

# Argyllshire Advertiser

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## BIG ENERGY SAVING WEEK... REDUCE YOUR ENERGY AND YOUR BILLS

# String of bad luck at hall pulls Ardfern folk together

by Colin Cameron  
[editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

It started when floorboards mysteriously began to buckle, but now trustees of Craignish Village Hall are faced with a bill in excess of £10,000.

The close-knit community of Ardfern and the Craignish peninsula has, however, rallied round to support the popular community facility.

The distorted floorboards turned out to be a result of the underfloor heating not working, which was because the ground source heat pump had failed at some point in the summer of 2019. Reliant on gas, the hall was faced with an estimated £2,700 bill rather than the normal £900 cost.

Then there was the broken pump. After 14 years it had reached the end of its life and heating engineers recommended a new pump at an estimated cost of £10,000.

Half of the cost will be met by hall funds, but the

intention is to take out a no-interest loan for the remaining 50 per cent.

The hall costs around £19,000 per year and is run as a not-for-profit organisation but, since the loss of the local pre-five unit and £6,000 of annual rent a number of years back, it has been running at a loss.

**'We are going to be working very hard not to get into a crisis.'**

Craignish Village Hall chairperson Matt Walsh kept the people of the peninsula apprised of the hall's run of bad luck in a letter after the New Year, telling them: 'Lots of initiatives, like the Big Ass Garage Sale, have helped and we are going to be working very hard not to get into a crisis.'

Hall manager Tiziana Tedoldi explained: 'The hall is doing really well and is used very well by locals, but

it has to be busy just to cover our costs.

'We want to keep it affordable, so we have to work harder as a committee.'

The hall also provides space for local small businesses to try out new ideas while contributing to hall revenue.

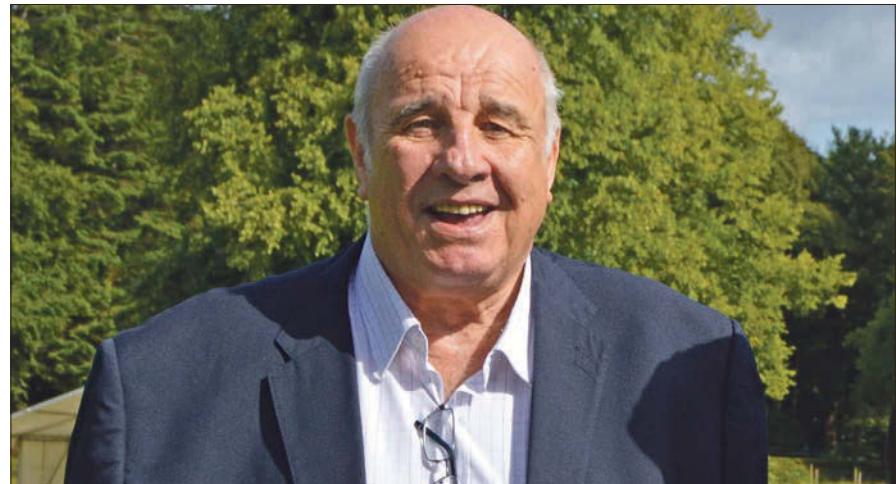
'We've been overwhelmed by the response,' said Tiziana. 'People have been offering to volunteer and we've had a number of contributions.'

And the first of a series of planned fundraisers – a ceilidh on February 22 – received a big boost when local band All About the Cake offered their services free.

A few weeks later, Glasgow band Samson Sounds will return to Ardfern for a concert – and in May look out for a VE Day celebration, complete with swing band.

'We have a fabulous committee,' said Matt. 'And the community has always supported us, so thanks to everyone.'

## Sadness at Donald Clark's passing



Inveraray without Donald Clark will be an emptier place, writes Colin Cameron.

The news of the passing of this larger-than-life gentleman has been greeted with sadness across Argyll and much further beyond.

Donald, known to many as 'Big D', proprietor of the

George Hotel for many decades, passed away peacefully on Sunday January 19.

A celebration of Donald's life will be held on Thursday January 30 at Inveraray Parish Church with interment at Glen Shira thereafter.

His beloved George Hotel will be the venue for a fitting send-off to a colossus of a man, in every sense.

Inveraray will be emptier, but all the richer for the life of Donald Clark.

The condolences of all at the Argyllshire Advertiser to Donald's family and friends.

Funeral arrangements can be found on page 33.



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**POLICE FILES****Vehicle damaged**

At around 3.30pm on Wednesday January 15 a vehicle was damaged while parked in Colchester Square, Lochgilphead. Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them.

**No MOT or insurance**

On Thursday January 16, at around 10.15am, police were notified of a vehicle which had been parked for a number of weeks on Harbour Street, Tarbert. The owner of the vehicle was traced and enquiries revealed that it had no MOT or insurance policy in place. The male owner was subsequently charged with the offences and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

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

# Positive report for Inveraray Primary

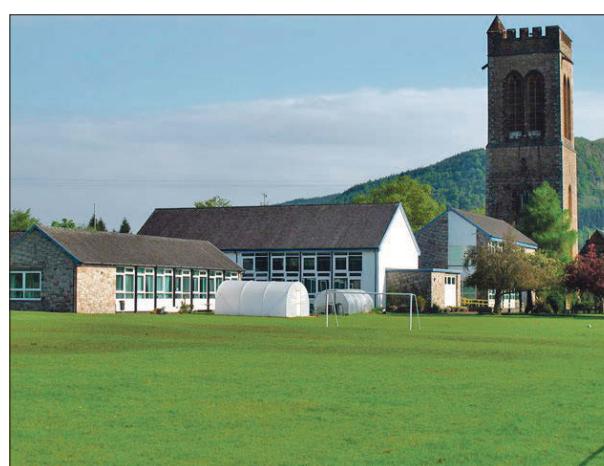
Inveraray Primary School has earned a glowing report from education inspectors, with staff having acted swiftly upon recommendations for improvement.

Education Scotland made a follow-up visit to the school recently, having initially visited in October 2018.

The inspector's findings have now been published and it has been confirmed that no further visits will take place in the foreseeable future.

The report also states that parents have been very positive about the future for the school, and that new head teacher Jay Helbert had made a positive difference since arriving in June 2019.

The inspector said of Mr Helbert: 'He brings a wealth of experience and leadership skills to the school. In his short time in post, he has continued to improve the school, building on the work



undertaken by staff over the past year.

'He has an appropriate vision for the future direction of the school. Children, staff and parents alike, appreciate his open, calm and cheerful approach.

'Children and staff report they feel valued, listened to and empowered to lead and

initiate change as a result of his supportive leadership style.

'Parents are very positive about the many changes and improvements to the school since the initial inspection. They are keen that there is a continuing period of stability in the leadership of the school.'

**Inveraray Primary School.**

the range of involvement children have within their community.

'The headteacher is aware that a next step is to track the skills that children develop through these in-school and out-of-school wider achievements.'

The inspector also remarked that pupils who found it a challenge to learn and participate in class were now settled and coping well with learning.

The report said: 'They are independently learning to self-regulate and are beginning to take control of their own actions.'

'All staff are increasingly aware that different approaches are necessary to best support and meet the needs of individual children. They understand and can articulate the importance of their own actions in supporting children.'

The report continued: 'Children are now engaging well in their school community and levels of pupil participation have increased.'

'School committees and action groups provide children with worthwhile opportunities to shape the life of their school.'

'Children's wider and personal achievements are celebrated and valued by staff. They proudly share their individual successes with their teachers and friends at assemblies, and share photos of their achievements on a school display board.'

'School leaders and staff have worked hard to extend

## Argyll's unique challenges raised with Scottish Minister

Argyll and Bute's Council leader has raised the unique challenges facing the area with Scotland's Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy.

Councillor Aileen Morton, along with council Chief Executive Pippa Milne, met with Kate Forbes MSP on January 17 to discuss the geographic, population and financial challenges that set Argyll and Bute apart from other areas.

Councillor Morton said: 'Argyll and Bute is a fantastic place with huge potential for economic growth that would benefit communities and the wider Scottish economy.'

'At the same time though, this is an area that faces a unique combination of challenges.'

'Geographically we have the second largest mainland area and the highest number of inhabited islands of all of Scotland's councils. We therefore deliver services most other councils do not, such as air and ferry services.'

'Our population is declining and ageing. We must invest significantly in regeneration that will attract people and



**Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy Kate Forbes MSP.**

jobs to the area.'

'Argyll and Bute, however has had the third highest reduction of all of Scotland's councils in its Scottish Government funding over the past few years.'

'Together these challenges are having a significant effect

on the decisions the council is having to make about how best to serve the region's day-to-day and longer term needs.'

'Our meeting with Kate Forbes was a very positive step in developing focus on Argyll and Bute at ministerial level.'



### 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.



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# Public hall stripped out as upgrade starts

by Rachel Carruthers  
[editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

Eagle-eyed villagers will have noticed work has begun on Ardrishaig Public Hall – but it has not been plain sailing.

Ahead of the handover to MacLeod Construction Ltd, a big clear-out took place on Saturday January 18, with members of Ardrishaig Community Trust and a few helpful volunteers throwing out and putting into storage around 40 years' worth of stage scenery, chairs and much more.

Signing the contract on Monday January 20, a spokesperson for MacLeod Construction Ltd said: 'We are delighted to commence works on Ardrishaig Public Hall. The hall plays an integral role in the community so we are glad to get this project started.'



Arthur Barclay and Edward Laughton begin removing old stage scenery.

06\_a04ArdHallClear02

'The works include various alterations and renovations which will take place over six months.'

Duncan Broadfoot of Ardrishaig Community Trust said: 'This work will address

some basic problems such as drainage, electrics, heating, insulation, and the flat roof. When funding allows we can then look at possible further improvements.'

However, there has been a

dampener put on the excitement, with some members of the community feeling communication regarding plans and budgeting has been poor. Exchanges on Facebook have been a little heated.

## Mystery deepens as strange noises now reported from West Loch Tarbert

Things are going whoosh in the night at West Loch Tarbert.

It was a story in the Argyllshire Advertiser concerning strange low-level noises being heard in Ardrishaig that prompted a Kennacraig resident to contact the paper.

The gentleman, who wants to remain anonymous, reported hearing background noises sounding like 'pulsing' over the past few years, but said it had become more

prominent recently.

'It might be something to do with electricity supply with the current creating noise in lines or equipment,' he said. 'Or another possibility might be wind turbines.'

He thinks it is a low frequency sound which might travel long distances.

Earlier this month the Advertiser reported an Ardrishaig woman's experiences of hearing peculiar noises which she described as 'like a macerator or

something similar going off at intervals during the night into the early hours.'

Since the article was published, many other Ardrishaig folk have reported hearing the same thing.

Does anyone have any ideas what is causing these noises, or have you experienced similar unexplained phenomena where you live?

Contact the Argyllshire Advertiser by email at [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk) or call 01546 602345.

## Women urged not to skip cervical screening

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) is championing Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust campaign #SmearforSmear and supporting Cervical Cancer Awareness Week to increase cervical screening uptake.

The HSCP is encouraging women to ensure they do not skip their regular cervical cancer screening appointments – one in four women do not participate in cervical screening when invited to do so, with uptake being particularly low among women aged 25-29 years.

The cervical screening test (smear test) saves around 5,000 lives in the UK every year. It is not a test for cancer, but a test to identify changes in the cells of the cervix so they can be monitored or treated. Without treatment some changes may develop into cervical cancer. It is estimated cervical screening prevents eight out of 10 cervical cancers from developing.

Women aged 25-49 are routinely invited every three years, while women aged 50-64 are invited every five years. Some transgender men may

also be offered screening tests.

The test only takes around three minutes to complete. A sample of cells is taken from the cervix and sent for testing to check for anything out of the ordinary.

Since the cervical screening programme began, cervical cancer cases have decreased nationally.

If anyone missed their last screening invitation, don't wait to receive an invitation letter – make an appointment to be screened at a GP practice.

## Early learning and childcare registration week

Parents of children in Argyll and Bute who were born between March 1, 2017, and February 28, 2018 are being invited to register their children for a funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) place.

Parents can go along to their chosen ELC provider from Monday January 27 until Friday January 31, where they will be able to pick up a registration pack and fill in an application form. They will need to take their child's birth certificate with them to register.

Explaining that the trust directors and community councillors were all volunteers, the post added that: '... they take on these roles unpaid and in their spare time. They all have lives outside their responsibilities to the village, and appreciate the support of the majority of the community'.

On a final note the trust added: 'As work is now under way on both halls the directors finally have a breathing space from the pressure of planning and overseeing the tendering process for the work. While the hall plans have been presented and displayed previously, there will be an update on the website as soon as possible.'

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## Co-op customers boost funding for local causes

Community projects across Argyll are set to share a major funding boost as the Co-op welcomes the latest causes to its local community fund.

The three causes chosen – Lochgilphead Bowling Club, Kilmory/Dunadd Shinty Club and Lomond and Argyll Advocacy Project – are set to receive vital funding to deliver projects in the community.

The causes directly benefit from members trading with their Co-op across its food and funeral business areas. In addition to the personal benefits they receive for themselves, one per cent of the purchase value also goes into the local community fund pot. Members can decide how the money is allocated and are encouraged to select the causes they wish to support online.

Nick Crofts, president of the Co-op Council, whose representatives are voted for by the millions of members it represents, said: 'As a member-owned business with a presence in every community across the UK, the Co-op is continuing to create value

for millions of members and thousands of local causes.'

'By becoming a Co-op member not only are you receiving great personal rewards and benefits, you are directly helping to support vital community groups in your area.'

Rebecca Birkbeck, director of community and shared value at the Co-op, said:

'Thanks to our members, since 2016 more than £56 million has been raised for more than 16,000 causes that make a real difference in their local communities.'

'Whether it is by protecting and improving community spaces, helping people reach their full potential by developing their skills, or promoting health and wellbeing, the money generated by our local community fund changes lives in communities across UK.'

**YOUR STORY**  
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# ACHA opens its first Kilmartin homes

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) has just completed its first new build development in the village of Kilmartin.

The official opening was carried out by Councillor Donnie MacMillan on Friday January 17.

Prior to building these four homes, the association only had one property for rent in the village. The development, in terms of design and mix, is semi-detached/terraced and all properties have two bedrooms.

The total cost of the project was £671,898, including the land acquisition.

Funding for the development was a three-way partnership involving the Scottish Government, Argyll and Bute Council and ACHA. Construction took exactly one year and the properties were built by MacLeod Construction Ltd, Lochgilphead. Alastair MacGregor, ACHA's chief



executive, said: 'ACHA is committed to meeting housing need in small villages in rural Argyll. It is absolutely vital that affordable housing for rent is available in

Councillor Donnie MacMillan, left, cuts the ribbon to open ACHA's new homes in Kilmartin, assisted by new tenant John Munro, right, and ACHA's chairman Jim Milne.

villages like Kilmartin and this handover today follows on from similar projects in Tarbert, Connel, Arinagour and Inveraray.

'We are also on site in the neighbouring village of Cairnbaan, and we look forward to getting five homes completed there in March.'

Councillor Donnie MacMillan added: 'I am delighted with the progress ACHA has made over the years in building so many houses for so many housing needs, and I am really pleased to open these four new homes in Kilmartin.'

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## HSCP appoints Julie Lusk as new head of service

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) has announced that Julie Lusk has been appointed head of mental health, learning disability, addictions and lifelong conditions services.

Julie is a qualified social worker with more than 20 years' experience as a senior manager and head of service across social work, voluntary and the private sector, including working closely with the Ministry of Defence mental health services. She has a broad range of knowledge working across all areas of social work, including out of hours emergency social care services, criminal justice and children and families teams.

Julie said: 'I am really pleased to be appointed as head of service for mental health, learning disability services in health and social care integrated settings. She is currently vice chairwoman of the Adult Social Care Committee for Social Work Scotland and works in conjunction with the Scottish



volunteers delivering health and social care services in Argyll and Bute.

I am looking forward to further developing our health and social care services in order to continue to provide the best services possible for people living in Argyll and Bute.'

Julie's main interests are mental health, addictions and learning disability services in health and social care integrated settings. She is currently vice chairwoman of the Adult Social Care Committee for Social Work Scotland and works in conjunction with the Scottish

Government, CoSLA and other health and social care partnerships to deliver and improve outcomes for people accessing adult health and social care services.

Joanna Macdonald, chief officer of Argyll and Bute HSCP, said: 'Appointing Julie Lusk is a major step forward for Argyll and Bute HSCP.'

'Her expertise is a central role to further improve integration development and joint working to ensure people in Argyll and Bute live longer, safer, healthy and happier independent lives.'

# Mary's Meals in urgent appeal for Kenyan children

## About Mary's Meals



Mary's Meals is a simple idea that works. The charity provides one daily meal in a place of learning in order to attract chronically poor children into the classroom, where they receive an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

Mary's Meals feeds 1,504,471 children every school day in 18 countries: Malawi, Liberia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Haiti, Kenya, India, South Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Benin, Lebanon, Syria, Myanmar, Thailand, Ecuador, Madagascar and Romania.

The average global cost to feed a child with Mary's Meals for a whole school year is just £13.90.

The Mary's Meals campaign was born in 2002 when Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow from Dalmally visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from AIDS. When Magnus asked her eldest son, Edward, what his dreams were in life, he replied simply: 'I want to have enough food to eat and to go to school one day.'

Mary's Meals is committed to spending at least 93 per cent of donations directly on its charitable activities.

*An urgent letter to the editor from Argyll charity Mary's Meals on behalf of the children of Turkana, Kenya.*

Sir,

Mary's Meals has launched an urgent appeal to feed chronically hungry children in Turkana, one of the driest and most impoverished parts of Kenya.

We already serve nutritious meals to more than 23,000 children in nurseries in Turkana, but primary-aged pupils have not received meals since a programme run by another organisation stopped around a year ago.

Desperate pupils can often be found watching children at neighbouring nurseries being fed, and we have heard heart-breaking reports of children as young as three saving their

food to take home for hungry siblings.

Mary's Meals already feeds more than 1.5 million children in 18 of the world's poorest countries every school day.

We are determined to continue feeding these children while expanding, as funds allow, to reach primary school children in Turkana.

Your readers can support our appeal by visiting [marysmeals.org.uk/turkana](http://marysmeals.org.uk/turkana) or phoning 0800 698 1212.

Daniel Adams,  
UK executive director of  
Mary's Meals.

Nursery school children  
eating Mary's Meals in  
Turkana, Kenya.



Daniel Adams, UK executive director of Mary's Meals.



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2019 (69) Peugeot 2008 Allure Premium BlueHDI. Choice, 10 miles, sat nav, grip control, rear camera. Was £17499. Now £16999

2018 (68) Peugeot 308 GT Line BlueHDI 130. White, 9600 miles, GT styling, rear camera, Car Play. Was £15999. Now £14999

2018 (68) Peugeot 308 Allure PureTech 130. Grey, 9500 miles, sat nav, parking sensors, glass roof. Was £13499. Now £12999

2016 (66) Peugeot 5008 Active BlueHDI 120. Grey, 13000 miles, 7 seats, parking sensors, bluetooth. Was £11999. Now £11499

2017 (67) Peugeot 208 Active PureTech. Silver, 14000 miles, alloys, DAB radio/USB, leather steering wheel. Now £8999

2016 (16) Ford Fiesta Zetec 1.25 16v. Silver, 29000 miles, alloys, air conditioning, leather steering wheel, CD. Now £7999

2014 (64) Peugeot 2008 Allure 1.6 HDI 92. Amber, 38000 miles, grip control, leather trim, alloys, CD radio/USB. Now £6999

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# LETTERS

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or The Editor, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB

## Craignish spirit

Craignish Village Hall seems to be a pretty well-run ship, and it is just as well given the recent difficulties. The volunteer committee members deserve a pat on the back for their diligence and hard work, while the people of the area should be congratulated for their support in keeping this excellent facility vibrant.

## Speaking up for Argyll and Bute

Anyone who lives in a local authority area which consists of a single, solid land mass with no hills, islands or peninsulas would find it hard to appreciate the geography of Argyll and Bute. We applaud the efforts of Argyll and Bute leader and chief executive in emphasising our unique situation and challenges to government ministers.

## Not burning on Burns

Good luck to everyone taking part in tonight's (Friday's) fire walk as they put their best feet forward for the MS Centre.

## Donald Clark

A gentleman. When will we see his like again?

## Thanks for help after road accident

I was involved in a car accident on December 20 and I would like to thank all those who stopped to free me from my vehicle, and to the young man from MacLeod's who gave me his jacket, water and supported me until the ambulance arrived.

I would also like to thank the police, firefighters and ambulance service for all assistance rendered, and the care and attention from the staff at Lochgilphead hospital.

In these somewhat jaded and cynical times, it is heartwarming to receive the kindness of strangers. thank you

Carla Banham, by email.

## Robert delights at Hogmanay

I am sure many of us 'oldies' must have been absolutely delighted with Robert Robertson's old-style Hogmanay on New Year's Eve.

Robert writes the weekly Oban Times Glasgow Letter and I would deem it appropriate if I can offer thanks to him (and I'm sure I speak for many others) for giving us echoes of what it 'used to be like'.

Calum Kennedy, Alistair Gillies, Anne Lorne Gillies, a youngish Jimmy Shand, Bobby MacLeod and the Rev I M Jolly (Rikki Fulton) at his hilarious best, were all delivered gently, without any pomp whatsoever, by Robert, a distinguished Mod medallist and band leader.

Robert visited our accordion and fiddle club when Skipinnish were our guest artists and was reluctant to do a solo for us because he is really a shy, gentle young man, but he did sing Eilidh to our delight and then disappeared without an encore.

Thank you, Robert, and I actually found the Motherwell ceilidh to follow (also on BBC Alba) pretty good too. There were good artists, including the Glenfinnan Ceilidh Band, Art Cormack winning his medal some years back and then bang up-to-date.

Good for BBC Alba and Robert Robertson in particular.

Niall Iain MacLean, Inveraray.

## Lost without NHS

Sir,

Over the past few months there has been a lot of negative press articles concerning the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow.

I would like to sing the praises of this new hospital.

I had an emergency operation there just before Christmas and I cannot thank them enough for their kindness, care and professionalism. Every member of staff introduced themselves with a reassuring smile on their faces. They were extremely busy with constant admissions and their days must be very tiring dealing with so many sick patients.

I would like to think that we appreciate the NHS, as we would be lost without it.

Bennie Bridgland, Crinan

## Setting Scotland's budget

Sir,

Despite days of faux outrage at the UK Government, Derek Mackay has now set February 6 as the day for Scotland's budget.

Mackay spent most of last week telling any journalist that would listen that devolution was being discredited, despite the Treasury being as helpful as possible.

The Chancellor has ensured that the Scottish Government has the relevant information to be able to publish a budget, before the UK budget in March.

The onus is now on the separatists to make use of a substantially higher block of money and for them to properly fund Scotland's struggling local authorities.

Councillor Alastair Redman, Kintyre and Islands ward

## Get yourself checked

Sir,

There are more than 200 known cancers and early detection is crucial to beating and managing of these sometimes awfully distressing diseases. If you have a past family history of these diseases you are most probably at greater risk so you must go for that essential blood test, smear, or lumps or bumps check-up. Also check your children, but usually cancers affect people of more mature years.

Do not delay or be afraid of that 'must visit' check-up at the doctors to slow that journey into the big sleep that we all take.

Stephen Jones, Oban

## Press policy

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## Searching for Heart Heroes

Sir,  
The British Heart Foundation (BHF) will host its third national Heart Hero Awards ceremony this year.

Our event last year was a fantastic and emotional night which celebrated winners and nominees from different walks of life from across Scotland and the rest of the UK. They ranged from inspirational children to remarkable fundraisers and heroic individuals who stepped up to save the life of a stranger using CPR.

We know there are many more unsung Heart Heroes out there and we want to shine a light on their selfless achievements. This will help the BHF raise awareness of the need for continued funding to bring new hope to the 700,000 people in Scotland who are living with conditions such as stroke, coronary heart disease, vascular dementia and diabetes.

A Heart Hero can be anyone from a nurse or doctor working in the field of heart disease to a young person with heart disease who has shown incredible courage and determination. Those shortlisted will be invited to a glitzy awards ceremony in London in September, when the winners will be announced.

To find out more about the categories or to make a nomination, visit [www.bhf.org.uk/heartheroes](http://www.bhf.org.uk/heartheroes)

Entries close on Saturday February 29 – we wish everyone the best of luck with their entries.

James Jopling, Head of BHF Scotland

## YOUR PICTURES



This week we feature a photograph submitted by Neil Lea from Kirn, near Dunoon.

The photo of Inveraray taken from St Catherines on the Cowal

shore of Loch Fyne shows an almost timeless scene.

### Drift

Barring a few details, it might easily have been taken in 1920 (if

colour digital photography had existed...but you get the drift).

Send your favourite photographs for publication to [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

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# Clearing hurdles on way to Mid Argyll skate park

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A Mid Argyll youth group is working to clear the last few obstacles before its long-held dream of an indoor skate park is reached – but help would be welcome.

Lochgilphead-based Mid Argyll Youth Development Services (MAYDS) offers

educational and recreational services plus wider support to young people throughout the region.

After years of skate park hope, the charity received a grant of £155,118 in 2017 from the Scottish Land Fund (SLF).

Architect firm Grant Murray was employed to prepare draft designs for a covered skate park and other

facilities, unveiled in October 2017.

The SLF cash also allowed MAYDS to buy the building from which it currently operates, along with two adjacent pieces of land for the new development.

It was not until the end of 2018, however, that the sales of property were concluded and since then work has continued to raise money to complete the project.

The first priority is to remove buildings containing asbestos on the newly-purchased site, at an estimated cost of £25,000.

MAYDS has been granted half of this sum by the A'Chruach wind farm fund, provided by Ventient Energy, but the balance has still to be found.

MAYDS manager Fiona Kalache explained: 'Since the SLF award we have carried out asbestos and noise sur-



One of the projects run by MAYDS is a dance group – seen here performing in Ardrishaig.



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The buildings on the site which need to be removed, with the MAYDS building in the background. S1\_a04MAYDSsite02

veys, had architects' drawings prepared, obtained quantity surveyor costings and consulted with community councils and schools. This has taken significant time and money.

'Over time, it became apparent that in the financial climate and after discussions with funders that we would have to scale back our ambitions to leave the covered skate park facility without the other planned recreational facilities.'

But nothing can happen before the buildings with asbestos roofing sheets and an asbestos covered boiler are removed.

'We are a very small team here,' Fiona stressed, 'and we have to maintain our day-to-day-services while keeping the skate park project on track.'

Fiona - announced as the recipient of an MBE for her youth work in the New Year Honours List - concluded: 'The first priority has always been to secure the MAYDS building and services for Mid Argyll.'



Young people from MAYDS help to create a new entrance mural at Blarbuie Woodland in 2019.

06\_a09Blarbuie\_MAYDS\_mural012

'We remain hopeful that, with time and funding, an outdoor space and undercover skate park will be created.'

But with the building warrant to remove the buildings running out in October, time is getting short, so MAYDS would welcome any help raising money to meet the cost.

The project has received support from both Lochgilphead Community Council and from Mid Argyll members on Argyll and Bute Council.

Councillor Dougie Philand said: 'These things take time, but I am very supportive of their plans for a new skate park for Mid Argyll.'

I have every confidence that Fiona and everyone at MAYDS will achieve their aim.'

MAYDS works with young people up to the age of 25 right across Mid Argyll and Islay, offering services including, training, support, youth clubs, drop-ins, cyber cafe, meeting rooms, trips, community cinema and much more.

People receiving help include young carers, young parents, young people with disabilities, young people looking to engage in fun activities or access training courses.

## Jig the night away for Tarbert Music Festival

A fantastic night is in prospect at a special fundraiser for one of the jewels in Tarbert's festival crown.

The calendar is filled with top-notch festivals in the Loch Fyne-side village, and prominent among these is Tarbert Music Festival.

In support of the music festival a ceilidh is to be held on Saturday February 15 in Tarbert Village Hall. Providing the music will be the Gunna Sound Ceilidh Band,

supported by local band Famous Last Words, Loch Fyne Pipe Band and other talented Mid Argyll performers.

It all starts at 7.30pm and a licenced bottle bar will be available along with the ever-popular raffle.

Tickets are available by messaging Tarbert Music Festival or from Kintyre Electrical, Margaret MacNeill, Pamela Watt, Barbara Johnson, John B Hunt, Lisa Mansell, Duncan McGregor or at Skippuccino.

# Decade of Decembers was wettest on record at gardens

by Rachel Carruthers  
[editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)

The figures recorded at the weather station in RBGE Benmore Botanic Garden, Loch Eck, tell quite a story.

To nobody's great surprise, December was mild and wet. Total precipitation was 66 per cent greater than the long-term average. Occurrence of air frost was 45 per cent below the long-term average and ground frost occurrence was down by 30 per cent.

The average maximum daily temperature during December was 1.0°C above the long-term norm. The average minimum daily temperature was 1.4°C above the long-term norm.

Six of the top 10 wettest Decembers on record have been within the last nine years. The cumulative total over the last 10 years makes it by far the wettest December decade on record.

## December 2019

- Highest max air temp: 12.8°C on 5th
- Lowest max air temp: 4.7°C on 15th
- Average max air temp: 8.2°C
- Lowest min air temp: -4.1°C on 1st
- Highest min air temp: 9.6°C on 30th
- Average min air temp: 3.2°C
- Highest min at grass level: 8.5°C on 30th
- Lowest min at grass level: -10.1°C on 1st
- Average min at grass level: 0.8°C



Stormy wet weather seems to be a more regular feature, such as last week's first named Atlantic low pressure system for 2020, Storm Brendan, seen here battering Inveraray. 51\_a03StormBrendan\_Inveraray05

- Air min below 0.0°C on four days
- Grass level min below 0.0°C on 12 days
- Hail: one day
- Snow/sleet: one day
- Thunder: 0 days
- Gale: one day
- Greatest rainfall in one day: 62.6mm on 7th
- Rain 0.2mm or more: 31 days
- Rain 1.0mm or more: 24 days
- Rain 5.0mm or more: 20 days
- Trace (between 0.0mm and 0.1mm): 0 days
- Total with measurable rain: 31 days
- Total rainfall for month: 468.8mm (18.5 inches)

- Total rainfall for year: 2,646.1mm (104.2 inches)
- Weather statistics for 2019

Last year had total precipitation of around 10 per cent above the long-term average. Deeper analysis shows that January, April and November were considerably drier than is normal, while March, August and December were excessively wet. The remaining six months of February, May, June, July, September and October were all around +/- 1" of the average for the time of year.

Average maximum air temperatures were 0.4°C above the norm, with February, April, July, August,

September and December showing the greatest upward deviation. October was cooler than normal and November was particularly cold with an average maximum daily temperature 2°C below the norm for that time of year.

Average minimum air temperatures were above the norm during all months with the exception of May, September, October and November; October and November were particularly chilly with average minimum temperatures being 1°C below the norm.

The total number of recorded air frosts was around average, however, the period between the last

spring frost and the first autumn one was 30 days shorter than average. The occurrence of ground frost followed a similar pattern.

- Highest max air temp: 28.4°C on July 25
- Lowest max air temp: 0.1°C on January 31
- Highest min air temp: 18.4°C on July 26
- Lowest min air temp: -5.3°C on February 1
- Highest min temp at grass level: 16.1°C on July 26
- Lowest min temp at grass level: -13.0°C on February 1
- Air frost: 53 days
- Last air frost: May 30
- First air frost: October 20
- Between last and first air frost: 143 days
- Ground frost: 111 days
- Last ground frost: June 12
- First ground frost: September 16
- Between last and first ground frost: 95 days
- Total rainfall for year: 2,646.1mm (104.2 inches)
- Greatest rainfall in one day: 66.6mm on August 30
- Rain 0.2mm or more: 262 days
- Rain 1.0mm or more: 220 days
- Rain 5.0mm or more: 148 days
- Measurable rain: 289 days
- Average relative humidity: 83.4 per cent
- Gales: one day (this refers to full gale conditions and does not include sporadic gusts or overnight events where wind speed cannot be verified by observation).
- Hail: seven days
- Snow/sleet: six days
- Thunder: three days

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# Burns in mind for string quartet



Mid Argyll Arts Association will present the young, vibrant ensemble Fyrih String Quartet for a weekend concert at Kilmory Castle.

With energy and charisma the ensemble will deliver a thrilling programme of music, including Haydn, Greig and a set of Burns folk songs, on Saturday January 25 at 3pm.

Tickets cost £12 or £10 for concessions. Entry for students is free.

Fyrih String Quartet will perform at Kilmory Castle on January 25.

## Red hot Burns celebrations

An early, and hopefully not too literal, Burns night celebration will have crowds gasping this evening (Friday January 24) as courageous fundraisers dash across a



The firewalkers will proudly wear t-shirts made by MS Centre staff and volunteers.

glowing fire. Baring their soles, a team of 40 will take on the fire walk challenge in aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Centre Argyll, having collectively raised more than £5,000 through sponsorship so far. A haggis-themed buffet will be served for the participants, to give them the energy to power through the hot trot across the coals.

The fire on Lochgilphead front green will be lit at 8pm before the group, led by a piper, parade from the centre to the fire, ready to cross the lane of hot embers.

## Burns and a' that

Born on January 25, 1759, Scotland's most famous bard, Robert Burns, was a proud Scotsman who never forgot his roots.

At his home in Dumfries, he died just 37 years later, leaving behind him a legacy of poetry and songs that addressed social, political and economical problems.

Aged 15, Burns wrote his first love poem but it was not until 1786, at the age of 27, he rose to fame when his first collection of poetry – including To a Louse, To a Mouse and The Cotter's Saturday Night – was published.

Around the world his work is still appreciated today. From Ayr to Adelaide there are more than 60 statues across the globe in his name, with his most famous piece, Auld Lang Syne, sung by millions on New Year's Eve.

Closer to home it is ru-

moured that, irritated to be denied a room at Inveraray Castle, he scratched a poem into a window at the now Inveraray Inn:

*Whoe'er he be that sojourns here,  
I pity much his case,  
Unless he comes to wait upon  
The Lord their God, His Grace.*

*There's naething here but  
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And Highland scab and  
hunger:  
If Providence has sent me  
here,  
'Twas surely in his anger.'*



Rabbie Burns.

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# New chief executive says 'we can make Argyll and Bute the very best it can be'

'Working together, we can make Argyll and Bute the very best it can be.'

That is the message to residents, businesses, communities and organisations throughout the area from the council's new chief executive.

Pippa Milne has taken over from Cleland Sneddon, having moved up from being executive director for development and infrastructure services.

Having worked in local government for 28 years, Ms Milne is only too aware of the challenges ahead – but can't wait to get started.

She said: 'I'm passionate about Argyll and Bute and the potential that it offers. Leading this organisation is an exciting opportunity.'

'The best part of the job is that, as a team, we get to make a positive difference for people every day.'

'There are undoubtedly challenges, not least delivering services with fewer and fewer resources but there are also great opportunities like delivering our Rural Growth Deal.'

'I'm looking forward to working with all our partners in the area to make the most of those opportunities.'

'I would like to see Argyll and Bute thriving and growing with a buoyant economy; opportunities for work and study that make it an attractive place for young people; housing suitable for those who want and need it; and services which meet the needs of our communities.'

'Things that will help us get there are the delivery of our Rural Growth Deal over the



New Argyll and Bute Council chief executive Pippa Milne.

next 10 years and capturing the benefits of the Maritime Change programme at HMNB Clyde for the local area.

'They also include securing much-needed investment through the national review of transport infrastructure projects, closing the attainment gap, and modernising health and social care services for the next decade and beyond.'

Ms Milne first joined Argyll and Bute Council in 2013, having fallen in love with the area as a visitor. She has worked for a number of different councils in England

and Scotland, and now lives with her husband at Crinan.

The challenge of helping the area reach its full potential is one she is ready to take on – but it is not something that can be undertaken alone.

Ms Milne continued: 'Delivering for Argyll and Bute means working in partnership. Since moving here I've found that pulling together is something we do really well across communities.'

'Working co-operatively with other public sector organisations like the health and social care partnership, police, fire, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, private

sector businesses, voluntary and community organisations and communities themselves is critical to our success.'

'Our community planning partnership brings all those bodies together and a range of teams who all believe we can make a difference.'

'Our population is both ageing and declining. This threatens our economic success, makes it difficult to fill jobs and leads to increases in the cost of public services.'

'We need to make the area attractive for young people to ensure the long-term sustainability of our area.'

'Solving this issue is complex and is getting harder as the resources we have available to tackle it reduce.'

One of Ms Milne's first tasks is to oversee the council's 2020/21 budget-setting process, which has already faced obstacles.

Recent events at UK level have left that process shrouded in uncertainty – but the chief executive knows choosing savings will prove difficult in any event.

She said: 'At the moment we don't yet know when we will find out how much money the council will be allocated.'

'We have been preparing for the budget using assumptions and the council's policy and resources committee considered the budget outlook and savings proposals in December.'

'Many of these are proposals we would rather not have to put forward, and they will present difficult choices for those involved in agreeing the budget.'

Ms Milne added: 'Argyll and Bute is a great place to live, work and invest. It offers great potential and a wide range of opportunities for the future.'

## Kilmory canteen is awarded top recognition

Argyll and Bute Council's canteen at Kilmory Castle in Lochgilphead has been awarded Healthy Living Plus status for the first time.

Healthy Living Plus is the highest level of Healthy Living awards available, and rewards catering establishments that demonstrate a greater commitment to supporting healthier eating through their menus; food and drink preparation; marketing and promotional activities; food presentation; and point of sale.

Welcoming the news, council leader Aileen Morton, said: 'The catering team at

achieving the Healthy Living Plus award is challenging so I am truly delighted, but not surprised, to hear that it has done it. It is very well deserved. Congratulations to everyone involved.'



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# The voyages of the Fulmar – part one

The serialisation of a log book from the yacht 'Fulmar' recording her 1956 voyages and the adventures of her crew. The dog-eared log book was sent to the Argyllshire Advertiser accompanied by an unsigned note saying the log book had been bought recently among a lot of assorted items at an Edinburgh fleamarket.

The 'Fulmar', a 41-foot gaff cutter built in 1901, was owned by Commander Ralph G Mowat, RN (Rtd). Information on Commander Mowat was unearthed after an appeal by this newspaper, but we would love to hear from any surviving relatives.

The yacht won her class in the 1956 Tobermory Race from Bute to Tobermory, via the Crinan Canal before setting off on a cruise from Crinan up the west coast, around Mull and back home. Crew of the Fulmar (summer cruise) and their nicknames: RG Mowat, 'Skipper'; Mary R Mowat, 'Mate'; G Paterson, 'Pilot'; S Stanger, 'Doctor'; JM Mowat, 'Bosun'; Chris Paterson, 'Tanky'; Robin G Mowat, 'Tar'; Shena R Mowat, 'Purser' and dachshund Ruddiger von Stoer, 'Major of Marines'.

## Pre-cruise event

### Glasgow to Tarbert, via Tighnabruaich

There was nothing done to the Fulmar over the winter except that Jim Peters (Helen) sold us an eight-metre reaching jib which he had to spare and this was sent to Leitch at Tarbert for the necessary alterations.

On the evening of May 18 the Skipper, Pilot and the Pilot's brother and sister-in-law, Archie and Margaret Paterson, went down to Tighnabruaich (the Bosun was once again 'examinationing' and couldn't come and the Mate and Tar stayed at home to keep him company, and the Purser was now schoolteaching in Aberdeen).

The Renfrew ferry was very busy and they had to wait in the queue for three trips and when at last they got over they had to stop at a garage for air (only 15lb of pressure in one of the back tyres).

After that it was plain sailing except once when, south of Strathlachlan, they met another car which would not back 20 yards to a passing place and they just touched his bumper when scraping past him but there was no damage done to either. A wee van and a motorbike were behind them at the time and they let them pass and they disappeared down the twisty road at an incredible (and quite reckless) speed.

They reached Tighnabruaich at about 9 o'clock and saw Fulmar in the water, but when they stopped to speak to Johnny Malcolm and Donald Turner they were told she was not in the water more than an hour and still not fully rigged.

They were quite right but George Smith said they were busy getting Psyche ready for launching (they were still laying on the anti-fouling) but they would be out first thing in the morning to bend on the sails and finish off the rigging.

They got their stores (ordered by letter from Neil Angus) in the yard and with these and their luggage went aboard in two trips. Things were soon put sufficiently enough in order to allow them to get to bed and after watching Psyche go down the slip they were soon in their



The dog-eared but fascinating 1956 log book.  
51\_a48Fulmar02

bunks. It was a beautifully clear evening but distinctly cold.

Next morning they were up at seven (Archie is an incorrigible early riser) and about eight the yard men came out and finished up their jobs. Jimmy Smith fixed up the slipping clutch and suggested we do away with the present gear lever fancy arrangement which was not strong enough for its work. This the Skipper agreed to though it meant a

less handy working but it did away with the pin and shield that broke up the dog-house seat, they being replaced by a removable hatch cover. It certainly made sitting in the dog-house more comfortable.

The Skipper went ashore to the village for meat and some curtain hooks while Archie watered ship and the other two continued cleaning and clearing up aboard.

At quarter to twelve they were away under full sail and in brilliant sunshine but with a cold north-westerly they ran to Ardlamont then beat up to Tarbert, being passed just outside Tarbert as an aeroplane flew close overhead, by Blink. They noticed a huge oil tanker doing trials just off Arran.

They were anchored off the herring pier before 4 o'clock and they had supper-cum-lunch then went ashore. The Pilot to visit a friend, the others to get milk in the village then to walk to the end of the road on Loch Fyne. On their way they spoke to an enthusiastic English pair, working in their garden, who wanted to know off which yacht they had come.

During the evening Arcturus and Tunnag came in and one or two motor boats. Zaidie was in when they arrived and Leonora was anchored across Loch Fyne in Buck Bay.

All aboard, Margaret and Archie went off to the islet in the harbour to get some roots for their new garden then soon afterwards all turned in, for though it was a glorious looking evening it was persistently cold and the stove, lit as soon as they anchored, had been very welcome.



'Blink and an aeroplane passed us outside Tarbert'. 51\_a04Fulmar01\_Plane



'We got on to the Renfrew Ferry at last'. 51\_a04Fulmar01\_RenfrewFerry

On Sunday they were again up early and found a dull overcast day. The Pilot, ashore for water, heard a poor weather forecast (a foretaste of what we were to get all summer) from a fishing board. On the strength of this they hurried breakfast and by 9 o'clock were away with a south-westerly breeze.

The Skipper gave the first beacon a rap with the boom-end as they ran out of the harbour. The beat down to Ardlamont (the Pilot thinks we are always beating in Fulmar and wonders if she was built 'facing into the wind') and they ran the engine for five minutes to get out of a nasty lop. The sun came out for about five minutes but by the time they had reached the Carry Buoy (where Margaret produced 'jeely pieces') the rain had

started and it got heavier and heavier.

The wind strengthened with the rain and they moved up very fast into Tighnabruaich Bay then up to Loch Riddon to anchor off the pier at Ormidale. As they passed Tighnabruaich they saw Torridon was on Fulmar's mooring and they watched her crew panicking to get off before Fulmar arrived. They wondered what the Torridons said when they saw Fulmar pass on through and realised that they could have stayed where they were. As they passed Glen Caladh the new Jansi of Kames passed under a not very healthy-sounding engine.

They had lunch and the stove was lit then Margaret and Archie went ashore to visit friends and when they came back they brought with

them a big sack of coal (easily sufficient to last the season however inclement it should prove to be). The late afternoon and evening were spent below talking and listening to the rain hammering on the deck.

Monday morning it was dry but blowing hard. They got the anchor early and motored to the moorings. The sails were hoisted to dry them and St Roma came close by to make their number and at one time a big school of thrasher whales went through the Kyles heading east and at a great speed.

About noon they went ashore for a visit to the hotel and for a run round the Ardlamont road (more roots, primroses, for Margaret). Back aboard they had lunch and soon after packed up and came home.



The Fulmar. 51\_a48Fulmar01

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# 'Valuable support' offered to many Argyll businesses

Scotland's entrepreneurial spirit is booming in the face of economic and political challenges, with more than 365,500 private sector businesses currently operating in the country – the highest level since 2000 – 99.3 per cent of which are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

As Scotland's national business advice service, Business Gateway helps thousands of customers to meet their business goals every year.

From July to September 2019, Business Gateway provided crucial support that helped 7,990 SMEs to scale up their growing operations and over 2,350 new businesses successfully start up, with more than half of these new start-ups being female led.

Business Gateway's network of 53 offices, managed and delivered by local authorities as part of their wider business support, play a crucial role in driving growth, skills, regeneration and employment across Scotland. In 2019 Argyll and Bute Council's Business Gateway helped 130 new businesses to start, with a projected combined



Argyll and Bute Council's Business Gateway team.

turnover of £4.2million, as well as assisting more than 140 existing businesses.

Councillor Jim Anderson, Argyll and Bute Council's depute policy lead for economic growth, said: 'Our advisers provide valuable support for businesses of all sizes, including one-to-one support sessions, exten-

sive online resources and signposting expert help on topics including innovation, exporting, finance and new markets. Last year our advisers completed more than 400 advice sessions with Argyll and Bute businesses. All our support is provided free and in confidence.'

'We work in close col-

laboration with a wide variety of partners, including Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Scottish Enterprise, to help identify growth opportunities and provide the best advice and support to local businesses.'

'Central to helping our customers succeed is our ability to listen to what businesses

need, find the pieces they are missing, deliver the right support and make the right connections.'

Business Gateway offices also provide a comprehensive programme of free events and workshops about starting, managing and growing a business.

2020 sees the introduction

of webinars for Argyll and Bute Business Gateway, in addition to workshops. The first webinar topic is SEO and improving a Google ranking. This one-hour webinar will take place from 11am on Thursday January 30 and explain the concepts of Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) – how to get a business higher up the Google rankings, and driving more people to a website.

Upcoming Business Gateway workshops include the one and a half day Business Start-Up workshop in Dunoon on January 29 and 30 and Lochgilphead on February 4 and 5; Build Your Own Business Website in Rothesay on January 29; the marketing workshop Know Your Customer in Oban on January 31; Creating Killer Graphics with Canva on February 6 in Lochgilphead and Book-keeping in Helensburgh on February 6.

To find out how Business Gateway can help a business, or to book a workshop or webinar, call the Business Gateway team on 01546 808363 or visit [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com).

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# A Purdie profit for skincare company

Purdie's of Argyll, an organic skincare company based in Oban, has reported its first annual profit since launching in 2017.

Director Gavin Purdie approached Argyll and Bute Council's Business Gateway to support the development of a new strategy, with a focus on achieving profitability through an expansion in manufacturing capability and an expanded range of organic beauty products.

In addition, funding from the Business Gateway local growth accelerator programme helped Purdie's of Argyll to invest in new facilities at a brand-new purpose-built manufacturing facility in Oban. The Business

Gateway local growth accelerator programme is funded by Argyll and Bute Council and the European Regional Development Fund 2014-20 structural funds programme.

Gavin Purdie, owner of Purdie's of Argyll, said: 'As we embark on the next stage of our business journey, we've really appreciated having the Business Gateway team regularly on hand to provide support and advice to help us focus on the development of the business and ultimately achieve profitability.'

'They have signposted us to funding opportunities that have allowed us to significantly invest in our manufacturing facility and thereby expand our product



Gavin Purdie,  
owner of  
Purdie's of  
Argyll.

range, both of which have contributed to our success over the last two years.'

'We are now in a strong position heading into 2020, with plans to expand further into the health and wellbeing market and continue building on our progress.'

Purdie's of Argyll sells organic skincare products, using certified organic ingredients by the British Soil Association and the EU COSMOS (COSMetic Organic and Natural Standard), from its flagship

store in Inveraray and via the company's website, which has been largely facilitated by e-commerce support from DigitalBoost.

#### Support

In addition to one-to-one support from a business adviser, Business Gateway provided Purdie's of Argyll with access to an employer grant for a new member of staff, a marketing grant to publicise the product range in Glasgow, HR specialist advice and the development of an effective social media

strategy via the DigitalBoost digital skills training programme.

Purdie's of Argyll has also expanded its product range, with the launch of a complete skincare range, a men's range and a specialist podiatry range for City Foot Clinic in Glasgow and there are plans to introduce an organic coconut oil-based cleanser in early 2020.

Angela Vernel, business adviser at Business Gateway Argyll and Bute, said: 'It can be a challenge to implement

a bold new strategy for your business, but Gavin's clear focus and passion for the brand has been instrumental to its growth over the last two years and we look forward to seeing its continued success in 2020.'

Business Gateway offers a wide range of specialist services for both growth businesses and start-ups across Scotland.

For more information, please contact the Argyll and Bute office on 01546 808363 or visit [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com)



Purdie's of Argyll plans to expand its range.

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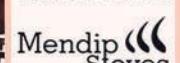
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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN MID ARGYLL

## Andreas receives writers award

Scottish Book Trust has announced the 13 recipients of the New Writers Award, which is supported by Creative Scotland.

Since 2009, Scottish Book Trust, the national charity transforming lives through reading and writing, has supported more than 100 creative individuals through the New Writers Awards.

Andreas Wolff, originally from Berlin, fell in love with the Scottish islands, especially the Hebrides and its Gaelic culture, when he visited as a teenager. Andreas settled in Scotland 16 years ago and studied a BA (Hons) in Gaelic at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on the Isle of Skye and now works as a video journalist for

BBC ALBA in Argyll, across Scotland and in Europe. During his award, Andreas wants to explore long form travel and other narrative non-fiction writing in Gaelic, building on the factual story telling skills he acquired as a journalist.

Andreas Wolff said: 'I am delighted to receive this New Writers Award and hope to be able to make a small contribution to the corpus of Gaelic writing and Gaelic life in general.'

The New Writers Awards provide a selection of talented writers, who have not yet published a full length book or collection, with financial support to enable them to concentrate on developing

their work, as well as professional guidance to help them move towards publication.

Each of the 13 recipients will receive a £2,000 cash award and support tailored to their needs including mentoring from writers and industry professionals, training opportunities, and the platform to showcase their work to publishers and agents.

The awards also include the offer of a week-long writing retreat at Moniack Mhor. The retreat provides time, space and the freedom to create new work in idyllic surroundings.

**Andreas Wolff has received a New Writers Award.**

Photo: Rob McDougall



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Mid Argyll Arts Association

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Saturday 25th January  
3.00 pm  
£12, £10 (concessions)  
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#### LOCHGILPHEAD RED STAR 2008s FUNDRAISER

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# The cinema on wheels returns

The screen machine will be rolling back into Mid Argyll at the end of the month.

Bringing with it a host of movies for film fans, the Screen Machine will be in Campbeltown Road car park in Tarbert from Wednesday January 29 to Thursday January 30 and Lochgilphead Resource Centre car park from Friday January 31 to Sunday February 2.

Musical fantasy film Cats, based on the Andrew Lloyd

Webber stage musical, features an ensemble cast including James Corden, Judi Dench, Jason Derulo, Idris Elba, Jennifer Hudson, Ian McKellen, Taylor Swift, Rebel Wilson, and Francesca Hayward.

Also known as Star Wars: Episode IX, Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker is an epic space-opera film. The third installment of the Star Wars sequel trilogy sees the legendary conflict between the Jedi



The 80-seat Screen Machine returns to Mid Argyll.

and the Sith reaches its peak, bringing the Skywalker saga to its end.

Frozen 2, the sequel to the 2013 hit Disney film, sees Anna, Elsa, Kristoff, Olaf and Sven set out to find the origin of Elsa's powers in order to save their kingdom.

The coming-of-age period

drama is the seventh film adaptation of the 1868 novel by Louisa May Alcott, Little Women. The film tells the story of the March sisters – four young women each determined to live life on their own terms.

1917 is the heart-wrenching tale of two young British sol-

diers during the First World War, given an impossible mission: deliver a message deep in enemy territory that will stop 1,600 men from walking straight into a deadly trap.

Paying tribute to mystery mastermind Agatha Christie, Knives Out is a fun, mod-

ern-day murder mystery where everyone is a suspect. The film follows a family gathering gone awry, after the family patriarch's death leads a master detective to investigate.

Tickets are available online with eight tickets for each screening on the door.

## Listings:

**Tarbert Wednesday January 29:** Cats (PG) - 5.30pm;

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (12A) - 8.30pm

**Tarbert Thursday January 30:** Frozen 2 (U) - 5.30pm;

Little Women (U) - 8.30pm

**Lochgilphead Friday January 31:** 1917 (15) - 5.30pm;

Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (12A) - 8.30pm

**Lochgilphead Saturday February 1:** Frozen 2 (U) - 2pm;

Little Women (U) - 5.30pm; 1917 (15) - 8.30pm

**Lochgilphead Sunday February 2:** 1917 with captions

(15) - 2pm; Frozen 2 (U) - 5.30pm; Knives Out (12A) -

8.30pm

We think Fridays are for dramming...

Jim Irvine from Gordon MacPhail is joining us for our tasting on Friday 7th Feb.

As usual we will be tasting 6 drams. Really looking forward to this one as it is sure to be a memorable night. £20.00 per ticket. 7pm - 9pm, Ardshiel Hotel. Tickets available here: [tickets.ardshiel.co.uk](http://tickets.ardshiel.co.uk)



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## Time to nominate Argyll's unsung heroes

The countdown is on for the people of Argyll and Bute to nominate young heroes in their community for the Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards 2020.

Nominations for the awards, which recognise extraordinary young people aged 11-26 who are making a real difference in the lives of others, are open but only until Sunday February 23.

Young Scot is calling on people in Argyll and Bute to shine a light on the outstanding contributions made by young people across categories including; sports, enterprise, entertainment, equality and diversity, health and wellbeing and many more.

The winners will be announced at a red carpet event at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre on April 23 and it has been revealed that the star-studded event will be hosted by Radio 1 DJ and youth rights activist Gemma Cairney.

To nominate a young person or to get tickets to the awards, visit: [youngscotawards.com](http://youngscotawards.com)

# Ethel delights at Inveraray history meeting



Inveraray History Society members were treated to a musical evening on Tuesday January 14, as one of their own members, Ethel MacCallum, enchanted the group with her programme of Songs of Inveraray – Old and New.

### Grateful

It was also grateful to Mark Boston, who once again helped the speaker to co-ordinate the programme of slides and recordings.

Next month the society will host a joint meeting with Dalmally History Society, when Dr Gavin MacGregor speaks about the archaeological dig in Glen Strae and Glen Orchy.

Other local history societies are invited to join on Tuesday

### Thrilled

There was a recording from well-known singer Paul MacCallum, aka 'the Gaelic Pavarotti'; fellow-member Niall Iain MacLean was taken aback to hear a recording of his father's voice and thrilled when Ethel gave him three



Inveraray History Society member Ethel MacCallum treated the group to a musical talk.

February 4 at the Inveraray church hall at 7.30pm. If anyone is a member, they

should inform their society's secretary if they would like to attend; any non-members, are

asked to email Sue Campbell: [suecampbell22@aol.com](mailto:suecampbell22@aol.com) as numbers will be limited.



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### 1917 (15)

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### Jojo Rabbit (12A)

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**Little Women (U)**  
Wednesday 2.00pm

**Spies In Disguise (PG)**  
Saturday & Sunday 2.45pm

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Local homeowners are being encouraged to contact Home Energy Scotland this winter to see if they could qualify for free heating systems and insulation through the Scottish Government's flagship energy efficiency scheme.

Since its launch over four years ago the Scottish Government's Warmer Homes Scotland scheme has helped 17,000 qualifying householders. In most cases each household has so far received over £4,000 of home energy saving improvements such as central heating, boilers, renewables systems and insulation measures.

Alison Craig, Home Energy Scotland's Highlands and Islands advice centre manager, said:

'We want to hear from you to see if we can help. Particularly if you're struggling to keep up with your bills or finding your home hard to heat.'

'Warmer Homes Scotland could be the solution and it's available now so you could get support this winter.'

'All you need to do is contact us at Home Energy Scotland and chat to one of our friendly advisors, free of charge, to see if you could benefit.'

'We offer free and impartial advice, so even if you don't qualify for Warmer Homes Scotland we can explore other support that may be available, such as discounts from your energy supplier.'

Miss B, a mother of two, had a new heating system installed via the scheme. She said:

'It all went very smoothly and happened very quickly, much more quickly than I thought. I have a warm house, and it's even warmer now than when I had heating here before. And it's really easy to use.'

Call Home Energy Scotland free on 0808 808 2282 or visit [homeenergyscotland.org](http://homeenergyscotland.org) for more information on current help and support from Warmer Homes Scotland and other schemes.

Home Energy Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by the Energy Saving Trust, with a mission to help people in Scotland create warmer homes, reduce their bills and help tackle climate change.



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## Big Energy Saving Week runs from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

It is a national campaign to help people cut their energy bills and get all the financial support they are entitled to.

We all have the power to save energy, money and the environment through everyday actions. Simple changes such as switching energy supplier or tariff, accessing discounts or grants, and making homes more energy-efficient can make a big difference.

People can use the Citizens Advice energy price comparison tool online which is free, uses a full market comparison, totally independent and gives a customer service rating for the major energy companies.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/our-campaigns/all-our-current-campaigns/besw/>



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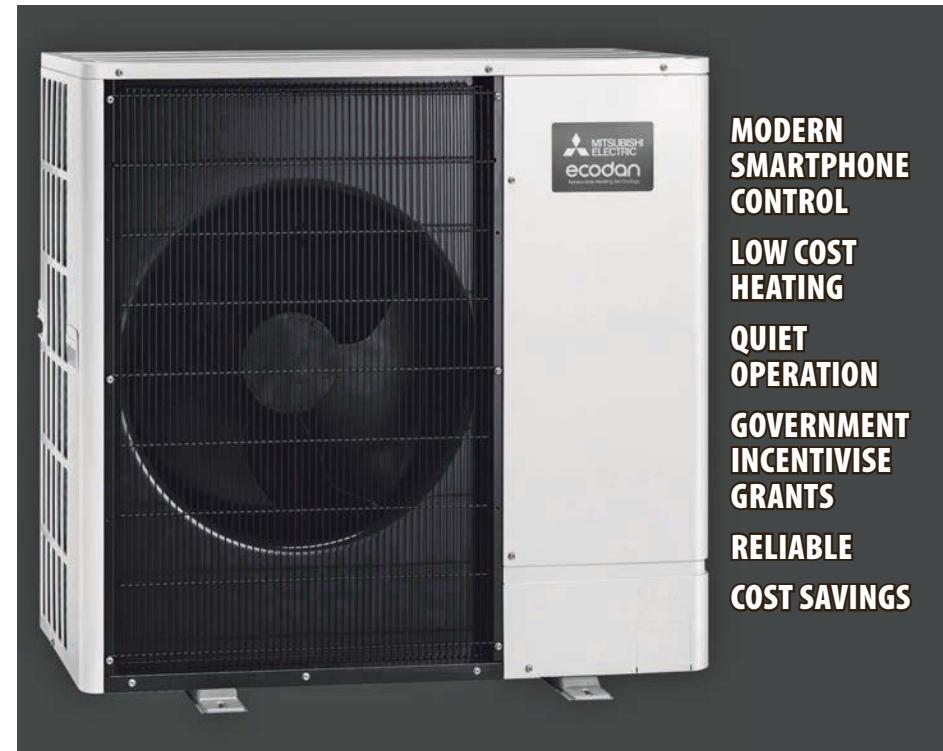
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+  
**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT INTEREST FREE LOAN**  
+  
**DOMESTIC RENEWABLE HEAT INCENTIVE FOR 7 YEARS**

=  
**FREE HEATING**



Check out our company profile and customer reviews on the Energy Saving Trust website. Simply search for our company name.



*... my heating system*



IT'S  
IN OUR  
NATURE



secure your  
energy needs  
go off-grid  
with renewable  
energy



# West Coast MOTORING

GARAGES  DEALERSHIPS  PRIVATE SALES  NEWS

## WANTED 4X4S FOR CASH



### WANTED ALL 4X4'S & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

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

**WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE,  
FAST PAYMENT AND COLLECTION.**

**CALL TODAY ON 0778 985 5381**

## WANTED

All types of 4x4 vehicles, Landrovers, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford etc and all 4x4 pickups. Older models and non runners/MOT failures etc considered. Will collect.

**Tel 07546 788945**

## WANTED MOTOR HOMES

Caravanettes and camper vans, all makes and models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

Contact William 07730 130284  
email [wlmotorhomes@outlook.com](mailto:wlmotorhomes@outlook.com)

## WANTED

For immediate cash payment and free collection all types of 4x4 vehicles double cab and single cabs pickups shogun landrover defenders Isuzu Landcruiser Navara I200 Toyota Hilux discovery any vehicle considered old or new any condition running or not high miles rotten chassis over heating top price paid without any hassle we also buy motorhomes touring caravans and commercial vans and trucks.

**Tel 07703490572**

or email [balgowan4wd@gmail.com](mailto:balgowan4wd@gmail.com) ask for Robert

## WANTED

All touring caravans and motor homes, campers etc, high mileage, MOT failures or damp, all considered, any make or model, will travel.

**Tel: 07546 788945**



### ARKIP 460: ALUMINIUM SPEED/FISHING BOAT 4.6ML, 1.85MW



Good condition fast aluminium boat with 50hp Yamaha outboard with console steering, Perspex windshield, 3 storage lockers, 25l fuel tank, nav light, spare outboard mounting, bad weather canopy and full boat cover. On 'roller' road trailer with spare wheel – all in good working order

**Price £8,900**

Phone 07595 466088

## WANTED

All types of motor homes and caravanettes. Any age or condition. We also buy water damaged or in need of repair. Also all types of touring caravans from 95 onwards.

**T: 07885 203020 or  
E: [gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk)**

## WANTED

**All types of 4x4's, Landrover Toyota, Nissan etc... We also buy MOT failures and accident damage vehicles. Anything considered.**

**Tel: 01250 884306 or M: 07885 203020**



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**facebook**

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argyllshireadvertiser](http://www.facebook.com/argyllshireadvertiser)

## NEW CAR INDEX



Gordon Motors  
Uk Dealer Of The Year 2014  
Comrie Rd, Crieff, Perthshire  
PH7 4BQ  
Tel.01764 652125  
Delivery throughout the West  
[www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors](http://www.suzuki.co.uk/gordonmotors)



W.D. Semple  
[www.wdsemple.com](http://www.wdsemple.com)  
Inveraray Shore Street  
Tel.01499 302150  
Lochgilphead  
Highbank Park  
01546 606767 / 606272



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
01292 880080  
01292 880440



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
01292 880080  
01292 880440



S & S Services  
Old Bridge Road,  
Heathfield, Ayr  
01292 880080/880440

# RECRUITMENT

**IN ASSOCIATION WITH**  
**HIJOBS**  
Visit [hijobs.net](http://hijobs.net)

## FIXED PLANT MAINTENANCE FITTER



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

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

### Responsibilities:

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

### Personal Specification:

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

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

**Closing date for applications: Friday 31st January 2020.**

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

**Telephone +44 (0) 1631 568140**

**[www.aggregate.com](http://www.aggregate.com)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Competitive salary for the right candidate. Position:- Seasonal – 5 days out of 7 March – Middle of November

**Please send your current CV to:-**  
**Mrs J Young, Castle Manager**  
**Email: [manager@inveraray-castle.com](mailto:manager@inveraray-castle.com)**  
**Closing Date for applications**  
10th February 2020

## Couple Required for Seasonal Role On leading West Coast Sporting Estate Ghillie / House keeper

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

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

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

Interested parties should email a CV to [julian@benmoreestate.co.uk](mailto:julian@benmoreestate.co.uk)

Further details of the estate are available on the estate website.  
[www.benmoreestate.co.uk](http://www.benmoreestate.co.uk) [www.hookedonmull.co.uk](http://www.hookedonmull.co.uk)

## Career opportunities



## CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGER – OBAN

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

**Please send CV to**  
**[jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk) or call 01546 602989 for further information.**

## campbeltown **COURIER** Incorporating Argyllshire Advertiser

## Trainee Reporter

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

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

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

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

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

You should also hold a full driving licence.

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

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

**Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: Alison Arden - [ali@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ali@obantimes.co.uk)**



# A great career starts here

**Every day across Scotland more than 2,000 people are supported by Carr Gomm 'to live their lives safely and well according to their choices, whilst making plans to achieve their hopes and dreams for tomorrow'.**

**And you can be part of this vision with Carr Gomm, one of Scotland's leading social care and support charities.**

**As employers Carr Gomm will help you develop your career as a professional support practitioner registered with the Scottish Social Services Council.**

**A unique and rewarding working life for people from all walks of life and interests starts here**

Jane Bruce is Carr Gomm's service manager for home care based in Oban. It is Jane's job to oversee service provision, working with supported people, their families, social work department and her own staff to create the right package to meet each individual's needs. One thing Jane emphasises is Carr Gomm's 'person-centred' approach. 'The philosophy of Carr Gomm is that we like to see everyone as unique. We work with people not for them - we help them to continue with their normal life,' she said.

Part of that skill is creating the right package of care and matching the right member of staff to each supported person. 'I am responsible for making sure people are supported and that includes our staff as well. The majority of our work is commissioned by the social work department; we have a very close working relationship with them. Logistics play a major role in my work.' For people considering using the Carr Gomm service, Jane says: 'I would tell them we are here to do whatever you need us to do and we are not here to take over or tell them what to do.'

Jane also believes passionately that the role of the carer is not recognised enough -

either by society or by people looking for a career where they can make a difference. 'We have a great bunch of staff here in Oban and they do not get the recognition from the public that their skills



**Jane Bruce: Carr Gomm recognises the needs of individuals be it the people they support or its members of staff.**

and dedication deserve. That oversight also stops people thinking of caring as a career.

'Caring and supporting people in the community is a great choice of career and a lot of young people do not realise they can create a well-developed career with qualifications for themselves.'

'I would stress that caring is a career path as well and working with people is a first step not only in a career in care but can be a first step to pursuing a nursing career and many other similar professions.' When Jane is not at work you will find her playing euphonium with Lochgelly Brass Band in Fife, training at wado-ryu karate, where she holds a third dan or just enjoying

riding her motorcycle. Just as Carr Gomm believes that each person it supports is unique, it also believes its staff are. Carr Gomm people come from all walks of life and this blend of people, their outlook and interests at different stages of their working life plays a key role in the Carr Gomm success story.

'That is why I believe so passionately that people looking for a rewarding career where they can make a difference should always think about joining us,' said Jane.

## Rewarding, challenging and a chance to learn more

**Men play a vital role in homecare at Carr Gomm**

for a multitude of reasons ranging from falls to false alarms, covering a large area including Dunoon, Toward, Ardentinny, Strachur, Colintraive and Tighnabruaich. Robert requested full-time hours and his manager suggested that he may like to try some homecare shifts.

'For a while I worked

*'The work can be hard, but it is so rewarding, and I feel that I have gained such a lot from the wide variety of people I have met.'*

*'I would like to encourage more men to try this type of work; after all there are as many males requiring support as females and the men can appreciate talking to another man.'*

- Robert Glancy,  
Dunoon

between the two services, but found that I enjoyed homecare more as it was more involved with the supported people and you got to know them better,' he said.

Many people in Dunoon will know Robert not only from his work with Carr Gomm but when he worked for the well-known Rae's Fruiterer and Florist.

'When Rae's closed I then applied for a job with Carr Gomm after talking to a friend who already worked there.'

'I was unsure about entering this area of work having never worked in anything similar before, but decided that it was time to try something different,' he said.

'I didn't know if I would like or be able to do the job as it was so different to any jobs I have had in the past.'

'However, after my first shift I knew that this was a career that I would like to pursue further.'

'I started with Carr Gomm as a relief support assistant on the overnight response team on part-time hours with shifts from 11pm to 7am with planned visits to supported people and also responding to personal alarm callouts.'

Alarm callouts could be

first aid, and medication training.

There is also a company online training programme which employees are encouraged to complete that covers a wide range of topics.

'I would definitely recommend working in the social care sector and my advice to anyone thinking of working in this field would be 'give it a go.'

## A good choice for your carer and your career

Tony Dalton is one of the people who has support from Carr Gomm in the Oban area.

A retired Royal Navy officer and author he has Motor Neurone Disease and, after 43 years in Dalavich, he moved to Oban into a specially

adapted house.

He said: 'I've had Motor Neurone Disease for more than 30 years but when I needed more help, I moved to Oban and a purpose-built, housing association, wheelchair-friendly house.'

'Carr Gomm gets me up in the morning, which takes about two hours; they and another care company enable me to live as independently as possible.'

*'Caring and supporting is not just a job. The thing I enjoy most about using Carr Gomm is that the staff are helpful, cheerful, respect my wishes and make time to ensure everything is in place before they leave.'*

'They do a brilliant job; they should be very proud

of themselves it must be a very rewarding job.'

After years of meeting and coming to know Carr Gomm staff and the company's ethos, Tony would recommend a career with them.

'It is an excellent career and they train with SVQ and do college courses.'

'It would give a young person a great deal of confidence - being trained and talking to people.'

And as for the service itself, Tony has no hesitation in recommending it: 'People might be a bit concerned about their personal privacy; I was in the Navy so had no concerns but I try to put myself in their shoes.'

'I would tell them that they should have nothing to worry about; all the carers are sympathetic and not intrusive into your personal space.'

# Make a difference every day

**Join one of Scotland's leading social care and community development charities for a fulfilling and worthwhile career in social care.**

**Carr Gomm is recruiting for their Home Care and Day & Overnight Responder services in Oban.**



Find out more at  
[www.carrgomm.org/work-with-us](http://www.carrgomm.org/work-with-us).



**Network Rail**  
is looking for  
Operatives at our  
Crianlarich Depot.

Out in all weathers, you will play a practical role in keeping Scotland moving. Across a range of manual tasks, the efficiency and safety of the railway is crucial.

These are hands-on roles, working outdoors in all weathers during the day, night and at weekends. If you've got what it takes, we'll provide all the training, protective clothing and support you need to succeed. Operative £24,406 (pay award pending) plus up to 25% premium depending of shift pattern.

For further information and to apply visit  
<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/careers/>

#### Career opportunities

**MACLEOD**  
CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

#### CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATIVE

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

Please send CV to  
[jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk) or call  
01546 602989 for further information.



**The Oban Times**  
& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

#### REPORTER

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a bright, passionate and self-driven reporter to join The Oban Times' busy team.

The person we are looking for will have an NCTJ or similar qualification, including shorthand, and be multi-media literate.

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

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

As the position will be based in Oban, knowledge of the area would be an advantage.

You should also hold a full driving licence. As well as writing for the newspaper of record for Argyll and the West Highlands, you will be expected to take photographs on the job, as well as contribute to our social media channels and podcasts.

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

**Please apply by email, sending your CV, plus a covering letter and some examples of your work to: Alison Arden - [ali@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ali@obantimes.co.uk)**

# RECRUITMENT



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

#### Campbeltown Jobcentre Work Coach

Salary - £26,892  
Fixed Term – 12 months  
Hours – 37 per week

Do you have a passion for public service? Would you like to make a difference to someone's life? If so we would like to hear from you.

DWP are looking to fill Work Coach Executive Officer roles in Work and Health Services Directorate. These are key roles and we are looking for people who will help us deliver service improvements and provide an effective service for our customers and claimants.

For further information and to apply simply visit our website [www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk](http://www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk)

**Job Ref No - 36496**  
**Closing date Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2020**



**North Argyll  
Carers Centre**  
Caring for those who care

#### North Argyll Carers Centre seeks to recruit a Manager

North Argyll Carers Centre is a value-based charity, which supports those who look after a family member or friend due to illness, disability, frailty or addiction, on an unpaid basis. We provide information and advice as well as practical and emotional support. We are affiliated to Carers Trust.

We are recruiting a Manager to build on our success and to sustain and grow our organisation. This is a highly demanding role and the successful applicant will have significant leadership experience, demonstrate strategic awareness, a sound understanding of working with carers and be an effective and visible ambassador for carers.

The successful candidate will work closely with the Board of Trustees to deliver our organisation's strategy and lead the organisation in our move to The Rockfield Centre later this year.

**37 hours per week: £32,000-37,500 depending on experience**

**Closing date: 9th February**

**Interview date: 19/20th February**

North Argyll Carers Centre's commitment to Equal Opportunities is reflected in our selection process

**For a recruitment pack please contact Zivile on 01631 564422 or [zivile@northargyllcarers.org.uk](mailto:zivile@northargyllcarers.org.uk) or further information on the job please contact John Stevens (Chairman designate) on 01631 711874 or email: [john@northargyllcarers.org.uk](mailto:john@northargyllcarers.org.uk)**

Registered Charity No: SC040902

#### Dalriada Dental Practice

##### Receptionist / LDU Operator (Part-Time)

We have a fantastic opportunity that has arisen within our practice. We are looking for a motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our friendly team in the position of Receptionist/LDU operator. No prior experience required as training will be provided in house. The position will be a Job-Share of 20 hours per week.

Please email your CV's to  
[dalriadadental@gmail.com](mailto:dalriadadental@gmail.com).

Closing date for applications is 07/02/2020

#### THE MACHRIHANISH GOLF CLUB

Machrihanish, Campbeltown, Argyll

Has a vacancy for an

##### OFFICE ASSISTANT

We are looking for a part time office assistant who must be enthusiastic, hardworking and prepared to work flexible hours.

The successful applicant will ideally have experience in Office Administration including the use of Word and Excel.

Please apply in writing enclosing CV to:  
The Secretary, The Machrihanish Golf Club,  
Machrihanish, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6PT

Closing date: Friday 31st January 2020.



**Lifeboats**

**JOIN THE RNLI  
AND HELP SAVE LIVES AT SEA**

#### COXSWAIN/MECHANIC

**From £30,978 (dependent on experience)**

**Islay Lifeboat Station • Ref: 10807**

We're looking for a Coxswain/Mechanic to join our lifeboat crew in Islay. Islay lifeboat station supports the RNLI by saving lives at sea, providing support to the community and working with our colleagues in other emergency services and community organisations.

You'll be someone who understands that this is more than a job and will be happy being based in a small rural community. So, as a Coxswain/Mechanic you must be prepared to drop everything to respond to emergency situations but can keep a cool head and make tough decisions whilst doing so.

**For further information and to apply, please visit: [www.rnli.org/jobs](http://www.rnli.org/jobs)**

**Closing date: 2 February 2020.**

**Interview date w/c 17 February 2020.**



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### Vacancies

Fixed Term Appointments – 1 Year – with the possibility of extension or permanency

Full-time – 37.5 hours/week

Part-Time – 22.5 hours (3 Days)/week

Salary Scale: £19945 to £21947 (depending on experience. Pro-rata for Part-time Post)

Receptionist /Typist/Administration Assistant  
Typing and Computer Skills are Essential.

For details of these posts and an application form please contact:

[lochgilphead.surgery@nhs.net](mailto:lochgilphead.surgery@nhs.net)

Or Telephone the Depute Practice Manager on: 01546 462002

Closing Date for Applications:  
14th February 2020

## The Gem Box

Shipton & Co, Oban  
Fine Jewellers since 1870

### Sales Consultant

required

Flexible Working hours  
Including Weekends

Ideally the candidate will have Experience in Selling or Customer Service & a passion for jewellery.

Salary & package discussed on application

To apply please email your CV along with a cover letter to [debbie.hickey@shiptonia.co.uk](mailto:debbie.hickey@shiptonia.co.uk)

## The Rockfield Centre

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

28 hour post based in Oban.  
Full details website.

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

### Argyll and Bute Council

Is your child eligible for funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC)?

Registration for Early Learning and Childcare from August 2020

will take place between

27th January 2020 – 31st January 2020

For children born between

1st March 2017 – 28th February 2018

Information on ELC and our funded providers can be found at:

- Website – <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years>
  - By phoning the Early Years Helpline on 01369 708503
- To register for ELC please go along to your funded provider of choice\* during normal opening hours to pick up a 'registration pack' and complete an application form\*\*

\*If you choose a childminder to provide your child's funded ELC please contact Early Years for a registration pack.

\*\*Please bring your wee ones birth certificate when registering.

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

Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

### Argyll and Bute Council

#### PLANNING

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 –13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilphead PA31 8RD. They can also be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://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

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 19/02638/PP  | External alterations including; installation of external hot tub, sauna and associated landscaping works                                       | Site Address  |
| 99 And 101 Millknowe, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6NJ | Argyll & Bute COUNCIL  | Keillmore, Keills, Tayvallich, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8PQ  |
| 19/02553/PP  | Installation of replacement windows and door and change of use of 99 Millknowe Road (ground floor) from (Class 1) retail to (Class 9) dwelling | Garden Ground Of Cruch Cottage, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8QA  |
| 19/02302/PP  | Change of use and minor alterations to storage byre to form studio annexe ancillary to main dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank.     | Springbank Distillery, Well Close, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6ET   |
| 19/02513/PP  | Use of land for the siting of 1 glamping pod   | Land South West Of Loch Craigin, Achnamara Road, Achnamara, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute   |
| 20/00010/LIB   | Internal alterations to form visitors and clients lounge   | Springbank Distillery, Well Close, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6NJ   |
| 19/02554/LIB   | Installation of replacement windows and door and internal alterations  | 14 Main Street, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6AG  |
| 19/02170/PP  | Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 25 metre lattice tower, associated works and formation of vehicular access              | Land South East Of Ardailly Mill Croft, Isle Of Gigha, Argyll And Bute  |
| 20/00009/PP  | Change of use of distillery visitors workshop to visitors and clients lounge   | Written comments can be made to the above address or submitted online <a href="http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications">http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications</a> 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. |
| 20/00021/PP  | Repainting of shop front   | To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:   |
| 20/00014/PP  | Erection of shed   | <a href="http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk">www.argyll-bute.gov.uk</a><br>Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid  |

**69%**  
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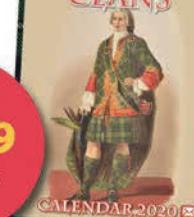
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## Around the markets

**LOCHBOISALE****United Auctions****Saturday 18th January 2020**

UA sold 178 store and breeding cattle, followed by 142 sheep of all classes. Bullocks averaged £729.66 (+£9.72) and sold to £1,000 for a 410kg, CharX from 136 Stilligarry and heifers averaged £676.19 (+£87.53) and sold to £875 for a 430kg CharX, also from 136 Stilligarry. Bullocks averaged 222.88p/kg (+13.95p) to 284p/kg for a 250kg, LimX from 29 Claddach, North Uist and heifers averaged 205p/kg (+21.25p) to 254p/kg for a 240kg, SalX from 2 Grimsay Island. A good show of naturally shown calves were on offer and met a spirited demand selling to a good following of mainland buyers. A small show of sheep met a buoyant trade with lambs averaging £56.04 (+£12.78) and ewes averaging £40.22 (+£7.09). Leading prices per head:

BLKS – AAx - £865, 8 Kildonan; £840, 319 Kilphedra; £835, 205 Stoneybridge; £820 (4), 8 Milton; £805 (2), £800, 261 Daliburgh; £800 (2), 301/324 Kilphedra. BRBx - £720, 136 Stilligarry. BAx - £866, 2 Grimsay Island, Benbecula. CHARx - £1,000, £930 (2), £920, £850, 136 Stilligarry. LIMx - £885, £875, 7 Nunton, Benbecula; £830, 324 North Boisdale; £820, £815, 7 Nunton; £800, 325 North Boisdale. HFRS – AAx - £800, 2 Drimisdale; £790, 8 Milton; £780, 8 Kildonan; £770, 1 Milton. CHARx - £875, £860, £840, £830(2), £800, 136 Stilligarry. LIMx - £785, 7 Nunton; £745, Druim Torrach Croft, North Uist; £740, 342 North Boisdale; £720, 18 West Gerinish. SIMx - £800,

7 Middlequarter, North Uist; £790, 16 Eoligarry, Barra. Leading prices per kilo: BLKS – AAx - 237p, 261 Daliburgh; 234p (4), 8 Milton; 232p, 205 Stoneybridge; 231p (4), 8 Milton; 230p, 261 Daliburgh. BAx - 259p, 2 Grimsay Island, Benbecula. CHARx - 244p, 236p (2), 233p (2), 136 Stilligarry. LIMx - 284p, 29 Claddach, North Uist; 274p, 3 Milton; 272p, 29 Claddach, North Uist; 263p, 17 Torlum, Benbecula; 263p, 29 Claddach, North Uist; 262p, 6 Askernish; 261p, 5 Nunton, Benbecula; 254p, 29 Claddach, North Uist. HFRS – CHARx - 226p, 221p, 136 Stilligarry; LIMx - 252p, Druim Torrach Croft, North Uist; 239p, 235p, 18 West Gerinish; 226p, 324 North Boisdale; 225p, Hillview; 224p, 1 Milton. SALx - 254p, 228p, 2 Grimsay Island, Benbecula. SIMx - 220p, Druim Torrach Croft, North Uist.

**CAST COWS**

PER HEAD – AAx - £950, 8 Milton; £805, 237 Stoneybridge. LIMx - £915, £885, 3 Hosta, North Uist; £865, 261 Daliburgh; £825, 18 West Gerinish. SHx - £845, 18 West Gerinish. SIMx - £745, 7 Middlequarter, North Uist. PER KILO – AAx - 138p, 8 Askernish; 127p, 8 Milton. LIMx - 152p, 377 South Boisdale; 152p, 3 Hosta, North Uist; 122p, 261 Daliburgh. SHx - 122p, 18 West Gerinish. IN-CALF COWS - £950, Cnoc An Torr; £800, 346 North Boisdale. LAMBS – SuffX - £70.00, Croismorag, North Uist; £70.00, 88 Bualadubh; £67.00, 29 Claddach, North Uist TexX - £76.50, 29 Claddach, North Uist; £69.00, £65.00, Croismorag, North Uist. BF - £61.00, 88 Bualadubh.

**STIRLING****United Auctions****Thursday 16th January 2020**

Sold 4,802 prime sheep comprising of 3,607 prime hoggs selling to an average of 208.49ppk and 1,195 ewes and rams.

EWES – TexX - £82.00, 29 Claddach, North Uist; £70.00, 3 Claddach, North Uist. BF - £41.00, 29 Claddach, North Uist.

Old Season Lambs (3,597) – Luckenburn (BTex) £120.00; Langside (Cross) £118.00; Langside (Tex) £114.00; Langside (Cha) £110.00; Henderson (Suf) £105.00; Stralochy (Chev) £104.50; Quixwood (Mule) £97.00; Remony (BF) £93.00.

Old Season Lambs (3,597) – Luckenburn (BTex)

282.00ppk; Tay and Torridon (Tex) 245.00ppk; Low

Tirfergus (Cross) 227.00ppk;

Higham and South Fallfield (Chev) 224.00ppk; Park (Suf)

218.00ppk; Lossit (Mule) 218.00ppk; Balgoner (BF)

212.00ppk; Drummie (Chev/Mule)

208.00ppk.

Ewes (1195) – Halbeath and

Pitlochie (Tex) £158.00;

Burnside of Edingight (BTex)

£150.00; Meadowbank (Suf)

£114.00; West Lecroft (Hamp)

£110.00; Beeches (BFL)

£105.00; Blinkbonny (LleynX)

£106.00; Meadowbank (Mule)

£98.00; Stralochy (Chev/Mule)

£95.00; Halbeath (Zwa) £89.00;

Burnside of Edingight (Chev)

£82.00; Quixwood (BF) £83.50.

Tups – Langside (Suf) £125.00;

Mid Auchencarrock (Tex)

£124.00; Mid Auchencarrock

(BFL) £119.00; Clunebeg

(Cha) £112.00; Dalcrue (Lleyn)

£90.00; Rhodders (BF) £74.00.

## New series of An Lot/The Croft on BBC Alba

BBC ALBA's popular programme about life as a crofter in the Outer Hebrides has returned for a brand new series this month.

Viewers will get the chance to catch up with Donald 'Sweeny' MacSween on his croft in the Isle of Lewis in this five-part series of programmes, which runs until Monday February 3.

Sweeney's croft has been in the family for more than 100 years and he first captured the imagination of BBC ALBA viewers in 2015 in the first series, as he tried to turn his passion for crofting life into a full-time occupation.

Over the last four years there have been many challenges as he strives to fulfil his dream. Now in his second year full-time, Donald is always on the lookout for something

new to maximise his income from 'An Lot'. In this series he looks at different ways of using wool, gets ready for 600 new hens, and builds a new shed shop for tourists, largely due to an increase in cruise ships coming into Stornoway in recent years.

Many of these visitors are keen to experience life on a Hebridean croft, and Donald welcomes them with his cheeky charm and offers some novel new wool products in his newshop.

Donald said: 'For me, the most important thing about this series is that I feel it is a true reflection of what crofting is like.'

'It is easy to share stories exclusively of cute lambs and positive stories, but that isn't a true picture of what crofting is. It can be brutal,

heart-breaking, depressing but the positives outweigh the negatives, otherwise I wouldn't be doing it. It is what I love.'

He says one of the most exciting parts of this series was producing his own Harris Tweed using the wool from his own (black) Hebridean sheep.

He added: 'We are entering extremely uncertain times for agriculture and no one can be sure what is going to happen.

'Hopefully my branching into tourism and adding value to what I produce can help other crofters and farmers think about what is possible.'

The first episode of An Lot/ The Croft aired on Monday, January 6 but each episode is available on the BBC ALBA iPlayer for 30 days after it airs.

## 886 bulls set for Stirling Bull Sales

United Auctions' Stirling Bull Sales are set to host 886 bulls and females across seven pedigree breeds for show and sale at Stirling Agricultural Centre.

The event from Scotland's leading livestock auctioneers will take place over two weeks from Sunday February 2 to Monday February 3 and continue from Sunday February 16 to Tuesday February 18.

The Stirling Bull Sales are supported by Galbraith, Scotland's leading independent property consultancy.

Week one opens with Sunday judging of Aberdeen-Angus, Beef Shorthorn and Lincoln Red females and bulls on February 2 with their sales held the following day.

Monday February 3 also sees the pre-sale show of Limousin bulls in the morning with their sale in the afternoon.

Week two begins with pre-sale shows for Simmental females and bulls as well as Salers

bulls on Sunday February 16.

Simmental females kick off the first sales of the day on Monday February 17 followed by Salers bulls. The Charolais breed shows start from noon in the exhibition hall with Simmental bulls going under the hammer in the sale ring at the same time.

The sales of Charolais bulls and females bring the event to a close on Tuesday February 18.

John Roberts, United Auctions' group sales director, said: 'Stirling Bull Sales are the biggest bull sales in the UK and it's this unrivalled selection of high-quality bulls forward for show and sale in a compact schedule that draws pedigree and commercial breeders from the UK and Europe. The exhibitors will see packed ringsides of buyers throughout as we welcome an influx of more than 12,000 visitors to the city of Stirling for an unmissable two-week event.'

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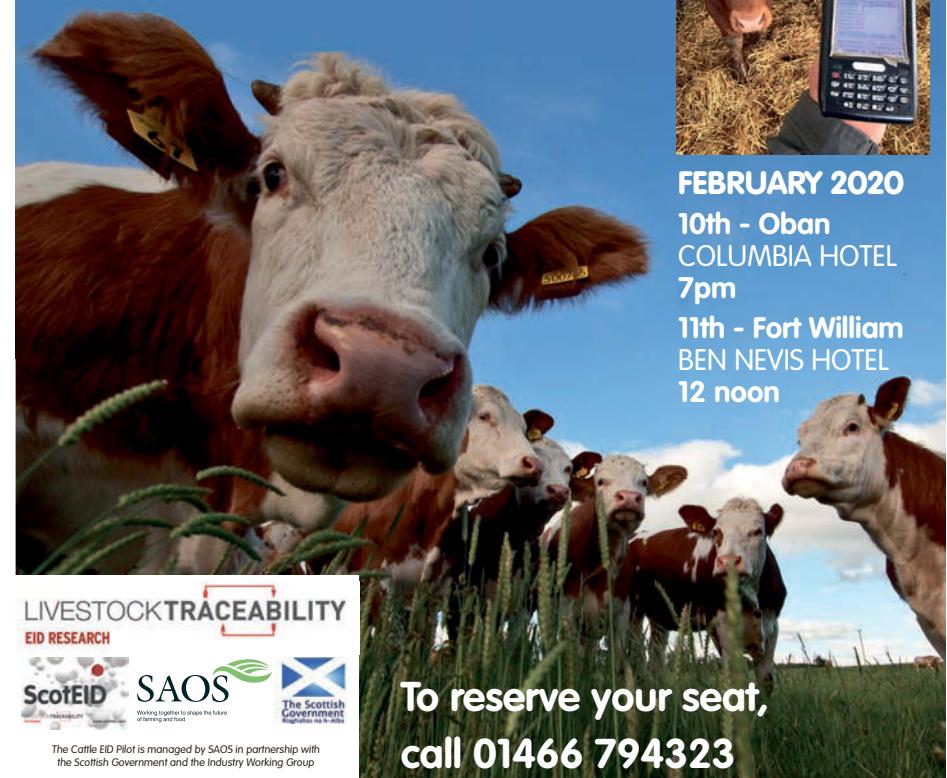
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Wednesday 29th January 2020

Route: 10.30am Kilmaho Farm; 11.15am Kilkeddan Farm  
12.15pm Lunch The Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown  
1.15pm Trodigid Farm; 2.00pm Machrihanish Farm; 2.45pm Kilkivan Farm  
Judge Mr Hugh McCorkindale, Eden Farm.  
Dinner & Prize giving in The Seafield Hotel, 7.30pm for 8pm  
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## GRADUATION



HOLLIE-BETH MCGREGOR

Hollie-Beth graduated Stirling University with a Master of Letters (Merit) in Publishing Studies. Hollie-Beth is the daughter of Cameron and Tracy McGregor, the granddaughter of the late 'Eenie' and Marie McGregor and the great niece of Christine Johnston.

## MUSIC & SOUND RECORDING

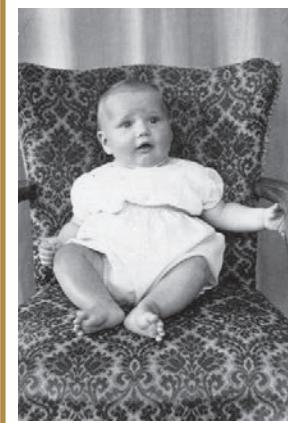
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## PERSONALS



*Happy 60th  
Birthday  
to our papa  
Willie Conley  
Love & hugs,  
John, Alexandra  
& Amaya*

## MARK

John the Baptist prepares the way

**1** The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

'I will send my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way'<sup>2</sup> –  
"a voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
"Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him."<sup>3</sup>

**4** And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. **6** John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I am; the straps of whose sandals I

<sup>2</sup> On Jesus Christ, Messiah (Hebrew) and Christ (Greek) both mean Anointed One.  
<sup>3</sup> Some manuscripts do not have the Son of God.  
<sup>4</sup> 2. Mal. 3:1  
<sup>5</sup> 2. Mal. 3:1-3

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The Gospel  
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*Happy  
40th  
Birthday  
Robert  
From  
Mum & Dad*

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Please give your name, address, postcode & phone number.

### ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

SINGER SEWING MACHINE - Set in table, working condition. Buyer to uplift - Kilmichael Glassary, £75.00 Telephone 01546 606204

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

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### DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

SMALL CALOR GAS COOKER - 2 ring, grill and oven with CG cylinder and connector. In working order, £40.00 Telephone 01866 822597

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**BORDER COLLIE PUP** - One male, 10 week old, both parents working dogs. Also suit pet home as friendly and well socialised. Vet checked, chipped, £150.00 Telephone 01546 850236 or 07501 329646

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### HUNTING & FISHING EQUIPMENT

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Zeiss 8 x 56B binoculars £500

Swarovski EL 8.5 x 42WB, as new £950

Telephone 07990 886646

### CLASSIFIEDS

### COURIER

### OUTDOOR SPORTING EQUIPMENT

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**OBAN**

Following on from the success of its inaugural event in 2019, Oban Pride has announced this year's festivities will take place on Saturday May 30.

Having recently been granted charity status, the group has also received £10,000 worth of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to help towards the venue, technical and security hire.

This year's event will also see a change of venue with the Corran Halls hosting a fabulous line-up of national and international stars, as well as community stalls, family area and introducing a new youth zone.

The Oban Pride committee is organising fundraising events to help fund the big event, the first of which will take place on Saturday February 29. Working alongside Oban Phoenix Cinema, the group will bring a sing-a-long Rocky Horror Picture Show hosted by Oban Pride's very own Crystal. More details will be announced on the Oban Pride Facebook page.

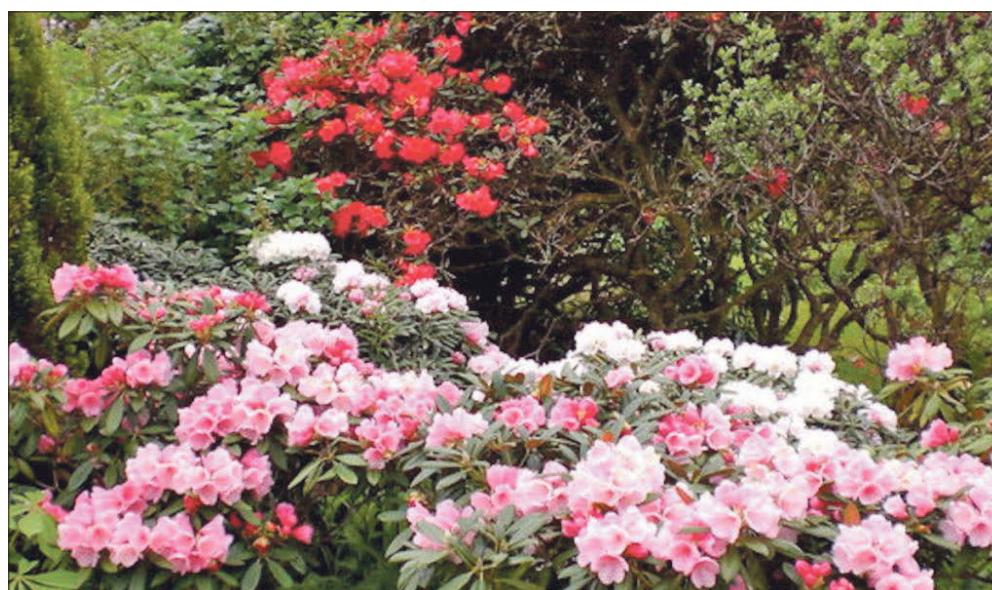
**CAMPBELTOWN**

Excitement is in the air at three Kintyre schools as pupils prepare to take part in a series of animation workshops with Aardman Animations, the creators of some of the UK's best loved characters, including Wallace and Gromit.

Campbeltown Picture House's Film Institute has arranged for Aardman's lead model-maker, Jim Parkyn, to visit the area today (Friday January 24). He will meet pupils from Carradale and Drumlembie Primary Schools and Campbeltown Grammar School to show them how to make their own Aardman masterpiece and talk to them about his career

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

Volunteers now required in Mid Argyll. Call 01546 60 5550 or email [info@abcab.org.uk](mailto:info@abcab.org.uk) to find out more.

**LOCHGOILHEAD**

**A survey of rhododendrons will be carried out in the Loch Goil area.**

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park will be carrying out a rhododendron survey in the Loch Goil area with the work helping to inform future steps regarding rhododendron control.

**Invasive**

There is already work underway to manage the invasive rhododendron problem around

Hells Glen site of special scientific interest and Cormonachan community woodland.

The national park authority has employed a consultant to assess the wider extent of invasive rhododendron on private land around Loch Goil.

The survey will involve meeting private households and land owners to talk about the issues,

to gauge the level of support for a control project and to assess the amount of invasive rhododendron they have on their land.

**Discuss**

The consultant will be in the area during February and March 2020 to meet and discuss the threat to native woodlands and how anyone can help.

and the world famous animation studio.

As well as Wallace and Gromit, Aardman has produced a number of other well-known animated television programmes and films, including Shaun the Sheep, Morph, Chicken Run, Early Man, Flushed Away,

Arthur Christmas and The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists.

During their time at the workshop, children will be trying their hand at making their own Gromit, Shaun or Morph, under the expert eye and guidance of Jim.

Campbeltown Picture House will be showing a triple bill of Aardman films on Saturday January 25 with free entry for Campbeltown Film Institute members.

The institute is open to anyone aged 10-25 and new members can sign up on the day.

**Thought for the Week**

with Marilyn Sheddell

We are greatly blessed in Argyll with amazing sunrises and spectacular sunsets.

Last Sunday, due to unusual weather conditions, the skies throughout Scotland were even more ablaze with colour at sunrise and sunset.

From north to south and east to west, photographs filled social media and were reported on the Scottish news. The colours were spectacular and covered the whole of Scotland.

Which of us has never stopped, spellbound, to watch the sun rise above the horizon, or sink into the sea or behind the hills at dusk?

To be out and about at sunrise or sunset feels like 'walking the edges of the day', when there seems to be a holy stillness across the earth. It seems to be a God-given time and leaves us with a feeling that we have experienced something of a greater, perhaps even eternal, reality.

As the sun rises to banish the darkness and bring light and hope and warmth, could this be a meeting place for God and his people?

And as the sun dips into the stillness of the ocean at the end of the day, will we not rejoice that it will rise again in the morning?

Do we take time 'to walk the edges of the day'?

Should we shake ourselves from the slumbers of sleep that hold us and rise early to greet a new day?

Should we wait before we close the evening curtains to watch the sun paint the northern hemisphere in colours artists only dream of?

I love these words of Mahatma Gandhi: 'When I admire the wonders of a sunset or the beauty of the moon, my soul expands in the worship of the creator.'

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## DEATHS

**BECKWITH** - Nancy, passed away peacefully, at Ardfenaig Care Home, on January 17, 2020, aged 91 years. She will be sadly missed by her children, family and friends. She will be forever in our hearts. Funeral and thanksgiving service at Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Parish Church (formerly Living Stones Christian Centre), Kilmartin, on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 1.00pm. Please feel free to wear a splash of colour to remember Nancy. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship), c/o Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors Ltd, 17 Lorne Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8LU. Telephone 01546 602226.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**DICKINSON** - The family of the late Jackie would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for kind expressions of sympathy following their sad loss. Sincere thanks to staff at Campbeltown Hospital and Macmillan Nurse, Maggie Wilkieson, for their care of Jackie. Our thanks also to Rev Crossan for a fitting service, Kenneth Blair for professional and efficient funeral arrangements, The Kilbrannan Bar for purvey, and Mike, Yvonne, staff and customers at The Ailsa Bar. Finally, we would like to thank everyone who attended the service and graveside, and donated to the retiral collection for Kintyre Six Circle Group, which raised £339.75.

**HELM** - The family of the late David Helm would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy extended to them during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the team at the Beechgrove Care Home, Lanark for their care and kindness shown to David during his time there. Grateful thanks to the Rev Stephen Fulcher for his personal and comforting service; to Kenneth and Rhys Blair for their funeral services and to the Ardshiel Hotel for the purvey. Finally, sincere thanks to all those who paid their respects at the church and graveside. The retiral collection in aid of Cancer Research UK raised £349.

**MCPHEE** - The family of the late Catherine McPhee would like to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, cards and expressions of sympathy during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Rev William Crossan for a lovely service and Kenny Blair and staff for their help and guidance at this difficult time. Special thanks must also go to Cathie's neighbours Wylie and Sheena, and Angela, for all their support over the years. Sincere thanks also to the doctors and staff of Campbeltown Hospital. The sum £543.50 was raised for the Acute Ward at Campbeltown Hospital.

**LONG** - Peacefully, at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 19, 2020, Christina McCaig Johnston (Chris), in her 79th year, Janina, The Walk, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of Denis Long, much loved sister of Margaret and Elizabeth, sister-in-law of Stephen and Jim, loving aunt of Stephen, David, Christina and Jacqueline and much loved great aunt of Isla and Alexander. Funeral private.

**MARTIN** - At Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban on January 17, 2020, William James Martin (Billy), in his 77th year, loving and much loved husband of Margaret, dad of Robert and Janet, dad-in-law of Lorna and Colin and grandad of Torquil, Harvey, Olivia and Gabrielle. A private funeral has taken place.

**MURDOCH** - Moira, beloved wife of the late Evan, on January 20, 2020, peacefully in hospital, dearest mother of John, Josephine and Robin, grandmother of twelve and great-grandmother of three. The committal at Bishopston Cemetery, Renfrewshire, PA7 5NY, on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 10.30am will be followed thereafter by a thanksgiving service in Tayvallich Church of Scotland, PA31 8PJ, at 2.45pm. Enquiries to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors on 01546 602226.

of sympathy extended to them following their sad loss. Special thanks are due to the Oban paramedics team, Tarbert Medical Centre and The Beatson Centre for their care of Johan; to Rev Robert Macleod for his uplifting service; to Marjorie Kelly for her lovely accompaniment; to Donald MacDonald undertakers for their professional and compassionate service, and to Tarbert Hotel for refreshments. Finally, the family expresses their gratitude to all who attended the funeral and donated to Tarbert Nursing Aid.

**STANKEY** - The family of the late Sally Stankey would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the support and kind expressions of sympathy received following their sad loss. Special thanks to all staff at the Mid Argyll Hospital for the care Sally received during her many visits there over the last three years. Special thanks also to all at the Beatson Oncology Centre for their care and expertise. Our thanks to the Rev Hilda Smith for the comforting and personal church services and prayers and also to Donald MacDonald, funeral directors, for their compassion and professionalism. We also would like to thank the Stag Hotel and staff for the catering. Finally, the family would like to thank all those who attended the cremation and memorial service. Your presence was a great comfort to us all. The retiral collection raised in excess of £940, to be shared between Macmillan Cancer Support and the Beatson Cancer Charity.

**WAREHAM** - Catherine and family would like to thank all relatives, neighbours and friends for the kindness, sympathy and support received following the sad loss of their mum, Catherine. Special thanks to Kintyre Care Home for all their care, compassion and kindness, to Kenneth and Rhys Blair for their professional and compassionate services, to Rev William Crossan for his comforting and personal service, and to the Ardshiel Hotel for the purvey. Finally, sincere thanks to all who paid their respects at church and graveyard.

## IN MEMORIAMS

**CAMERON** - "Sadly missed along life's way, quietly remembered every day. No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts, you're always there."

Remembering our dad and grandpa, Sandy Cameron, who passed away January 25, 2019.

Forever in our thoughts.

- Charles and Katie, Duncan and Katy, Colin, Cara, Lilly and Georgia, and all the extended family.

**FLETCHER** - In loving memory of Mary Margaret MacLeod, who passed away January 23, 2019. Loved and missed every day, and remembered with a smile.

**RICHMOND** - The family of the late Johan Richmond would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind and thoughtful expressions

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander MacKinlay, died January 25, 2016.

Beautiful memories silently kept, Of one we loved and will never forget.

- Mum, Jock, Peter and Aly. **MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander MacKinlay, died January 25, 2016.

Always loved, never forgotten. Forever missed.

- Heather, Iain and the boys. **MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander MacKinlay Jnr, died January 25, 2016.

Memories last forever.

- Sadly missed by Mum, John, Jason, Kelly-Anne and family.

Gone but not forgotten.

- Daughter, Courtney.

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of our dear daddy Alexander MacKinlay. You're always on our minds, Forever in our hearts.

- Love your girls, Caitlyn and Chloe xxxx.

**MCINTYRE** - Precious memories of John, who passed away on January 26, 2018.

Love, love, love.

- Catherine and all the family.

**MUIR** - Treasured memories of Bessie, a dear mum, gran, great gran and great great gran, died January 22, 2011.

Always in our thoughts.

- Love, Jean, Jessie and family.

## CHURCH NOTICES

### LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

**Sunday 26th January**

Creche, Triple C, Gen 1

11.15 am Morning

Worship

Rev W Crossan

**Monday 27th January**

Messy Church 3.45

- 5.30pm

Church Hall

**Tuesday 28th January**

Congregational Board Meeting

7.30pm New Hall

Tiny Tots 9.45 am

New Hall

BB Anchor Boys 6.00pm

Junior Section 7.15pm

Church Hall

**Thursday 30th January**

Choir Practice 7.00pm

**Friday 31st January**

Lunch Club 12.00 noon

New Hall

**HIGHLAND PARISH CHURCH**

SC002493

**Sunday 26th January**

The service will be conducted by Mr Kelvin Moller

and will be held in the church at 11.15am

All welcome

**ST KIERAN RC CHURCH**

St. John Street,

Campbeltown

01586 552160

Rev Tony Wood

stkiernrc.org

**Vigil Mass**

**Saturday 6.00pm**

(except 1st Saturday of the month)

**Sundays, Holy Mass**

10.00am

All welcome

(SC002876)

**SALVATION ARMY**

THE SALVATION ARMY

SC002493

**Sunday Services**

10.30am Morning

Service

Army Kidz

6.30pm Evening Service

**Wednesday**

Lunch Club 12.15pm

CAMEO 1.30pm

Make 'n' Munch Craft

Group 7.00pm

Major Ruth Russell

All welcome

Scottish Charity

Number SCO09359

**CHRIST CHURCH SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Bishopton Road,

Lochgilphead

(SC013787)

**Sunday 26th 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

## CHURCH NOTICES

### SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



75 Longrow,

Campbeltown

**Friday 24th January**

SKY Youth Group

7.00 – 9.00pm

**Sunday 26th January**

Family Communion

Service 11.00am

Visiting speaker

Rev Rodger Crooks

All welcome

**Wednesday 29th January**

Bible Study 7.30pm

**Saturday 1st February**

Men's Breakfast

Ardshiel Hotel 8.00am

Speaker Mark Hinde

from Open Doors

Enquiries 01586 551200

www.springbankchurch.org.uk

SCO14646

### ST KIARAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Kieran's Scottish Episcopal Church

SC046745

**Sunday 26th January**

11.00am Family Service

Visiting Speaker -

Steve Davies

with Sunday school

Refreshments after the

service

**Playgroup**

Every Thursday

10.00 – 11.30 am

(Term-time only)

Pastor Mark Jasper

pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk

SC043322

We meet at the SKDT

Hall, Kirk Street

PA28 6BL

**ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES**

"It is good to sing

praises to our God"

Services in

Ardrishaig at 11.00am

and

Achahoish at 12.30pm

All welcome

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND WEST LOCHFYNESIDE**

Church of Scotland

**Sunday 26th January**

Cumlodden Church

10.00am

Inveraray Church

11.30am

Westlochfyneside

Charity No SC016665

All welcome

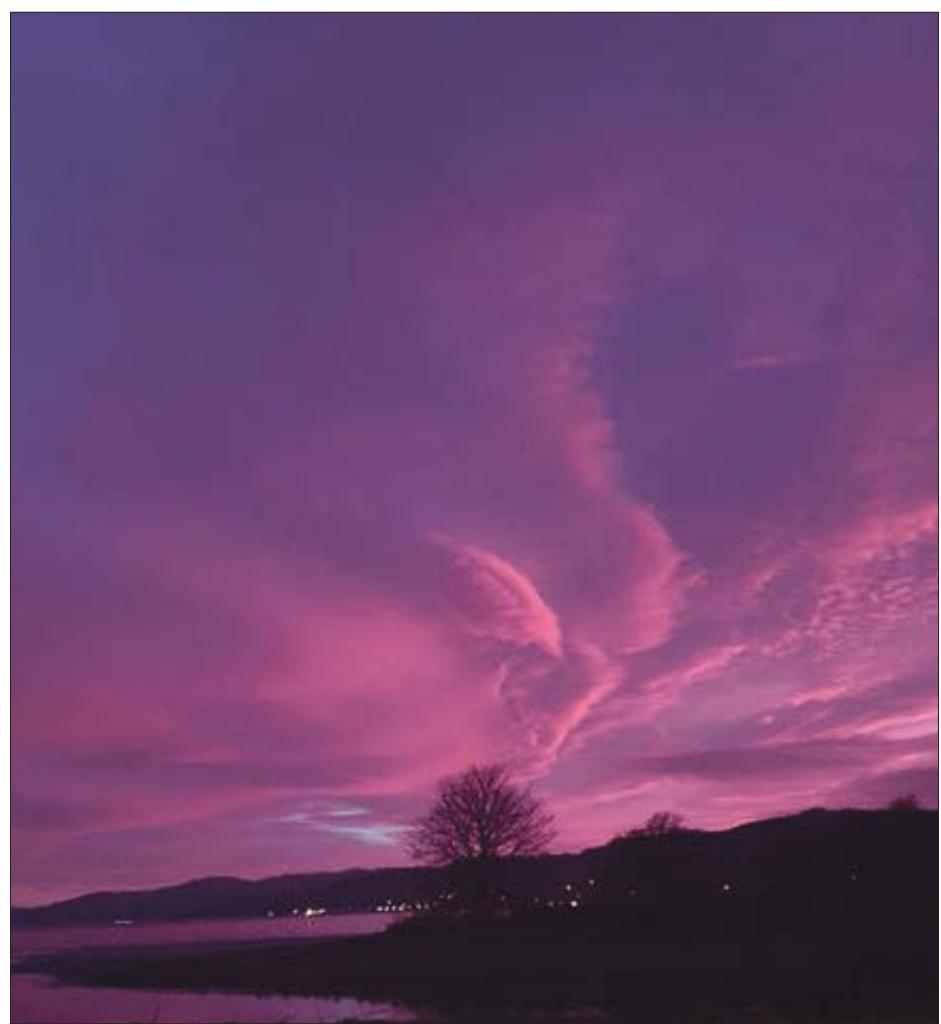
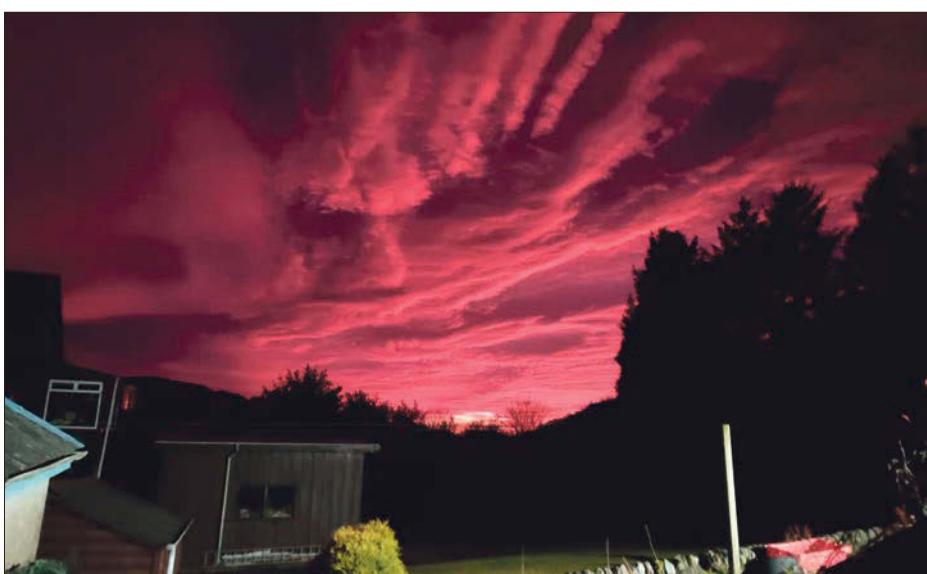
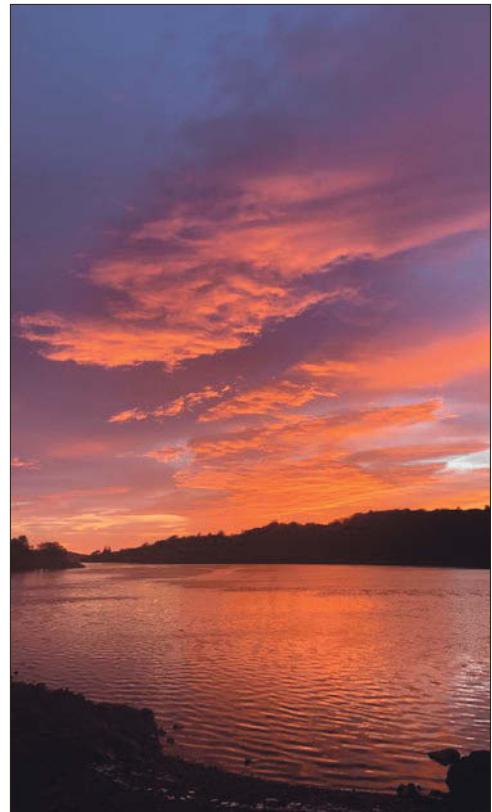
# Nature's spectacle – stunning sunset captured on camera

The beautiful and ever-changing sunset on Sunday January 19 proved irresistible for anyone with a camera handy.

The stunning spectacle of blue, purple pink, peach, orange, red, gold and every colour in between is said to have been created by exceptionally clear conditions and low sun, which reflected off the bottom of the clouds to provide the spectacular, and prolonged, light show.

Here are a selection of photographs sent to the Argyllshire Advertiser, taken from many parts of Argyll and beyond.

**MORE PHOTOS**  
[www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](http://www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)



Clockwise from top left: This stunning scene over Oban was caught by David Templeton Craig; From the West Loch Tarbert Pier, by Lisa Mansell; A purple sky over Loch Gilp, taken from Poltalloch Street, Lochgilphead, by Joanne Martin; From golden to purple – the same scene from Strachur by Aileen MacNicol, but with a purple sky; Shauna Brown captured this purple sky over Tarbert.



Red Star 2004s.

## Red Star youths win again

Both 2007 and 2004 Red Star youth teams recently recorded good wins as both teams travelled to away games.

The 2007 boys travelled through to Glasgow to take on Victoria Park. After an even start to the game Star started to take control of the game, with two goals from Semple and a terrific strike from 25 metres by Green.

Star pushed on to dominate the second half playing some nice flowing football with good passing and movement. They managed to add a further goal when Semple stepped up to smash home a free kick after Philips was fouled outside the box.

Another cracking performance and result, with a top display by Urquhart to keep a clean sheet.

## Fundraiser for Amsterdam

Red Star 2008s will host a coffee afternoon as the youth football team continue their fundraising efforts towards the team's trip to Amsterdam later this year.

### Achievement

The Easter trip to Holland is a massive achievement for the group as they will be the only Scottish

team competing in the 2008s section of the Amsterdam Cup.

Tomorrow (Saturday January 25) will see the team serve up home baking, soup and sandwiches in Lochgilphead Parish Church Hall from noon-2pm. Entry is £3 and there will also be a raffle full of great prizes up for grabs.

## Football results and fixtures

Last Saturday's results: Central Scottish AFL Division 1B - Cambusnethan Talbot 1, Oban Saints 7. Greater Glasgow Premier League Division Three - Oban Saints GG 1, Boswell 3. Scottish Amateur League Premier Division One - Dunoon 3, Neilston 3; Lochgilphead Red Star 1, Campbeltown Pupils 1.

This Saturday's fixtures: Central Scottish AFL 1B - Oban Saints, no game; Greater Glasgow AFL - Oban Saints GG, no game; Scottish Amateur FL - Premier Division One - Campbeltown Pupils v Parkhall; Easthall Star v Lochgilphead Red Star; Glynhill Moorcroft v Dunoon; Premier Division Two - Tarbert v FC Argyll

## Mid Argyll sports club lotteries

Numbers drawn in Inveraray Shinty Club's lottery on Monday January 20 were 10, 16 and 18. There were no winners, so next week's jackpot will be £200.

Also drawn on Monday, Kilmory Camanachd Club's lottery draw numbers were 6, 13 and 15. There

# SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT  
**£2200**

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.

### 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 Tuesday. 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; The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead or the Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran 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

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void.

If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

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 Wyvern 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.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Tel No. ....

Please tape your £1 coin here (only if posting)

### RECENT WINNERS:

**T Campbell** Sept '18 £2500  
**S Campbell** Sept '18 £2550  
**L Currie** Nov '18 £800  
**L Nicolson** Dec '18 £3900  
**D MacLellan** Jan '20 £2000

### LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



The two entries who got nearest the ball and each receive £25 are:

**P MacLeod**  
**Caithness**  
**E Small**  
**Lochgilphead**

**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**

Red Star 2008s  
fundraiser for  
Amsterdam

Red Star  
youths win  
again

# Honours are even in Argyll derby match

Lochgilphead Red Star	1
Campbeltown Pupils	1
SAFL Premier One	

Red Star played host to Argyll neighbours Campbeltown Pupils on Saturday January 18 at the Joint Campus 3G and after a tight, but competitive, game the sides shared the spoils on their first league action of 2020.

Both teams came into the match having won on pen-

alties the previous Saturday in the Jimmy Marshall Cup and with a victory each in the previous encounters between the teams a close match was in prospect.

It was Pupils who started the match the brighter of the two sides and they forced Star under pressure early on, deservedly taking the lead when Ellis Robertson finished from close range after a set piece wasn't cleared by the Star defence. The



Ryan Deans for Campbeltown Pupils in red is challenged by Red Star's Joseph Harper. 51\_a04RedStar01



Stuart MacLean spearheads a second half attack for Red Star. 51\_a04RedStar02

Campbeltown side could have been further ahead before the break, however, a mixture of wasteful finishing and some fine handling from Jake Weir in the Red Star goal kept them in it at the break.

Star looked a different side in the second half and enjoyed a lot more possession of the ball in the Pupils half. The introduction of the lively Stuart MacLean off the bench nearly bore fruit as he attempted to lob the keeper,

however his effort sailed just over the bar.

**Equaliser**

Star kept pressing and got the equaliser their play deserved, with 15 minutes to go, when captain Aaron Moore hammered a free kick into the bottom corner of the net from 25 yards to make it 1-1.

The home side looked the most likely to snatch a winner but despite Robert Docherty and Andy Weir going close the game finished level at 1-1.

This result sees Star remain seventh as they look to continue their climb away from the relegation places, while Pupils will be hopeful that they can challenge for promotion still as they sit in third spot.

Tomorrow – Saturday January 25 – Star face a tough task as they travel to Easterhouse to take on Easthall Star, who sit top of the table having won all eight games so far.

## Hop, skip and jump into Argyll athletics

Mid Argyll Athletic Club is reminding boys and girls in the area that the annual Mid Argyll competition of Sports Hall Athletics will be held Sunday January 26.

Held in the games hall and gymnasium at Lochgilphead Joint Campus, the competition is the first of four area events being held in Argyll this winter promoted by Mid Argyll Athletic Club, with support from Mull Athletic Club, Campbeltown Running Club and Atlantis Leisure in Oban.

The next area competition will be at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Sunday February 23, followed a week later with the Kintyre contest at Campbeltown Grammar school. A date for the Mull contest, held in Tobermory High School, is still to be confirmed.

Successful athletes from the competitions will qualify to take part in the Argyll final, which will be held at Atlantis Leisure in Oban on Sunday March 22.

The Mid Argyll competition will start at noon this Sunday (January 26) with entries from 11.30am.

There will be awards for the overall winners in each age category and medals for all competitors. Age groups start at under seven, then under nine, under 11, under 13, under 15 and under 17. Age is taken as on September 1, 2019 and an entry fee of £2 per competitor will be levied or £5 for families of three or more competitors.



**The Courier Centre**

Main and Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AE

Tel: 01586 554646

**END OF SEASON HALF PRICE SALE!**

50% OFF MARKED PRICE ON ALL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PAPER, GIFT BAGS & BOXES, BOWS & TREE DECORATIONS

**POP IN AND GRAB A BARGAIN, WHILE STOCKS LAST!**

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