hospitality that makes it such a great industry be part of and support.'

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Hobby unearths medicinal properties of mushrooms



Katrina MacDonald and her dog Rogan.

What began as one Kintyre man's lockdown hobby has grown into a community effort to improve the health of a dog suffering from cancer.

For Ian McVicar, growing mushrooms was nothing more than a pastime which reminded him of his youth, but it has opened up a new appreciation of nature and the medicinal properties of fungi, not just for himself, but for others.

He said: 'I thought I'd give growing oyster mushrooms a go, once I realised how easy it was. The one thing we are not short of in Kintyre is cereal straw and once you're set up, the biggest cost to growing mushrooms is boiling the kettle a few times. My dad used to grow them and foraging for mushrooms was a regular thing for us. However, it's vital you forage with an expert if

you intend to eat them, as several varieties are poisonous.

'In nature, mycelium connects all the elements of a forest and, with people having to isolate during the pandemic, I thought a shared interest could connect people again - we could take the form of metaphorical mycelium!'

Ian approached Glenn Appleton from The Community Bureau charity and, between them, they created and gave away more than 100 grow-your-own mushroom bags.

'When the pandemic is behind us, we are going to organise many more mushroom-related activities,' said Glenn, the charity's chief executive officer. 'If you come into our charity shop at 21 Longrow South, Ian will talk to you for hours about fungi

and is being sent hundreds of mushroom photos that people take on their walks.'

Katrina MacDonald was just one recipient of a grow-your-own bag, though for her, the medicinal properties of mushrooms were to become her main focus.

'My dog Rogan was diagnosed with cancer and has been undertaking an intensive course of chemotherapy,' she explained. 'Strengthening Rogan's immune system is paramount and it appears extract of turkey tail mushroom may help him. I started a blog about Rogan's hopeful road to recovery and now people stop me in the street and ask about him.'

After hearing from Katrina, Ian started looking for wild turkey tail mushroom and finally discovered some,

growing on a log in a garden in Southend. He asked Frances Hill from Muneroy Tearoom who owned the house and she, in turn, asked the owner if some of the mushrooms could be harvested, explaining what it would be used for.

The owners, Mark and Sadie, were only too happy for Ian to collect some, which he delivered to retired herbalist Kenneth Eames, who has been shielding for 10 months.

Kenneth said: 'I went on a mushroom hunt with Ian about 15 years ago and we've remained friends since. When he asked if I could make Rogan a tincture, I was only too happy to help. People being connected and helping each another seems apt. The pandemic may force us to live further apart but, in Kintyre, we pull together to help.'

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Santa Claus brings Christmas



Amy Lang, Lindsay Croft, Kirsty Kennedy, Codie McCallum and Peyton Robertson after the lights switch-on.



Major Ruth Russell, Margaret and Jim Raeside serving refreshments outside the town's Salvation Army citadel.

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

In an unprecedented year, full of changes and disruption, one thing which remained consistent was a visit from Santa Claus.

The big man in red took time out of his Christmas Eve preparations to visit Campbeltown last Saturday evening.

Although he could not meet and greet children as he usually does, Santa travelled round town in his sleigh, with one of his helpers throwing sweets to the little ones who lined the streets to see him from afar.

The day before, on Friday evening, Campbeltown's Christmas lights were switched on by special guest Helen Gilchrist, selected for the role because of her tireless work keeping people entertained and raising money for charity through her lockdown quizzes.

Physical distancing rules meant people could not turn out in the usual numbers to watch the magical moment the town was illuminated in festive

colours, so it was streamed live on the Campbeltown Christmas Lights Facebook page.

The lights committee explained why, this year, it was felt more important than ever to organise the lights switch-on and Santa's visit.

A spokesperson said: 'This year has been so tough on so many people. The town's heart was broken earlier this year, as it has been many, many times before. As a community we have all pulled together and slowly but surely we are healing and showing the strength that comes from within such a tight-knit and loving community.'

'So many people have been helping one another to get through this as well as those who have worked in a variety of occupations, every single day – and so hard – throughout this strange time for us all; the volunteers who have given their time freely to help so many of the community; everyone who has kept this wee town going – you have all

been amazing. This has been the toughest of years that our young generation has seen. They have been affected in many ways, some of which have still to appear, and many have really struggled.'

'Everything became virtual – what a blessing technology has been for all of us to keep in touch and stay connected.'

'For all these reasons, this is why it was so important to us, that although we would not be able to have our usual 'switch on', we had to make sure the lights were up and Santa came to see the wee ones. It was wonderful to see so many people out on the street.'

The group thanked the following individuals and companies for their assistance: RDS Forestry, P McKerral and Co, Kevin McCrae, Jack Campbell, McKinven and Colville, Clark Lafferty, Stevie Gorman, Barry Colville, George MacMillan, Ryan McLachlan, Kintyre Hire, Jim McPhee, Graeme Harvey, Community Service, Helen Gilchrist, Campbeltown Co-op, Tesco, The Original

Factory Shop and Santa and his helpers.

'Without you all, this would never have happened,' the spokesperson added. 'Thank you from the bottom of our grateful hearts.'

Santa is to return to Kintyre tomorrow (Saturday) evening, to visit children in some of the villages surrounding Campbeltown so keep a look out for him.



Karen Willett with son Conner McMurchy and grand-daughter Esmie MacLean waiting for Santa.



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Saturday 3pm

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Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 2.30pm

Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows Pt2 (12A)

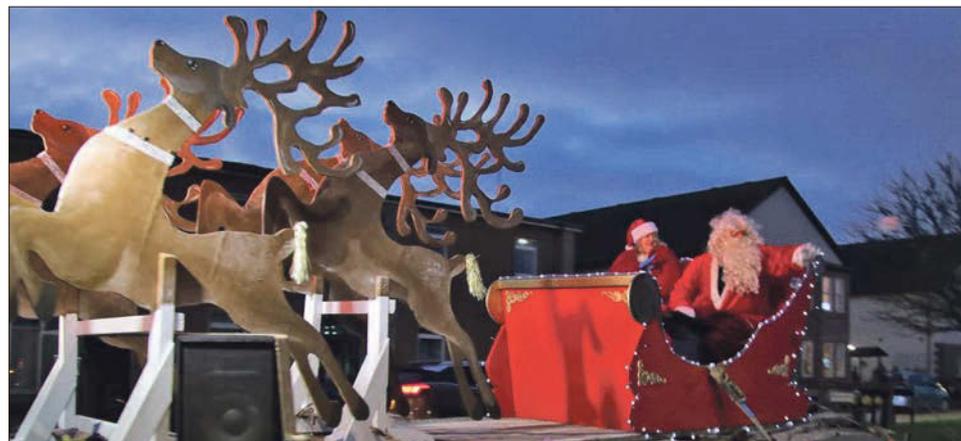
Saturday 2pm
Sunday 4.30pm

I Am Greta (12A)

Sunday 5pm

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...cheer to Campbeltown



Clockwise from above: Rowan, Hunter and Karen Brodie with Eilidh Smith after the Christmas lights were switched on; John Martin and Kelly Brodrick enjoying some late-night shopping in The Kintyre Larder; Santa travelled around Campbeltown in his sleigh; special guest Helen Gilchrist, second left, with Campbeltown Christmas Lights committee members Mandy Robertson, Raymond Harvey and Kirsteen Graham. Joanne Arbuckle, Lorne McMurchy and Lewis Russell, with little Murray McMurchy tucked up warmly in his pram, waiting to see Santa.

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Girls' festive fundraising walk eggs on additional donations

Two businesses have been so inspired by the thoughtfulness of three Campbeltown youngsters, who have raised more than £2,000 to help other children celebrate Christmas, that they have decided to boost their fundraising, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

Eight-year-olds Jessica McGeachy and Emma Johnston, and seven-year-old Abigail McAllister, pupils at Castlehill Primary School, walked the route of the Mull of Kintyre Run 10-kilometre race last Sunday (November 29) to raise money for Children 1st and have been sponsored by hundreds of people.

Hannah Jones, from Bellochantuy, who runs Deliciously Scottish Eggs, was so touched by the girls' campaign that she released some special pink egg boxes, available in Kintyre shops throughout December. For



From left: The trio was supported by Jessica's big sister Adelle, right, and her friend Jade McCallum; Jessica holding one of the special pink egg boxes; Emma Johnston, Abigail McAllister and Jessica McGeachy with their medals.

every dozen sold, 10p will be donated to the girls' fund. When staff at Jura Community Store, one of the shops selling the eggs, found out about the appeal, they decided that for every dozen eggs they sell in pink boxes, they will donate an additional 20p to Children 1st.

Wearing T-shirts bearing the Children 1st logo and colours, the girls set off from Aqualibrium last Sunday morning and were joined on the journey by Jessica's big sister Adelle and her friend Jade McCallum, as well as Jessica and Adelle's parents.

Friends and family turned out to cheer and clap for the girls and there was even a special banner which read: 'Well done, girls!'

Apart from a drizzly shower, the weather was pleasant and they were welcomed at the finish line with balloons, cake,

hot chocolate, medals and gifts.

The girls' parents said: 'They smiled, danced and sang the whole way and, as they did, they spoke about the children and families they would be helping and how their Christmas might be now, as a

result of the fantastic amount of money raised.

'They were absolute stars and did so well. We could all see the pride bursting out of them which was lovely.

'As always, friends, family and our community have just been so kind and supportive. Thank you to everyone who cheered them off, supported them along the way and welcomed them in at the end, it made the event so special for the girls.

'And thanks again to everyone who has sponsored, we know the money will make such a difference.'

There is still time to sponsor the girls as their online fundraising page – search 'Friends walk for Christmas' on the JustGiving website – is being left open until the end of the month so the Deliciously Scottish Eggs donation can be added to the total.

SCOTTISH FIELD

January issue



Exclusive
So that was
2020 feature

So that was 2020...

Interviews with top authors, actors & singers...
James Cosmo talks fishing & Father Christmas...
Stuart Hogg on horse riding... Father of fantasy
fiction.. Wonderful world of owls... SF Quiz of
the Year... Recipes from The Seafood Shack...

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM McIVORS CAMPBELTOWN

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers for taking the time to shop locally and for supporting McIvors throughout 2020.

There is still time to deck your halls and arrange gifts for loved ones so we welcome you to visit the shop on Longrow Campbeltown, or give us a jingle on 01586 552386.

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Get set now to do business when the UK's trading with the EU changes on January 1

FROM JANUARY 1 2021 the way the UK trades with the EU will change. Businesses need to act now!

This is true for retail, those trading in consumer goods, services and investment, construction and housing as well as vehicle and haulier firms.

The UK Government has put a raft of measures in place for all firms across England, Scotland and Wales.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster Michael Gove said: "We are leaving the EU single market and customs union. This will bring both new challenges and new opportunities for businesses. We recognise this is a challenging time for everyone. We are determined to support

KEY CONTACTS

- **Make sure you're ready** [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition)
- **Data protection and transfers** [gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-after-brexit](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-after-brexit)
- **EU and EEA countries** [gov.uk/eu-eea](https://www.gov.uk/eu-eea)

businesses to be ready for 1 January 2021 and beyond."

These are actions to take now...

■ **Selling goods to the EU?** Prepare for new customs procedures.

■ **Travelling to the EU for work purposes?** Check if you need a visa or work permit, and apply if necessary.

■ **Employing overseas nationals?** Prepare your business for the implementation of the new immigration system.

■ **Receiving personal data from contacts in the EEA?**

You may need to take extra steps to ensure that data can continue to flow legally at the end of the transition period.

■ **Providing services in the EU?** Ensure your qualifications are recognised by EU regulations to be able to practice or service clients in the EU.

■ *This article is part of a paid-for Partnership with the UK Government*



NEW CHALLENGE: If you are selling goods to the EU, prepare for new customs procedures.



LEADING THE WAY: Laura Hobbs

‘Businesses must prepare for the end of the UK transition period in a planned and coordinated way’

Procurement expert Laura Hobbs has led the way for the construction industry to prepare for the end of the UK transition period. Laura is the UK and Ireland One Procurement Programme Lead at Royal BAM Group, which is among the biggest construction firms covering England, Wales and Scotland. She said: "We have created a snapshot to give a clear picture for the industry where we believe pinch

points are." Laura explained: "I decided to pull my peers together; all the other main contractors that are part of the Construction Senior Leaders Group which I chair. We decided to write one set of questions for the end of UK transition and also share the workload – to go to all those different product categories key to construction.

"As main contractors we deal a lot with sub-contractors so we need to ensure the message gets further into the supply chain."

The Construction Senior Leaders

Group also includes representatives from Skanska, Costain, Murphys, Laing O'Rourke, housebuilders Berkeley and clients including Highways UK and Clarion Housing Group.

Manufacturers are employing new customs experts to help them get in position for the new start, creating more strategic programmes to negate any currency fluctuations.

Laura worked with Build UK, receiving useful information around imports and exports from the UK Government.

"Information is the key and

preparation is essential. The organisations we work with have been preparing for this for a long time so they are on their final rehearsal now.

"To be able to give your own business the comfort you are going into this in a planned, coordinated way, it is key for people to start the exercise sooner rather than later," stressed Laura.

She said the new start will bring opportunities to invest in the UK supply chain. "We always see the positives and, definitely for the UK, there are opportunities coming."

Check, Change, Go

To find out more about the UK's new start go to [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition)



Let's get going >

The magic of Christmas

Well done to everyone on the Campbeltown Christmas Lights committee and other volunteers who helped organise this year's lights switch-on and visit from Santa.

It can't have been easy to pull it off under the current circumstances but I'm sure we all appreciate their efforts in helping bring the magic of Christmas to Campbeltown.

Some children may have been disappointed not to have as close an interaction with Santa as usual, but the fact the lights committee organised his visit at all is to be applauded.

Community kindness

It's amazing how a small act of kindness can grow into something greater. What started as a personal challenge for David Brown has motivated not only himself but many others to raise money for charity as they keep fit.

Many members of the charities for which David has raised money in 2020 have supported him by completing their own runs and walks, the latest being Tom Donnachy, who features on our back page.

The fundraising efforts of the three young girls who completed a 10K walk last weekend also inspired two businesses - Deliciously Scottish Eggs and Jura Community Stores - to donate money to Children 1st.

Finally, it is heartening to hear of the community coming together to help dog Rogan who suffers from cancer.

No matter what life throws at us, we can be sure our community will support us.

Memories from the 1950s

Having seen your headline for the closing of McIlchere's, I thought I would mention that some of your older readers would know that J & J McRobert did the roll and sausage thing in the 1950s, not only in the shop at 125 Ralston Road, but from vans and a wooden hut near the putting green on the Promenade.

They were also the first in the area with toffee apples, crispy cakes and salmon fishcakes at the shop.

Jim McRobert, Musselburgh.

Accident waiting to happen at Craigs Farm junction

The junction where the Sound of Kintyre road meets the A83 at Craigs Farm is an accident waiting to happen.

It is a busy road, taking drivers to and from the Sound of Kintyre and other houses as well as the airport, MACC, Machrihanish Dunes Golf Club, Westport's middle beach and more, but drivers must be a little more patient when they arrive at the junction if there are already cars on the A83.

On several occasions, when I have been travelling both north and south on the A83, I had to jam on my brakes as cars pulled out without even stopping to look properly.

This is especially dangerous when lorries are on the road as they take much longer to stop or slow down.

This has frustrated me for some time but enough is enough.

During the Covid crisis, the last thing our hard-working emergency services need is a road accident to deal with.

Name and address supplied.

Don't suffer the loss of a pet alone, there is help

National pet charity Blue Cross was concerned to hear the recent Office for National Statistics figures which suggested the week after the clocks went back saw Britain's highest levels of acute loneliness in the pandemic.

We know many people may have lost a pet this year and, for some, their four-legged companion may have been their only companion.

We want to remind people that our pet bereavement support service is here to help those who are grieving the loss of a pet.

People can contact our free and confidential support line on 0800 096 6606 or email pbss-mail@bluecross.org.uk for advice and support.

Diane James, pet bereavement support service manager, Blue Cross.

Support vital bone cancer research with stamps

Christmas is coming and soon you'll be getting Christmas cards in the post. But what are you going to do with all those used stamps?

The Bone Cancer Research Trust has the answer... The Bone Cancer Research Trust Stamp Appeal.

Getting involved could not be easier. All you need to do is save your used stamps or horizon labels from the UK or overseas.

If you are a business, shop or public service you could even have a collection box for people to drop off their stamps.

Your stamps will be recycled and turned into lifesaving funds.

Primary bone cancer can occur at any age, but affects mostly children, teenagers, young adults

and the elderly. Every 10 minutes, somewhere in the world, someone is diagnosed with primary bone cancer.

Collecting used stamps is a simple way to make a huge difference.

You can order a free Stamp Appeal pack today by visiting www.bcrtr.org.uk/stamps or join their Facebook group: Bone Cancer Research Trust Stamp Appeal.

Please send your used stamps to BCRT Stamp Appeal, 20 Bowers Road, Benfleet, Essex, England, SS7 5PZ.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this urgent appeal. Until there's a cure...

Terri Bush, volunteer Stamp Appeal coordinator, Bone Cancer Research Trust.

Ribbon Appeal helps to remember loved ones

Charity Meningitis Now has launched its annual Ribbon Appeal to remember loved ones at Christmas and donate to fight back against the devastating disease.

Families impacted by meningitis but not bereaved are also invited to support the appeal.

Supporters honour their loved ones by writing their name on a white ribbon for display by the charity or to wear or hang on their Christmas tree at home.

All donations go towards Meningitis Now's ongoing lifesaving and life-changing work, rebuilding futures by providing dedicated support to people living with the impact of the disease, as well as raising awareness so people know what to look for and what action to take if they suspect meningitis and funding research into vaccines and prevention.

This year, we will host a virtual Christmas carol concert, live on Facebook at 7pm on Tuesday

Press policy

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December 8, which will include a recording of the ribbons hanging on the tree at the centre of its Remembrance Garden at our head office in Stroud.

We know that Christmas can be a difficult time and this year will be especially difficult for many.

Although we can't be together this year, we can still remember together.

Please support our Christmas Ribbon Appeal and help us to keep fighting this terrible disease and be there for families who need our support, at Christmas time and throughout the year.

And please join us for our online concert – you'll be very welcome, whether you have a meningitis experience or not.

To donate or for more details on the virtual Christmas carol concert, please visit our website at www.meningitisnow.org

Our helpline is available on 0808 80 10 388 or by emailing helpline@meningitisnow.org

Tom Nutt, chief executive, Meningitis Now.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



William Smith from Campbeltown sent in this week's photograph which was taken at sunrise recently, from the hill at Smerby Farm, looking over to the tip of Arran. If you have a photograph you would like to share, please email it to editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk or send it to us via the Courier's Facebook page.

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CONTACTUS

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The gift of a good book

New survey reveals importance of reading in times of stress

Scottish Book Trust, the national charity changing lives through reading and writing, has launched a Christmas fundraising appeal to give books to families in need.

Many families will be struggling this Christmas, with demand for food banks in Scotland more than doubling during lockdown and set to rise. Scottish Book Trust's appeal aims to bring some comfort and togetherness over the festive season by giving books to families who are depending on food banks and community hubs.

A new survey¹, run by the charity during lockdown, has

revealed 92% of respondents agreed that reading is important to them in times of stress or anxiety. Reading made people feel less isolated (64%) and 98% agreed that reading supports their wellbeing. Nine out of ten respondents also said reasons for reading in lockdown were to escape, relax and that it made them happy. They also highlighted reading to escape as a child when they were in difficult situations, or to cope with mental health issues as an adult.

Marc Lambert, CEO Scottish Book Trust, commented: "We know many families across Scotland are facing extremely

difficult circumstances. Our new research has really underlined the difference that having access to books and stories makes, including family bonding, a sense of escapism and improving mental health and wellbeing. This appeal aims to spread some joy and bring calm and togetherness for families at a time of ever increasing need. Everyone deserves a little bit of magic at Christmas so please do donate £5 if you can."

Research² has also shown families with children are being hit hardest, with a 95% increase in food parcels given to households with kids during the pandemic.

Scottish Book Trust is working with food banks and community hubs across Scotland to reach as many families in need as possible.

A number of publishers are also supporting the appeal with donations of books from Simon & Schuster, Walker Books, Nosy Crow, Collins, Egmont, Harper Collins and author Cat Cubie.

For further information on how to support Scottish Book Trust's Christmas Book Appeal, please visit scottishbooktrust.com/ChristmasAppeal

Sources:
¹ Scottish Book Trust, (2020). Reading in Scotland.
² Heriot-Watt University and the National Institute of Economic and Social Research



Clockwise from top left: Sue O'Neill-Berest, Cyrenians Service Manager for Food Education at FareShare, Leith; Lynne Collie, Cyrenians FareShare Service Manager; Scottish Book Trust CEO Marc Lambert and Fundraising Manager Victoria Sampson.

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FROM OUR FILES

TEN YEARS AGO

Friday December 3 2010

Campbeltown is jobs blackspot

Campbeltown has been named the worst place in Scotland for getting a job, with more than 12 workers chasing each vacancy.

This prompted Conservative Jamie McGrigor MSP to hit out at the Scottish Government for not moving fast enough over problems at Skykon and construction firm Rok, which was building an extension to the wind turbine manufacturer's factory at Machrihanish.

The job figures were revealed in research by the GMB union on Monday, in a snapshot that analysed official unemployment and vacancy data across the UK for October 2010.

There were 14 unfilled jobs in Campbeltown and 180 men and women claiming unemployment benefit.

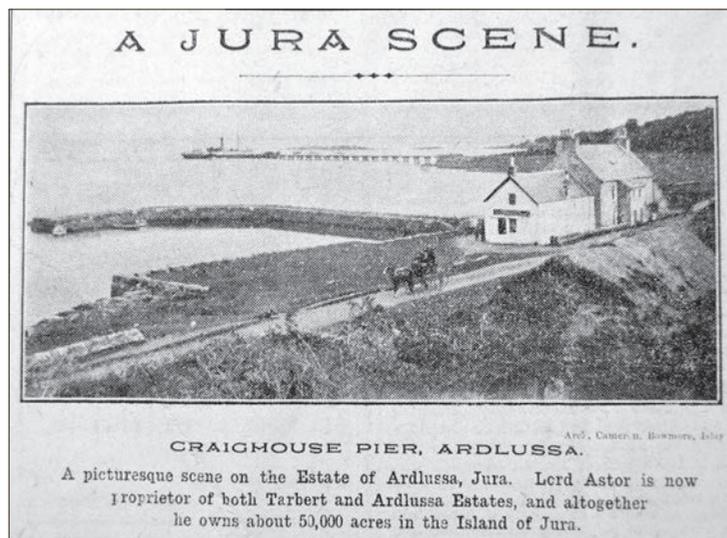
TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday December 8 1995

Phosphorous report denied

The health and safety executive has denied any knowledge of workers being injured as they laid a pipe line near the Beaufort's Dyke ammunition dump.

A Glasgow-based newspaper earlier this week claimed workers were burned by phosphorous bombs, similar to thousands which were washed



In 1920: A photograph of Jura with an accompanying caption.

up on Kintyre beaches, and inhaled toxic fumes. The paper reported workmen as saying they were told to continue the pipe laying operations regardless of their safety concerns.

No-one from European Marine Contractors (EMC), the firm which carried out the work, was prepared to speak to the Courier about the allegations. All inquiries were referred to British Gas which was EMC's client.

British Gas exploration and development boss Jim Willison said he did not know of anyone being injured by incendiary bombs.

He also said he was unaware of the report that Dutch workers had quit the project because of

fears over toxic fumes. 'The operation was carried out within guidelines laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Defence and the Health and Safety Executive.'

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday December 3 1970

Whisky bottled after 50 years

On November 25 1970 an event that is unique in the history of the Scotch whisky industry took place at Springbank Distillery in Campbeltown;

a hogshead of 50-year-old whisky was bottled. The whisky concerned was distilled at Springbank in December 1919 and was thus almost 51 years old. There are probably no more than half-a-dozen casks of 50-year-old Scotch whisky in existence. It is the habit at Springbank to reserve small quantities of whisky for longer than normal maturity. Although 20 years is not so very uncommon, 50 years is exceptional.

The particular cask was 'refill sherry hogshead' which was filled on December 26 1919, with Springbank at a strength of 11.2 over proof - 111.2 proof. It originally contained the equivalent of 59.1 proof gallons but more than 50 years later, maturation had taken most of the spirit away. There was only the equivalent of 16.4 proof gallons left and the strength had dropped to 66.3 proof. The out-turn of the bottling operation was 12 cases and one bottle.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday December 4 1920

Islay distilleries back to work

Last working season was a prosperous one for the Islay distilleries, as well as for Highland distilleries generally.

During the summer great activity has been seen in the numerous arrivals of vessels with coal and barley and preparations were made for a resumption of distilling.

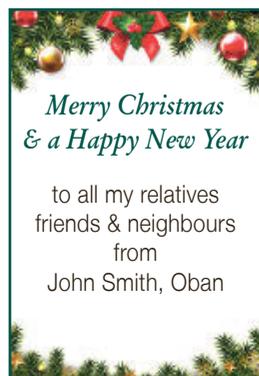
Wet weather, scarcity of labour and a scarcity of carts made the securing of peats very difficult and only the dry autumn relieved the situation and allowed the peats to be got home. At Ardbeg, Lagavulin, Laphroaig, Port Ellen, Port Charlotte, Bruichladdich, Bunnahabhain and Caol Ila work is now going on, and large deliveries are leaving the district.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

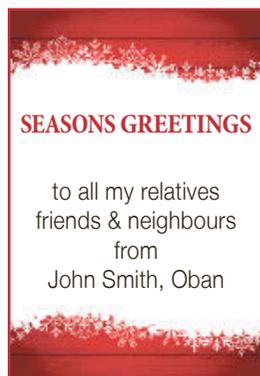
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Gunner MacLean's POW diary from '40s

The Courier continues to share the previously unpublished account

Gunner Neil Maclean became a prisoner of war following the 51st Highland Division's surrender at St Valéry-en-Caux during the Second World War.

This diary, and several photographs of Neil during and after the war, were supplied by Neil's son Calum, who knew nothing of the diary until after his father's death.

This week continues from March 1941:

March - Weather cold and some heavy rain. On the 11th received 300 cigs from Jessie, out of smokes at the time. Gladly received.

Started work at a Jewish cemetery taking out all the stones. Some of us came across coffins and some bodies not long in, so we refused to work there, but were told we did not need to go down so deep. About 14 of the men refused to go back and they were sent back to Schubin XC0 (punishment camp). Finished that job and went to enlarge a sports ground for the school. Received a snap of Margaret on the 16th. It was very good.

April - Weather very changeable. Received our Christmas parcels so on the 6th we had our Christmas dinner. A bit late, but better late than never. On 11th received a parcel of clothes from Connyglen, very acceptable.

On the 14th we had a holiday and at night we had entertainment by some of the boys entitled In Town Tonight. It started with the news then a running commentary of a football match, then on with In Town Tonight which lasted till bed time. It was very good. A few bottles of beer but did not have any.

On 15th received about four marks for 100 francs I handed in at Schubin received from Captain Lewis. On the 29th they stopped us buying bread and on the 30th finished the job. There were rumours we were going back to Schubin.

May - Weather very changeable and some snow. Started on the sports field we left in 1940. Spent my birthday here on a very cold day. 19th, received two parcels from 33 Longrow, lovely pair of boots. Very



pleased to receive them. Had a bad foot, it was the boots that pulled my sinuses so I put on my new pair and all OK now.

Received a new football so we had a few games on a Sunday, allowed out for an hour in the morning. By this time the sun was very warm and we had to work with our shirts off. Maybe lovely sunshine today and tomorrow would have snow. On the 28th had a very heavy fall of rain, so no work.

June - 1st and 2nd a holiday so played football both days. Worked 3rd and 4th and heard we were moving out. Moved out next morning at 8am for the train. Had a good journey, only 26 in our truck.

Saw some lovely girls on our way and Posen looks a lovely place, just passed through it. Landed at Gratz about 10.30pm and walked about one-and-a-half hours with a heavy load on our back. Went to bed straight away. About 2,000 men in here. Lovely soup for dinner, had salt ling in soup and it was lovely. This is the best time we have had yet, plenty of smokes and eats and beds, hope it continues.

Did not get long in this camp, spent one good night at a concert and one night at the boxing, very good. Church service on the Sunday.

Before leaving here, we received two Red Cross Parcels each, but no smokes. Left Surdof (outside Gratz) on the 13th at 10am. Received one loaf each, travelled till 4am next morning in cattle trucks, 50 men in each truck very crowded.

Continued in next week's
Campbeltown Courier.

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Care home crowns Kintyre art competition winners

Christmas may be just around the corner but it was for art related to a different celebration that two Kintyre children have been rewarded.

Many primary school pupils entered a Hallowe'en art competition run by Kintyre Care Home, however, Evan Cook from Dalintober Primary School - who

received his prize from the care home's new manager Colin McBurnie - and Eve McTaggart from Castlehill Primary School were crowned the winners.

A care home spokesperson said: 'Things are very different this year and, at Kintyre Care Home, we have missed our visits from the schools.

'Because of this, we decided to involve schools in our Hallowe'en celebrations by holding an art competition.

'Dalintober primary and Castlehill primary created some amazing artwork and residents and staff at the care home had the wonderful but difficult job of picking the two winners.'



Right: Dalintober's Evan Cook receiving his prize from Kintyre Care Home's new manager Colin McBurnie. Above: Eve McTaggart from Castlehill Primary School with her prizewinning artwork.



Pupils get anima

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

Pupils from Dalintober and Glenbarr primary schools enjoyed free screenings from a choice of two hit animated movies thanks to leading UK film charity Into Film.

The youngsters were treated to private screenings of Angry Birds 2 or Horrible Histories at Campbeltown Picture House last week as part of Into Film's annual film festival - the largest youth-focused film festival in the world.

The festival takes place across the UK but, with many cinemas closed due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Kintyre youngsters were among the lucky few able to benefit as Campbeltown Picture House remains open.

Each class at Dalintober attended an individual screening and there was a separate showing for Glenbarr's pupils to ensure students remained within their class 'bubbles' for social distancing purposes.

Dalintober's P1 to P4

P7 pupil Tina Birtles, from Glenbarr, holding an Angry Birds 2 character she created at a follow-up modelling session.



classes, as well as pupils from Glenbarr, opted to watch Angry Birds 2, while the P5 to P7 classes chose Horrible Histories.

The schools made the trips non-uniform as part of their

Children In Need fundraising, meaning pupils dressed up or down for the showings. There were quite a few cosy onesies!

Their fundraising efforts raised £468.

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ated over film screenings



workshops and events to coincide with its free screenings but, as that was not possible this year, it provided teachers with lots of examples of curricular links instead.

These covered activities con-

nected to the films that could be worked on either before or after the screenings, including modelling characters from the movies. Caroline Armour, head teacher at Dalintober and Glenbarr, said: 'We are



Far left: Edel Parkhouse, a P2 pupil at Glenbarr, with her own Angry Birds 2 creation.

Left: P1 pupils from Dalintober Primary School settling down to watch their free screening.

delighted to continue working in partnership with Into Film this year and are so grateful to it for providing the opportunity for all classes in Dalintober and Glenbarr primaries to attend private screenings at Campbeltown Picture House.

'The children - and staff - thoroughly enjoyed their visits and the linked curricular activities that were provided.

'A huge thank you to everyone involved in bringing a little bit of magic to our schools in recent weeks.'

Celia Small, Into Film Festival executive, said: 'Into Film Scotland is so pleased it was able to host these screenings for schools in November. Many teachers point out that the social and wellbeing benefits of the cinema experience

are particularly important right now. So, while these screenings help us put film at the heart of children and young people's education, there are so many other benefits too.

'We couldn't have done this without the support of our amazing film industry partners, especially the cinemas which created a safe and fun environment.'

Law book not just for legal eagles

The Campbeltown-based author of a book about Scots law, which warns the country could become an authoritarian state, has insisted it is not just for legal eagles. Ian Mitchell has republished his 2014 book *The Justice Factory: Can the Rule of Law Survive in the 21st Century?* with an afterword forming a second part to the work.

He told the Courier: 'The book is for anyone who wants to understand what sort of people our senior judges in Scotland are. This is essential since they represent the rule of law. That is all in Part I. Part II is about the politicians who wish to destroy the rule of law so they can rule without restraint. That will be dangerous for all of us. If you want background to this then this is the only book available today which is up-to-date on these subjects with reference specifically to Scotland.'

It is available from The Old Bookshelf, Cross Street, Campbeltown.

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Council's commitment to tackling climate change

Argyll and Bute Council has reaffirmed its commitment to tackling climate change by adopting a decarbonisation plan.

While no single organisation can tackle climate change in isolation, the council says its decarbonisation plan, which includes its achievements to date and its intentions for the future, sets out its intention to lead the way in Argyll and Bute. The council is currently working in line with Scottish Government targets to reduce greenhouse gases by 75 per cent by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2045.

Over the past four years, the council and key partners have reduced carbon dioxide equivalent output by more than 4,000 tonnes per annum.

Contributing to this achievement has been:

■ Adopting renewable energy

for council buildings, including biomass boilers and solar panels;

■ Constructing the Miss Hoolie wind turbine to power the Glengorm waste disposal site on Mull;

■ Switching to LED street lights, saving energy and carbon emissions;

■ Reducing the amount of waste going to landfill by 13 per cent since 2009;

■ Replacing 10 per cent of the council fleet with electric or hybrid vehicles so that 46 diesel vehicles will be removed; and

■ Ensuring that, since 2016, 1,123 households have benefited from measures that make homes warmer, reduce energy bills and decrease carbon emissions.

The plan outlines six areas for action that will help move Argyll and Bute towards its

goal of zero carbon emissions: waste; energy and water consumption; transport; preparing and adapting for the effects of climate change; offsetting emissions through partnership and innovation, and communicating work and encouraging participation.

Councillor Robin Currie, council leader, said: 'We are fortunate – Argyll and Bute is the lowest net carbon dioxide producing region in the UK per head of population. That's thanks to our environment – our forests and peat lands and our demographics. However, our coastline makes us susceptible to extreme weather events and disruption on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful is testament to the effect of more frequent adverse weather on our critical infrastructure.

'So we cannot be complacent. We have to act now and we have

to act together. Our decarbonisation plan is a clear statement of what we, as a council, can do to make changes that will reduce our carbon footprint.

'As we build back after Covid-19, we will work with businesses, communities and other agencies to develop a low-carbon economy, making the most sustainable use of our assets and existing core industries including renewable energy, food and drink, aquaculture, agriculture, forestry and tourism.

'Our schools are already hard at work helping our children and young people explore the importance of the world around them and this has led to numerous awards.

'I hope our young people will help lead the way in our efforts, with creativity and enthusiasm, as their future depends on our actions now.'

Blue whale

Argyll-based scientist at forefront of international research project

An international research team led by UK scientists has revealed the return of critically endangered Antarctic blue whales to the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia, 50 years after whaling all but wiped them out.

The new study follows recent research that humpback whales are also returning to the region.

The discovery, based on analysis of 30 years' worth of sightings, photographs and underwater sound recordings, is crucial evidence in learning how the species is recovering following a ban on commercial whaling in the 1960s.

The findings were published on Thursday November 19 in the journal *Endangered Species Research*.

Blue whales were abundant

off South Georgia before early 20th century industrial whaling between 1904 and 1971 killed 42,698 of them there. Most of these were killed before the mid-1930s.

The species all but vanished from the region – dedicated whale surveys from ships off South Georgia resulted in only a single blue whale sighting between 1998 and 2018 – but more recent surveys suggest blue whales are making a comeback.

A survey in February 2020 resulted in 58 blue whale sightings and numerous acoustic detections.

Lead author Susannah Calderan of the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS), Oban, said: 'The continued absence of blue whales at South Georgia

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Whales return after near extinction

has been seen as an example of a population that was locally exploited beyond the point where it could recover.

'But over the past few years we've been working at South Georgia, we have become quite optimistic about the numbers of blue whales seen and heard around the island, which hadn't been happening until very recently. This year was particularly exciting, with more blue whale sightings than we ever could have hoped for.'

The researchers also used listening devices, which can detect the loud, low frequency calls of whales over long distances and can also work in rough weather.

The team included records of whale sightings reported to the South Georgia Museum by mariners and tourist ship passengers and photographs of blue whales, which enable individual animals to be identified.

Forty-one blue whales have been photo-identified from South Georgia between 2011

A blue whale surfacing in the waters off South Georgia.

Photograph: Amy Kennedy.



and 2020, although none of these matched the 517 whales in the current Antarctic blue whale photographic catalogue.

Susannah added: 'We don't know why it has taken the blue

whales so long to come back. It may be so many of them were killed at South Georgia that there was a loss of cultural memory in the population that the area was a foraging ground

and that it is only now being rediscovered.'

There are limited opportunities for dedicated whale surveys in the region, known for its harsh weather and in-

accessibility, but such surveys are crucial to the future management of South Georgia's seas. Co-author and whale ecologist Dr Jennifer Jackson, of the British Antarctic Survey,

led the 2020 whale expedition. The team's analysis was funded by South Georgia Heritage Trust and Friends of South Georgia Island, which also funded the collection of some of the data used.

Acoustic and sightings data come from expeditions led by the British Antarctic Survey, with funding from the Darwin Initiative and EU BEST; the Swiss Polar Institute Antarctic Circumnavigation Expedition, funded by the ACE Foundation, Ferring Pharmaceuticals and the Australian Antarctic Division, and Government of South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands. This international collaboration includes scientists from SAMS, BAS, Australian Antarctic Division, US NOAA, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Government of South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, South Georgia Heritage Trust, University of Washington, Texas A&M University at Galveston and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.



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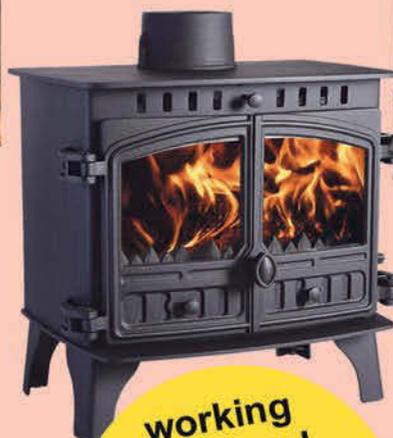


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PS Waverley photographed in Campbeltown Loch during a previous excursion.

Waverley's Covid-19 appeal tops £130,000

The Covid-19 Relief Appeal for PS Waverley, the world's last seagoing paddle steamer, has now exceeded £130,000 – but is still nearly a quarter of a million pounds short.

The appeal must raise more than £500,000, with a target of £350,000 from individuals.

Other sources of funding are being pursued but winter maintenance work is underway with insufficient funds to complete it.

Waverley's general manager Paul Semple said: 'I am delighted with the positive response and the support Waverley is once again receiving from so many people. The success of our Covid-19 Appeal is vital

if we are to survive the winter and sail Waverley in summer 2021. The impact of Covid denied us the opportunity to sail Waverley for a full season on the Firth of Clyde and around other areas of the UK. When the ship did sail this year, passenger numbers were strictly limited to under 30 per cent capacity resulting in a dramatic reduction in income.'

Waverley returned to service for two weeks in late August. Following heavy contact with the pier at Brodick Waverley will receive a new bow, the cost of which will be met by insurance and not from funds raised through the Covid-19 Relief Appeal.

Emma named as new AITC vice-chairwoman

An Islay guest house operator has been named the new vice-chairwoman of Argyll and The Isles Tourism Cooperative (AITC) following the group's AGM.

Emma Clark joins Iain Jurgensen from Portavadie, who will continue for a further year as chairman, in leading the group, which is a strategic destination management organisation which works at all levels to promote the area as a 'must visit' destination to domestic and overseas markets.

The online meeting on November 24 gave an update on the team's activity over the last year but focused on the future, and the importance of collaborative working for a phased programme of recovery.

Emma, who was 'delighted' to accept the invitation to sit as vice-chairwoman, is picking



Emma Clark, the new vice-chairwoman at Argyll and The Isles Tourism Cooperative.

up the cause for tourism on Argyll's 23 inhabited islands, with a 'very strong' focus on collaboration.

She said: 'Along with my colleagues within AITC, I look forward to ensuring that Argyll and the Isles are seen

as leading the way as a destination and, more importantly, used as an example of how successful collaborative work can break down any barriers to successfully trading and welcoming visitors by our industry colleagues.

'My goal is to ensure this is done by working together with each geographical area within Argyll so no-one is left behind and we all get the same amazing opportunities that we are already seeing for 2021 through the work of AITC.

'I look forward to working with Iain and the team and, in turn, all our members and future members of AITC to ensure the future is bright for us all.'

Iain said: 'The AITC board is delighted to welcome Emma to the role of vice-chairwoman.

'Emma is the owner and operator of the multi-award-winning Glenegeadale House,

along with husband Graeme, on the Isle of Islay. She has been a director on the AITC board, representing Islay and Jura, for more than two years.

'Emma brings with her immense enthusiasm and a passion for tourism, along with her unwavering entrepreneurial and innovative approach which will certainly be an asset to AITC.

'I look forward to working closely with Emma and the other members of the executive team of AITC, which includes finance director Gavin Dick, and Calum Ross of Loch Melfort Hotel.

'The board remains committed to rising to the opportunities and challenges ahead as the tourism sector looks to survive and recover from the pandemic and ensure that Argyll and the Isles continues to be positioned as a destination of choice for visitors.'

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NFU staff turn miles into food

NFU Mutual staff are running an active fundraiser from December 1 to 21 to raise money for foodbanks across Scotland.

The challenge sees staff run, walk or cycle to contribute to the team goal of covering

the distance between NFU Mutual's 32 agencies in Scotland - approximately 1,600 miles. The team is aiming to raise £6,000 and has collected £3,075 so far. Donations close on December 11.

The final figure will be do-

minated to foodbanks across the country, helping each centre to provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, feed those who have struggled considerably as a result of the pandemic and give something back in the lead up

to Christmas, a particularly difficult time for so many. The fundraising has been supported by an additional £250 donation from NFU Mutual's Community Giving Fund, set up in 2005 to support causes in communities where NFU Mutual staff and agents live and work.

Mark McBrearty, NFU Mutual regional manager in Scotland, said: 'The pandemic has made it more difficult for us to run our usual fundraising activities, but we wanted to organise something that would benefit our chosen charities and allow us to help employees to get out and about to support their mental and physical wellbeing.' To support NFU Mutual's fundraising, visit www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/nfumscotland.



Simon Taylor, NFU Mutual, has been getting on his bike for the active fundraiser.

Around the markets

United Auctions, Oban, Tuesday November 24, sold 1,484 sheep of all classes. Lambs averaged £52.69 (+£12.27). This end of season sale for lambs and sheep ended on a high note when all classes were keenly bid for.

Lambs - SuffX - £80.00, Salum, Tیره; £78.00, £70.50, Ardlarach; £61.00, Salum Tیره; £60.00, Balvicar Farm. TexX - £81.00, Keil Duror; £75.50, £75.00, Ardlarach; £74.00, Ballimore; £74.00, £72.50, £70.00, Ardlarach. Chev - £71.50, £65.00, Shenavallie; £61.00, Scoor; £61.00, Caddleton. Cross - £76.00, Salum Tیره; £76.00,

Achalic; £74.50, Salum; £71.50, Kiel Ardgour; £68.00, Scammadale Farm; £61.50, Glebe; £61.00, Kilbride. Mule - £63.00, Fiart. BF - £65.00, Kilbride; £63.00, Inernahyle; £58.00, Fiart; £54.00, Kilbride.

Gimmers - Cross - £72.00, Salum Tیره. Ewes - SuffX - £50.00, 60 Tangasdale. TexX - £80.00, Achnacone. Chev - £50.00, Ardnacross; £50.00, Scoor. Cross - £50.00, Achnacone. Mule - £52.00, Achnacree Beag. BF - £42.00, Salum Tیره. Wedders - BF - £60.00, Cranich, Mull.

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OPTION 1
10-foot race and 8-foot holding pen
£1695 + VAT

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

PARTS LIST:

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

OPTION 2
20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen
£1975 + VAT

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

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

PARTS LIST:

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This is a voluntary position requiring a commitment of 1- 2 days per month.

Existing Trustees are eligible for re-appointment.

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) Harbour Authority, a Trust Port, is seeking applications from candidates willing to stand for appointment to the Board of Trustees. We are looking for high quality individuals with an interest in public service to fill forthcoming vacancies. Trust Ports differ from company or local authority-owned ports by their constitution and powers. All Port activities are funded within revenue, supplemented in some cases by commercial borrowing up to prescribed limits. The Board is made up of a number of members with local or specialised interests and appointment will be for a period of three years. Successful candidates will be appointed from 1 April 2021.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate ability and a proven track record in their chosen profession or other activities, such as community work. Commitment and experience are as valuable as qualifications, although in some areas specialist experience will be an advantage.

You will be required to work with senior and professional staff, so experience of achieving results through demanding board or committee work is important, as is the ability to grasp complex issues quickly and express yourself clearly. Residence within a reasonable distance of the port and familiarity with local issues in the region surrounding the port are highly desirable.

The position of Trustee is non-remunerated.

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) Harbour Authority is committed to the principles of public appointment on the basis of merit and aptitude with openness and transparency of process. Political activity will not be a criterion for appointment, but candidates must fully support the objectives of the Board.

If you wish to be considered for appointment please write to The Harbour Master, Tarbert (Loch Fyne) Harbour Authority, Harbour Office, Garval Road, Tarbert PA29 6TR to request an information pack.

Closing date for Applications: 31 January 2021

Tarbert (Loch Fyne) Harbour Authority
Harbour Office, Garval Road, Tarbert, Argyll PA29 6TR
Tel: 01880 820 344 Fax: 01880 820 719
Email: info@tarbertharbour.co.uk www.tarbertharbour.co.uk

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/02073/PP	Renewal of planning permission 17/02340/PP (Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access).	Land South West Of Inverae, Minard, Argyll And Bute
20/01675/PP	Formation of forest track (300m long x 3m wide)	Land West Of Barnakill Farm, Knapdale Forest, Achnamara, Argyll And Bute
20/01674/PP	Formation of ATV track (230m long x 3m wide)	Land At Lochan Duin, Knapdale Forest, Cairnbaan, Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered.

A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Councils website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.

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Applicants for this position should send a copy of their CV together with a covering letter to the Home by email at naehltd@gmail.com. The closing date for applications is 20th December 2020.

North Argyll Eventide Home Association Ltd
North Argyll House, Bealach an Rìgh, Oban,
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Website: northargyllhouse.org

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If you are interested in applying for this position please send your CV, to:-

HR Department, Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd, Bothwellpark Industrial Estate, Uddingston, G71 6LS. Office - 01698 810008, E-mail: hr@dawnfresh.co.uk

Closing date for applications is 18 December 2020.

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONAL NOTICES

Happy birthday to the most incredible, inspirational ninety year old I have ever known.

Have a great day
Papa George.

Love Bradley
and Marley.



Thank You!

The Pink Ladies Day 2020

Sadly, we had to cancel this year's Pink Ladies Day, which would have been our 7th! This is a special annual event held for ladies who have experienced breast cancer - a day of fun, food, pampering and friendship.

However, due to successful fundraising efforts, we were able to send a lovely treat in the post to the ladies that attended last year's event. Hopefully they have now all been received!

Thank you to Gillian Stewart for organising a Monkey Shoulder Whisky raffle, raising nearly £600 and also for organising the Twilight Sponsored Walk - the lovely ladies that took part raised over £900 in sponsorship. Thank you to Maggie, Marianne and their family for the kind donation from the John MacEachen Memorial Golf Day. And thank you to Lynne Campbell of Oban and Angela Kerr of Dunoon for their donations last year that gave us a head start.

Wishing all of our Pink Ladies a happy, safe and feel good Christmas.

Here's to the Pink Ladies Day 2021!

Love Nicky xx

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Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden

A gift. Advent is about waiting for a promised gift, is it not?

The gift we are promised is the gift of God himself and this promise is fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ.

This is a time of waiting and for children particularly it is about waiting for gifts. This year the ultimate gift is the PS5, the new PlayStation. It has caused euphoria amongst the children and is on so many Santa lists.

Trouble is, evidently stock has run out and Santa might not be able to fulfil his promise to all these children who have requested this. How do you explain that to an expectant youngster?

It is just as well that God is not Santa, as God always honours his promise.

What is on your Santa list?

If I were to hazard a guess, most of us would have prayed for, or if you don't pray, would have hoped for, an end to this deadly virus. The greatest gift we could have in 2020 is an effective vaccine.

What wonderful timing. Right on Advent, we learn of the genius of our scientists who offer the greatest Christmas present we could wish for - that effective vaccine.

Throughout this pandemic we have been blessed by the many gifts of our doctors, nurses, paramedics, scientists and emergency services. These are the gifts that are beyond price.

Millions of pounds will be spent again this Christmas in the search for the perfect gift. But this year, more than any other in our lifetime, we realise that the gift we long for cannot be bought on Amazon or any other superstore.

It is like that first Christmas gift. It is beyond price. Thank you to God and thank you to our scientists.

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

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



STEM teaching success for two Islay primary schools

ISLAY

Islay's Bowmore and Port Ellen primary schools are among 19 places to have achieved a national award in honour of their science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teaching.

The schools have been awarded STEM Nation Awards, part of a programme launched by Education Scotland as a pilot in September 2019 celebrating, promoting and building effective practice in STEM education.

Validators for the STEM Nation Award praised Bowmore Primary School and Port Ellen Primary School for how they have embraced partnerships in their community across Scotland and beyond.

Bowmore Primary School is proactively looking to use these partnerships to tackle gender stereotypes and promote equality in relation to STEM.

Port Ellen Primary School has marine biology links with Orkney, Hawaii and the Maldives and both schools are developing a distillery project together that is rooted in the heart of Islay's economy and traditions.

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for education Councillor Yvonne McNeilly said: 'In Argyll and Bute, we have a track record for excellence in STEM learning experiences in our schools.

'With key sectors that include creative industries, aquaculture and renewable energy, it's important our young people are well-equipped with skills our economy needs for the future - either at home or further afield.



Councillor Yvonne McNeilly, policy lead for education, congratulated both schools on their success.

'Congratulations to Port Ellen and Bowmore primaries and good luck to North Bute Primary School which I know has just completed the first step in achieving this award.'

Alan Armstrong, Education Scotland's strategic director, said: 'Throughout the STEM Nation Award pilot we have seen an inspiring breadth of STEM learning experiences across Scotland, with pupils developing 21st century skills.

'Education Scotland is delighted to award the full STEM Nation Award to Bowmore Primary School and Port Ellen Primary School in Argyll and Bute. Both schools have demonstrated rich, engaging and varied STEM experiences for learners.'

Since the launch, more than 70 schools and early learning and childcare settings across Scotland have become involved in the award.

Education establishments reviewed their existing STEM practice and identified strengths and areas for development.

These were presented to validators, including extracts from school improvement plans, photographs, video links and examples of engagement with partners and the school community through social media.

The final stage of the process concluded with virtual conversations.

To achieve the STEM Nation Award, practitioners were encouraged to apply for recognition across five award areas:

- Leadership in STEM - celebrating effective leadership at all levels including children and young people leading STEM learning.

- STEM family learning - recognising commitment to family learning and practice which is helping to build the STEM capital of learners and their families.

- Employability and STEM partnership working - celebrating sustained collaboration between settings and their STEM partners to develop learners' STEM and employability skills.

- STEM curriculum and learner pathways - recognising the work of settings in developing an inspiring STEM curriculum and associated learner pathways.

- Equity and equality in STEM - celebrating the work settings are undertaking to address the issues of equity and equality in STEM.

CONTACTUS

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DEATHS

BROWN - Peacefully at Strathcarron Hospice, Denny, on November 24, 2020, Mary Ann Brown, in her 79th year. Dearly beloved wife of the late Eddie Brown, much loved mum of Karen and Edward and a loving granny of Katie. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Mary Ann's funeral will take place on Saturday, December 5. The cortege will leave the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church at 11.30 a.m. We will turn, travel along Longrow onto Aqualibrium Avenue, round the Cross and down the dual carriageway on our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Mary Ann may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

MORANS - Suddenly but peacefully, at the Kintyre Care Home, Campbeltown, on November 29, 2020, Robert Crawford Morans, in his 88th year, formerly of Millers Park, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Bena Morans, much loved daddy of Margaret and Jan, loving papa of Cole, Jett, and Eden and a loving brother, brother-in-law and uncle.

PATE - Peacefully at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley, on November 27, 2020, David Robertson Pate (Davy), in his 69th year, of Tigh Baan, Ford and formerly Stockavullin. Beloved husband of Myra (née Campbell), much loved Dad of Colin, Richard and Laura. Dearly loved Papa of Sophie, Keira and Anna; Pat and Martyna. A much loved brother of Guy and Nancy. A dear uncle, brother-in-law and cousin to all the family. A private funeral service was held at Cardross Crematorium on Thursday, December 3, 2020. Sadly missed.

MACCALLUM - Peacefully in Peninver, on November 30, 2020, Edward MacCallum (Eddie) in his 84th year, dearly beloved husband of Beryl, much loved dad of Edward and Angela, cherished friend of Jill, devoted loving papa of Christopher and Lewis and a loving brother, brother-in-law and uncle. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Eddie's funeral will take place on Friday, December 4. The cortege will leave the home address, Craig View, Peninver at 1.00 p.m. after a short prayer. We will travel to Campbeltown, via George Street, the Esplanade round the Cross on our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Eddie may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

McCoy - Peacefully in the Sunshine Room at the Campbeltown Hospital, on the November 30, 2020, Margaret McCoy nee Briggs, in her 79th year, 5 Lochruan Road, Campbeltown and formerly of Port Crannaig Cottage, Carradale, dearly beloved wife of Kenneth McCoy, much loved mum of Andrew, Alison and Judith and loving Nain to Daniel and Jordan and Granny to Dylan. Funeral Service Private in line with current government guidelines. Margaret's funeral will take place on Tuesday 8th December.

The cortege will leave the St Kierans R.C. Church at 11.40 a.m. We will turn travel along Argyll Street, Main Street round the Cross and across the Esplanade on our way to Brackley Cemetery, Carradale. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Margaret may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

MORANS - Suddenly but peacefully, at the Kintyre Care Home, Campbeltown, on November 29, 2020, Robert Crawford Morans, in his 88th year, formerly of Millers Park, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Bena Morans, much loved daddy of Margaret and Jan, loving papa of Cole, Jett, and Eden and a loving brother, brother-in-law and uncle.

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WILSON - Suddenly but peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on November 30, 2020, Alexander Aitken Wilson, in his 93rd year, Glenburn, Drumore and formerly of Fallside Farm, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Amy Anderson, loving dad of Alison, Marjory and Alistair, father-in-law of Iain and Margaret, beloved grampa of Gavin, Elaine, Ross, Darren, Lauren, Ryan, Brendan and Declan, great-grandfather of Rhuairidh, Nathan, Bree and Eilidh and a loving brother and uncle.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MUNRO - The family of the late James Munro would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their cards, flowers and messages of sympathy. Also, thank you to Belinda Braithwaite for a lovely humanist service, Donald MacDonald funeral

service and Morna for the beautiful flower tributes. James will be missed by us all.

RUSSELL - The family of the late Douglas Russell would like to thank all relatives, friends, and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards, messages, phone calls and baking following their sad loss. Sincere thanks for the care and support given to Douglas from the Scottish Air Ambulance and all the members of staff involved at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Glasgow, Campbeltown Hospital and Southend Surgery. Our heartfelt thanks are given to everyone who paid their respects while the cortege made its way to Keil Cemetery, very humbling. Special thanks to the Rev. Steve Fulcher for a very personal and fitting service to Douglas and to Ross Conner for piping at the graveside. Thank you to Frances and Ian for the wonderful catering at the family home and to Hayley and Lorraine, Fresh Connections for the beautiful floral tributes. Finally, our grateful thanks to Kenneth Blair, Kelly and Rhys for their support, professionalism, and compassion throughout.

SMITH - Duncan and Jane would like to thank all family, friends, neighbours and colleagues for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards, phone calls, hampers and messages of condolence received following the sad loss of their beloved mum, Jean. Sincere thanks to Rev William Crossan for a comforting service at the church and graveside; to Kenneth Blair and staff of T A Blair Funeral Directors, for their kindness, compassion and professionalism throughout. To Maggie Wilkinson and the District Nurses for their support over the last few months and the Ardshiel Hotel for the lovely tea. Finally a heartfelt thanks to everyone who turned out to pay their respects on mum's final journey, we were very moved. She will be sorely missed.

IN MEMORIAM

BROWN - Treasured memories of Margaret, a loving mum, granny and great-granny, passed away December 6, 2019. Missed every minute of the day.
- John, Lorna, Neil and families.

CAMPBELL - Hugh, who passed away December 2, 2007.

Always in our thoughts. Sadly missed.
- Ivor, Shauna, Robert and great-grandchildren.

GALBRAITH - In ever loving memory of Archie, died December 3, 2019, dearly beloved husband, dad, father-in-law and adored grampa. Loved and remembered always.

- Annie and all the family.

MARTIN - Treasured memories of Marion, a much loved mum and granny, who passed away on December 2, 1997. Will love and miss you always.

- Nichola, John, Kyra, Mathew and Blake xxxxx

YOUNG - In loving memory of our dear Shona, who died on November 26, 2013.

Always in our thoughts.

- Love from all the family.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.
Acts 2:28

Our building is open for Sunday services and you would be welcome on Sunday, 6th December at 11am

Join with us in our praise and worship when John Ives from Southend will lead the service

MASKS are now required in churches, in line with current Scottish Government Covid 19 guidelines.

www.springbankchurch.org.uk

https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown 01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
Sunday Holy Mass at 10.00am, please book a place, 01586 552160, campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk

Daily Mass streamed via Facebook and Zoom, see www.stkieransrc.org for details.

(SC002876)

CHURCH NOTICES

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

SALVATION ARMY



**Sunday 6th December
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 December
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
**Wednesday 9th
December**

12 noon Prayer & Bible Study
Covid-19 Government guidelines apply
All welcome

www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

**Sunday Morning Service
11 am**

**All welcome
Now meeting at
Kirk Street Hall**
Pastor Mark Jasper
01586 554 092
pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322



ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

4th December
Advent(ure) Continues
Services in:
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
and
Achahoish at 12:30pm
(including Holy Communion)
Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches.

Wednesdays
from 12:45pm to 1:15pm
in Ardrishaig Church
"A Time for Reflecting"

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

**ST MARGARET'S
RC CHURCH
Lochgilhead**
**Holy Mass: Sunday
10am**
**All Saints, Inveraray
Holy Mass: Sunday
12.30pm**

Booking essential due to restricted capacity - Email or telephone to book
Weekday Mass details available on website or by email/telephone
All Masses at St Margaret's are Live Streamed via our YouTube channel. Link available at our website: www.lochgilheadcatholic.com and Facebook Page.
Fr. Ronald Campbell
01546 602380
lochgilhead@rcdai.org.uk
(SC0002876)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

charity number SC001002
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Please look it up & keep in touch
www.northknappdale.org

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

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

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

Sunday 6th December
Morning Worship 11.15am
Rev W Crossan
COVID 19 Guidelines apply
Video message on Facebook each Wednesday

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 6th December
Skipness Service 10.00am
- Rev Lyn Peden
Tarbert service - 11.30am -
Rev Lyn Peden
Tarbert Charity No: SC002622
Skipness - Charity No: SC004280

WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES

(Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)
**Sunday 6th December
2020**
A service in Lochgair church at 10.30pm
Led by Mr Tom MacKay
Because of the limited seating, due to Covid regulations, in Lochgair church, would those who wish to attend please telephone Mrs Jean Smith to reserve a seat. No. 01546 886 328
Masks must be worn
Charity No: SC016665

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Tom 'takes five' in drag to raise funds

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

A Campbeltown man, who walked 5K every day of November to raise money for a mental health charity, ended his challenge in style by completing his final walk dressed in drag.

Scantily-clad in a red and black burlesque-style outfit and sporting a styled pink wig, Tom Donnachy – known on the day as Anna Conda – braved Monday's chilly weather to walk five kilometres around Campbeltown as part of Kintyre Link Club and ACUMEN's 'take five' challenge.

Sarah McFadzean, development worker for ACUMEN – Advancing Community Understanding of Mental and Emotional Needs – joined

forces with Kintyre Link Club manager Tracy Chambers to launch the challenge at the beginning of November.

They were inspired by David Brown, a manager at Campbeltown's Tesco Metro store, who is completing a personal challenge of running five kilometres every day of 2020 in a bid to raise money for charity as he maintains his fitness. For every kilometre he completes, David donates 30p to the charity of his choice for that month. He decided to donate the proceeds from his November fundraising to Kintyre Link Club.

The 'take five' challenge was created so others could join in by walking, running or doing the exercise of their choice, to raise additional sponsorship for the club. Tom decided to participate in a bid to repay

some of the financial and emotional support he has received from Kintyre Link Club.

He was joined on Monday by a troupe of supporters, many of whom also took part in the 'take five' challenge throughout November.

Tom told the Courier: 'I suffer with mental health problems and, without the support of Kintyre Link Club and Tracy, who has been absolutely fantastic, I would have fallen into a really dark place.'

Tom's mental health deteriorated after the breakdown of a relationship, but it was his ex-partner who put him in contact with Tracy and sponsored him £50 to take part in the challenge.

He was also sponsored £50 by Caroline Semple, of Campbeltown charity Shopper-Aide, whose idea it was to do the walk in drag.

Tom explained: 'I asked everyone to sponsor me £1 and Caroline told me she would give me £50 if I did it in drag. I couldn't do it in drag every day – it would be too inconvenient to get my make up done – but I suggested doing the last day in drag and she said fair enough, she'd sponsor me £50.'

Tom has raised between £300 and £350. 'People have been really generous,' he said. 'I hoped I would raise £30 but it spiralled and people started offering me more and more



Tom Donnachy, known on Monday as Anna Conda, during his final sponsored walk in aid of Kintyre Link Club.
50_c49tomdonnachy01

money, especially if I did it in drag.'

He received help from Beckie Shields, also from Shopper-Aide, who applied his glamorous make-up.

He added: 'Finding the motivation to get out the house can be really difficult, so having this challenge was brilliant. It did me the world of good.'

'I think I will keep up the walking – not seven days a week but maybe Monday to Friday. I'd love to thank the people at Shopper-Aide for all their help and donations, Kintyre Link Club for being there and supporting me and Sarah from ACUMEN. If it wasn't for her, we wouldn't have done it.'

Dalziel takes Dunaverty's November Medal

Dunaverty Golf Club's November Medal was played in cool, dry conditions and led to some very good scoring.

Thirty-one members finished the course and the result could not have been tighter with the winner decided on a better inward half.

Bobby Dalziel, out in the first group, covered the front nine in 34 strokes and the back in 37 to finish with a nett 60.

In the following group, Willie Ralston turned in one of his best performances to equal Bobby's nett score.

Graeme McLennan also had a good round to post a nett 61.

Lowest gross of the day was achieved by Haydn Chambers who carded a scratch 70. Bobby took the top spot by virtue of half a stroke on the inward half from Willie.

Result: 1 Bobby Dalziel 71-11=60 (bih); 2 Willie Ralston 82-22=60; 3 Graeme McLennan 84-23=61; 4 Alex Arkell 78-14=64 (bih); 5 Haydn Chambers 70-6=64; 6 John Docherty 73-7=66.



Charity fundraiser David Brown was joined by ACUMEN's Sarah McFadzean for his final November run.

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