



# Woman leaves £176K legacy to town's lifeboat station

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
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A charitable woman has created a lasting legacy after donating a potentially life-saving £176,112.36 to Campbeltown's Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) station in her will.

Mary Blair also left £5,000 to Children in Need and £5,000 to the British Heart Foundation, the latter in memory of her husband, Gordon, who passed away almost 20 years ago after a heart attack.

Mary, who was better known in Campbeltown by her maiden name, Maimie Kerr, died on September 19 2018, aged 86.

She was born in Campbeltown in 1931 to John Kerr, known as Jock, and his wife Sarah, née Armour. As well as Mary the couple had two other daughters, Barbara and Pearl, and a son, John.

Mary married Gordon Blair, whose father Bob owned The Clachan, which was where Whisky Macs is now,



The money could go towards the costs of a major refit for Campbeltown's all-weather lifeboat, the Ernest and Mary Shaw. 50\_c04rnl102

and bought a hotel in Beith, in North Ayrshire, where Mary and Gordon moved the year they married.

Mary's sister Barbara McCallum said: 'She had a very happy life. I don't know if she knew how much she was worth - she was a saver.'

Gordon, who worked for the Ministry of Defence and received a long-service medal during his career, had his ash-

es scattered in Campbeltown Loch shortly after he died.

Barbara said: 'My grandson, Douglas MacKenzie, was in the lifeboat at the time, and I think that was when the seed was sown in Mary's mind - she wanted to remember the RNLI, which had helped her fulfil Gordon's wishes.'

Mary, who worked in the office of the town's Jaeger clothing factory in the 1960s,



Gordon and Mary Blair on their wedding day in 1967.

also had her ashes spread in Campbeltown Loch, in January last year, by Barbara and Douglas, who were taken out into the loch on the lifeboat.

'I think it was the idea of coming back home, to Campbeltown Loch, that she liked, of joining Gordon,' Barbara said.

She added: 'It's nice that she has done something

worthwhile, I'm very proud that she has. Hopefully it will make a difference to the RNLI volunteers who go out in all weathers, risking their lives.'

The money has been put into a separate fund, specifically for the benefit of the Campbeltown station.

The station's lifeboat operations manager George Bradley told the Courier that it was the single biggest do-

nation that had been received since he joined the team in 2002.

He said that the money would help with the day-to-day running costs of the station, as well as crew training and personal protective equipment. He added that the station's Severn class lifeboat, the Ernest and Mary Shaw, was due to have a major refit in the next couple of years, which would involve the installation of new engines among other things, so the money might go towards the cost of that.

George explained that full kit for one crew member cost £1,500, with the bill for kitting out the full team at £45,000. He added: 'We do what we can, and for the size of Campbeltown, we do very well. Various individuals carry out their own fund-raising for us too, but it would take us years to raise that amount of money.'

'Everyone at Campbeltown lifeboat station, from the crew to the fundraisers, is very grateful for this generous legacy.'



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## Tributes paid after man dies in crash

Tributes are being paid after a Campbeltown man was killed in a car crash near Stewarton on Saturday.

Ian Smith, 30, died at the scene of the two-car crash on the B842. Police, ambulance and fire crews attended the incident which was reported at about 5pm.

The occupants of the other vehicle, a white Vauxhall Corsa, were taken to hospital – a 22-year-old woman to Campbeltown Hospital and a 19-year-old man to the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow.

The road remained closed for about nine hours while police carried out investigations.

Sergeant Nicola Taylor of Argyll and West Dumbarton Road Policing said: 'Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Mr Smith at this difficult time.'

'Enquiries are ongoing into the crash and I would ask for the public's assistance with our investigation. If anyone was in the area at the time of the crash, or has any dash-cam footage that can assist us, please get in contact.'

'I would like to thank everyone who has helped with our enquiries so far.'

Police Scotland can be contacted by calling 101 and quoting incident number 3087 of January 18, 2020.

Tributes to Ian, who attended Southend Primary School and the Grammar School, continue to flood social media.

# Wolf-dog hybrids put down after sheep attack

Two wolf-dog hybrids were put down by a vet after chasing and attacking sheep in a field near Tayinloan.

At Campbeltown Sheriff Court on Tuesday, the dogs' owner, Katie Sherlock-Miller, 32, of 1 Islay Crescent, Paisley, pleaded guilty to being the owner of the dogs which were dangerously out of control, inadequately restrained, and made good their escape, chasing, worrying and attacking sheep at Lenaig on October 30 last year.

At the time of the incident Sherlock-Miller had been living in a caravan close to the field in which there were 120 sheep.

Procurator fiscal depute David Glancy told the court the wolf-dog hybrid is the product of breeding between a dog and a wolf, and those owned by Sherlock-Miller were described by their breed-

er, with whom Mr Glancy spoke, as six generations diluted from a pure wolf. They are classed as 'pet carnivores' and therefore no licence is required under UK law to own one.

Mr Glancy said he was advised by the breeder they were 'not for first-time dog owners' and had a 'high prey drive', meaning they enjoyed chasing other animals with the intention to kill – 'a natural instinctive behaviour' for the breed – and should not be left unsupervised unless in an escape-proof enclosure. The mixture of genetic traits results in less predictable behaviour patterns than in pure wolves or pure dogs.

The breeder sold two animals to Sherlock-Miller, before which there had been an extensive dialogue to determine that she was experienced enough to own them.

Mr Glancy added: 'Cursory research shows the animals are rare and there is a lot of discussion about their suitability as pets.'

He added that Sherlock-Miller's main address was in a built-up, residential area of Paisley. As well as the dogs involved in this incident, she owned another wolf-dog hybrid from a different breeder, two Husky crosses,

a Malamute, an Elkhound, at least one ferret, and a bird of prey.

At about 2pm on the day of the incident, a woman was travelling north past Tayinloan when she saw two white 'Alsatian-type' dogs worrying sheep in a field. She stopped and entered the field in an attempt to stop the dogs. She phoned the police when her efforts had no effect and two officers arrived from Campbeltown and saw the dogs, which they described as looking like wolves, continuing to worry the sheep.

The farmer was contacted and arrived with a quad bike and tried to separate the sheep from the dogs but to no avail.

At 2.40pm, Sherlock-Miller arrived with a number of other dogs whose behaviour was such that one of the police officers drew his baton. A third wolf-dog hybrid slipped its harness and ran away but did not worry the livestock.

At 2.45pm, as two more police officers arrived, the farmer, who had gone home to retrieve a firearm, fired some warning shots but they had no effect on the dogs.

Two further police officers arrived and, with the assistance of Sherlock-Miller, they retrieved and restrained one of the dogs, leaving two

unaccounted for. At 6.10pm, the second sheep-worrying dog was caught by police near the caravan and taken to Campbeltown Police Station, along with the third wolf-dog which had escaped. All three were destroyed by a vet.

Mr Glancy described the dogs' breeder as 'incandescent' at the outcome, as he had come to an agreement with Sherlock-Miller that if the wolf-dogs proved to be too much for her to handle, they should be returned.

One sheep died as a direct result of the incident, with the flesh torn from its right rear leg, and another died the following day. As it was a young, healthy flock, the farmer attributes the second death to the incident.

Sherlock-Miller has paid the farmer £90 as compensation for the loss of the animals.

Defence agent Stephen MacSporran, appearing on instruction, said Sherlock-Miller's solicitors had arranged for an animal behaviourist to assess her and ascertain her ability to keep animals.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes deferred sentence until March 5 for a criminal justice social work report and to allow for the animal behaviourist assessment.

## POLICE FILES

Police were called to High Dunasherry, Tayinloan, on January 15, due to reports of a large black dog chasing sheep within a field.

The owner of a vehicle parked for weeks on Harbour Street, Tarbert, has been charged as it allegedly had no MOT or insurance policy in place. A report has been

sent to the procurator fiscal.

Police are investigating after a parked vehicle was damaged in Longrow, Campbeltown, between Friday January 10 and Monday January 13.

Police are appealing for anyone with information to phone 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



## 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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## Glasgow man admits having syringes and knife in rucksack

### COURT

A Glasgow man has been spared jail after failing to alert police to sharp objects in his rucksack, such as uncapped syringes and a knife.

Robert Peacock, of 53 Crossmill Avenue, Barrhead, admitted the offences when he appeared in Oban Sheriff Court on Monday January 13.

He pleaded guilty to exposing police to risk of injury and infection, as well as having a knife without reasonable excuse, and being in possession of drugs.

The incident occurred in Campbeltown on March 25 last year at round 11am after police received a call about a male near an ATM machine.

Peacock, 36, received a

restriction of liberty order, meaning he will have to remain indoors from 7pm until 5am for nine months.

He was also given a community payback order, consisting of 200 hours of unpaid work, and social work supervision to last two years.

Procurator fiscal David Glancy told the court officers arrived and found Peacock sitting on the pavement.

They asked the accused if there was anything in his possession that could cause injury, he said no, but when they searched him they found several uncapped syringes and a lock back knife.

Police also found drugs in his rucksack containing Methamphetamine, a class A drug, as well as a number

of class C drugs, including Temazepam, Buprenorphine, and Etizolam.

In Peacock's defence, his solicitor said the report submitted to the court was indicative of a man who was moving away from a criminal youth.

She stated he was working in Campbeltown and he had the syringes as he was taking 'speed and steroids' to keep up with the rigour of the job and the knives were part of his tool kit.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said: 'These are extremely serious offences. By a narrow margin, I am persuaded that the court can impose an alternative to custody.'

The knives found in his rucksack were forfeited.

# Grammar school progress not good enough, says HMI

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
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Campbeltown Grammar School has made 'insufficient progress' to tackle problems which were highlighted at its last inspection, Education Scotland has said.

After a follow-up inspection, parents received a letter this week from HM Inspector Bill Geddes, who said there would now be liaison with Argyll and Bute Council to speed up improvements and another inspection would take place within one year.

But Mr Geddes admitted: 'Many of the steps being taken to improve attainment in the school have had too little time to demonstrate their impact.'

Weak performance in numeracy remains a concern, and for senior pupils there has been no substantial improvement in attainment since the original

inspection was carried out.

'The school has achieved only limited success in developing a clear sense of direction,' the report said, noting inconsistencies in teaching, but adding: 'Staff now have a clearer understanding of the priorities in improving young people's learning successes and achievements.'

Senior leaders should improve communication with all principal teachers as 'parents and others involved feel that communication is not currently a strength of the school'.

The report also draws attention to some expressions of 'significant concerns about poor behaviour in the school with no apparent formal, agreed procedure for dealing with behavioural issues'.

A few parents said they were concerned about the lack of response when they contacted the school with a query about

## The report also highlighted the school's successes

- 'The Learning Support Department is particularly well appointed and situated. Young people enjoy attending and staff know them and their needs well.'
- The senior leadership team has been strengthened with the appointment of an additional depute head teacher.
- Staff have introduced improvements in the quality of learning and teaching since the original inspection.
- Pupils are better motivated and engaged in their learning.
- English department's strong lead in

delivering literacy across the curriculum.

■ Staff continue to make improvements to the curriculum in broad general education across S1 to S3.

■ S4 to S6 can now take six courses instead of five.

■ There are more opportunities for achievements beyond the classroom; pupils are taking on roles as sports leaders and volunteering in the community.

■ 'Almost all leavers progress to positive destinations when they leave the school'.

■ A wide range of work placements and internships with local businesses.

■ Young people can choose from a range of Skills for Work programmes and Foundation Apprenticeships.

their child's wellbeing.

School staff came in for some criticism: 'Major inconsistencies remain in teachers' practice,' the report said, 'young people do not consistently experience appropriate pace or

challenge in their learning'.

After receiving this report Argyll and Bute Council said: 'We are committed to driving forward these improvements and delivering an education service that gives our young

people the support they need to secure and sustain positive destinations and achieve success in life.

'Whilst areas for further work have been identified, it is important to recognise the

positive changes that have already been put in place since the initial inspection.

'Working together, our pupils and school staff are achieving success, often award-winning.

'Campbeltown Grammar is no exception, having been recently recognised at an event in the Scottish Parliament for its good practice in Holocaust education. These are the type of achievements we want to build on.

'Figures also show that almost all school leavers in Campbeltown progress to positive destinations upon leaving school.

'This reiterates the message that Campbeltown Grammar has young people to be proud of and we will continue to make any improvements required to support them in developing their aspirations and achieving their ambitions.'



The aim of the SBS fundraiser is to help koalas and other injured Australian wildlife.

## Campbeltown solicitors aid Australian bushfire efforts

Solicitors Stewart Balfour and Sutherland (SBS) are hosting a charity screening of cult Australian film Priscilla - Queen of the Desert this month to raise money to support koalas and other animals injured in the recent devastating bush fires down under, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

SBS partner Campbell Read hopes the Wee Toon's residents will be persuaded to part with some 'dingo

dollars' and make a donation in exchange for tickets to the screening at Campbeltown Picture House on January 31 at 7.30pm.

Audience members are being encouraged to adhere to a dress code of 'Furry Ears and Fabulous' with prizes being awarded to the most outrageously dressed.

Other fundraising activities on the night will include a raffle, a busking

piper and some surprise celebrity guests - Crocodile Drumble perhaps?

The SBS team is keen to hear from any organisations or individuals who would like to get involved in making this event the success it deserves to be.

For more information or to obtain a ticket, pop into the SBS legal offices at the Kinloch Hall or the company's property shop on Longrow.

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# Anger that Kintyre and Scotland not reaping benefits of wind jobs

'It's a scandalous story of missed opportunities and ultimately one of industrial and political failure' – unions

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
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Unions have welcomed new measures to take a harder line with the offshore wind industry, but said they must be the start of change and not the end.

Pat Rafferty and Gary Smith, the Scottish secretaries of Unite and GMB, gave a joint statement after a summit in Edinburgh last week to discuss the closure of CS Wind in Campbeltown and the ongoing lack of work linked to the massive investments in wind farm and other renewable technology coming into the country.

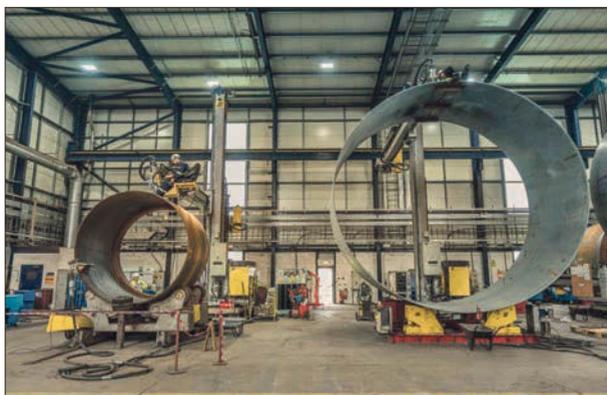
Following the event, the

Scottish Government announced that Scottish companies would benefit from new steps to increase the number of offshore wind contracts staying in Scotland.

Developers will have to agree on supply-chain commitments when applying for offshore wind leases, under an agreement between the Scottish Government and Crown Estate Scotland.

Representatives from the UK Government, trades unions and industry attended the Scottish Offshore Wind Sector Summit in Edinburgh to discuss solutions to the issues facing the offshore wind supply chain.

Mr Rafferty and Mr Smith



said in the statement: 'We welcome these long overdue measures announced today by the Scottish Government in taking a harder line with the industry – but this must

be the start of change and not the end.

'The truth is it's been a decade of failure for job creation in Scotland's offshore wind sector.

'In 2011 employment in Scotland's offshore wind sector was forecast to be 28,000 direct jobs and 20,000 indirect jobs by 2020.

'We are nowhere near that and in the last few months redundancy notices have been handed out at supply chain firms like BiFab and CS Wind.

'In the same period, industry majors like SSE have been subsidised to the tune of billions of pounds of

A section from an onshore tower, beside the first ever large-scale offshore tower being produced at CS Wind UK. Photograph by Raymond Hosie.

public money through the UK Government's Contracts for Difference (CfD) scheme, with no link at all to domestic job creation commitments.

'It's a scandalous story of missed opportunities and ultimately one of industrial and political failure.

'Without a detailed industrial plan involving the industry and a substantial programme of investment for our supply chain, our green jobs revolution will continue to be delivered in Spain, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Indonesia and China – anywhere but Scotland.'

Speaking after the meeting, Derek Mackay MSP, economy secretary, admitted: 'Scotland is the ideal location for offshore wind, but recent projects have not delivered the significant economic opportunities we want to see for Scottish businesses.'

'The Scottish Government has been calling for the offshore sector to do more

by awarding contracts to our indigenous supply chain, but recent disappointments suggest that more has to be done.'

He pledged: 'I will use every lever at our disposal to ensure that our renewables supply chain benefits from the expansion of offshore wind in our waters, leading to the creation and retention of Scottish jobs.'

'The measures agreed with Crown Estate Scotland will help to release more of those economic benefits for the Scottish economy and ensure that the Scottish-based supply chain is considered when tendering for work or making long-term conditions.'

The minister was joined by Colin Palmer, director of marine for Crown Estate Scotland, who added: 'Scotland has unique potential when it comes to offshore wind and we're committed to doing all we can to unlock that opportunity. ScotWind Leasing will present Scotland as an attractive destination for the significant investment needed to deliver the scale of offshore wind projects we want to see.'

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## 'Nothing further'

Employment was on the agenda at Campbeltown Community Council's meeting last week.

Chairman Alan Baker said: 'We discussed the unemployment in the area due to various redun-

dancies that were issued, namely at Campbeltown Creamery and CS Wind.

'It was felt that after the initial meeting at the MACC premises that nothing further has been forthcoming.

'There is also to be a meeting in March with

Fergus Ewing MSP to discuss further action.'

The Courier asked both Mr Ewing's office and the press office at the Scottish Government but no one could confirm the meeting was taking place, or when, by the time the paper went to press.

## Fresh hope for CS Wind?

There is fresh hope for the future of CS Wind after it was revealed that the Machrihanish-based factory is in talks with regards to supplying a Kintyre wind farm project.

Developer RES is to construct the 35MW Blary Hill wind farm near Glenbarr, which, it was announced on Tuesday, has been acquired by UK renewable energy investment company The Renewables Infrastructure

Group (TRIG). It is understood the wind farm will consist of 14 Nordex N90 turbines – Nordex is a European company that designs, sells and manufactures wind turbines.

Callum Whiteford, the community relations manager for the Blary Hill project, revealed the company was in talks with CS Wind to see if it could supply the turbines.

If this comes about, it may spare some of the 73 jobs

which were said to be under threat at CS Wind, although some staff have already been made redundant.

Construction of the Blary Hill wind farm is expected to start this quarter, with operations set to begin early in 2022.

TRIG estimates that it will create more than £3.9 million of inward investment for the local economy during construction and the first year of operation.

# Clachaig Glen wind farm given green light

A Kintyre wind farm which was refused permission by Argyll and Bute Council in September 2017 has been approved by Scottish Ministers after a public inquiry.

Consent for the Clachaig Glen wind farm is for up to 14 wind turbine generators at a maximum tip height of 126.5m, capable of producing around 47.6MW of electricity.

Project manager John Barnes, of RWE Renewables, the company behind the project, said: 'We have worked for several years to design this project, during which time we have taken on board considerations from many stakeholders as well as feedback received from the local community.'

'We look forward to working closely with the council and local residents going forward.'

Clachaig Glen is within



the Scottish National Forest Estate and is close to the Deucheran Hill wind farm site.

Asked if the project was likely to create new jobs or support local firms, an RWE spokesperson told the Courier this week: 'Whilst receiving the planning permission is a crucial step towards construction of the wind farm, we are still some way off appointing critical contracts.

We will be working with the council on establishing links with local suppliers for when we can start building this project – we are hopeful that this could begin late 2021 with completion by July 2024.

'We will always look to hold a 'meet the buyer' event in the local area to encourage local suppliers to engage with us prior to the award of contracts. Further information on this will be shared closer

**An artist's impression of how the Clachaig Glen site may look.**

to the time, likely late 2020/early 2021.'

The council's planning, protective services and licensing committee was asked to note the Scottish Government's decision at its meeting on Wednesday but, as the report is for noting, no debate was to take place.

Fergus Murray, the council's head of development and economic growth, gave details of the Scottish Government reporters' conclusions.

The reporters said: 'Clachaig Glen wind farm would contribute to Scottish Government targets for increasing generation of electricity from renewables and reducing carbon dioxide emissions.'

'The reporters conclude that

the proposal should be considered acceptable in terms of its landscape and visual impact, including cumulative impacts.

'Subject to the use of their recommended planning conditions, they do not find any other unacceptable environmental impacts.'

'There are no other material considerations which the reporters consider would justify the refusal of planning permission.'

The ministers' decision was then reported as: 'Scottish Ministers... accept the reporters' conclusions and recommendations and adopt them for the purpose of their own decision.'

However, the council's decision to block a consultation on a second proposed wind farm, at Killean, near Tayinloan, was upheld by the ministers.

## 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.

For more information visit [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/early-years) or telephone 01369 708503.

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

## Worrying time for grammar school

It must be worrying for staff, parents and pupils at Campbeltown Grammar School to learn that inspectors believe insufficient progress has been made since the previous inspection.

We're sure the school's senior management and education officials are doing what they can to enhance the areas which require improvement, as it is important that children in Campbeltown are given the same level of education as in other towns – especially as there is no alternative school they can attend.

Is the negativity in the report a symptom of the recent knock-backs that Campbeltown has suffered?

The redundancies at CS Wind and Campbeltown Creamery may mean children have worried parents at home, leaving them with a feeling of disillusionment for their own futures.

Staff shortages have been an issue at the school but it must be hard to fill posts at the moment – after all, why would teachers move here if there is little chance of their spouses also finding employment in the area?

Things are looking up for the town, though. Hopefully, the school will also continue to improve.

## Scotland's economy

Oil was discovered in the North Sea at the end of the 1960s and came into production in the 1970s. Norway, with a population similar in size to that of Scotland, took a decision to establish a Sovereign Wealth Fund that today has assets of more than one trillion US dollars.

This investment owns 1.4 per cent of the global stocks and shares and is the largest Sovereign Wealth Fund in the world. The 5.3 million citizens have an investment to be proud of.

The story for Scotland is not the same. We have no Sovereign Wealth Fund because, firstly, our 5.4 million citizens are not living in an independent country with control over our own resources, and secondly, because of the financial decision-making and not-so-prudent financial planning that was done by a UK government at Westminster, which had a policy of spending the benefits of oil and setting nothing aside for the future.

If Mr McGeachy (last week's Courier) is so concerned about the state of Scotland's economy he should be asking his Unionist colleagues what happened to the 50 years of oil revenues that were squandered – I'm sorry, invested – in the overheated economy of London and the south-east of England. He may also wish to ask them why the UK's national debt is in excess of £1.8 trillion when the government's economists, with all of the fiscal levers at their disposal, have obviously mismanaged the country's finances for decades.

**Rolland Edmonds,  
Fort William.**

## Urgent appeal on behalf of Kenyan children

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 heartbreaking 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.**

## Setting Scotland's budget

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

Mackay spent most of last week telling any

journalist who would listen that devolution was being discredited, despite the Treasury being as helpful as possible.

The Chancellor has ensured that the Scottish Government have 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 the Islands.**

## Searching for Heart Heroes

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.

That's why we are calling on your readers to make a valuable nomination for the Heart

## Press policy

At The Campbeltown Courier, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk); telephoning the chief reporter on 01586 554646 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk). IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by its decision.



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Hero Awards 2020. There are three categories open for public nominations: My Healthcare Hero, Inspiration and the Young Heart Hero Award (under 18). 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.

## Pets should be allowed in rented properties

Dogs Trust believes that the benefits of pet ownership shouldn't be exclusive to homeowners, but open to private and social renters as well.

With the number of people privately renting increasing year on year, the news that the UK government is looking to make it easier for private tenants to have pets in their homes has never been more important.

The single biggest reason we see dogs handed in to our rehoming centres is due to a change in the owner's circumstances, such as being unable to live in a rented property with a pet. This can also stop people coming forward to adopt rescue animals.

This needs to change and we sincerely hope the proposed updates to model tenancy contracts will help ensure that fewer owners are forced to give up their beloved pets and that more people are able to consider adoption.

**Clare Kivlehan,**  
Head of outreach projects at Dogs Trust.

## PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Last Sunday's stunning sunset bathed much of Scotland in hues of pink and orange and was a gift for anyone with a camera to hand.

One of those people was Dr Adam Powell, of Southend, who snapped this photograph at Machrihanish using a Samsung A40.

Dr Powell, a technician at the University of Stirling,

said: 'A lovely reward following a long weekend at work.' Watch this space for more photographs of the spectacular sunset.

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

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# FROM OUR FILES

## TEN YEARS AGO

Friday January 22, 2010

### Three cheers for Campbeltown Sea Cadets

Three cheers for the sea cadets of TS Campbeltown, who celebrated on Monday night after being awarded an Efficiency Pennant for 2009.

It is the first time in more than 10 years that the Campbeltown cadets have earned the pennant.

It is given only on the recommendation of the Area Officer after the cadets' annual inspection.

'It is reflective of the amount of training and opportunities over the past year,' said PO Donnie Cameron, training officer for TS Campbeltown.



Members of Campbeltown Sea Cadets celebrate being awarded an Efficiency Pennant.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday January 27, 1995

### Freewheelers

Campbeltown looks set for a bus war following a promise from new operators Ess Bee to run free buses in the town.

Coatbridge-based Ess Bee have already won the contract from Campbeltown-based West Coast Motors to operate routes in Kintyre subsidised by the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive.

They take over the routes on Sunday.

In response to losing the SPTE contracts, West Coast Motors announced that it

would be running more frequent services in Campbeltown using smaller buses.

But this week Ess Bee's managing director, Mr Brian Smith, revealed to the Courier that he was planning to run free buses in the town at peak times.

'We intend to offer a first class service and have put a very good timetable together. Before people criticise us they should see what we are offering and then they can judge us on our performance.'

Mr Smith said the firm now had a base in

Campbeltown and so far about 75 per cent of the 13 drivers needed for the SPTE contract had been recruited locally.

West Coast Motors declined to comment on Ess Bee's promise to run free buses in Campbeltown. Meanwhile, the SPTE has defended its decision to bring Ess Bee in.

SPTE says Ess Bee offered more services than West Coast Motors at almost the same cost.

A spokeswoman for the SPTE said a similar exercise in Cowal had resulted in a 20 per cent increase in passengers. She added: 'The SPTE is confident of an increase in passenger usage in Kintyre.'

Services being introduced include Wednesday morning journeys from Limecraigs to Campbeltown town centre and peak-time services in the Fort Argyll area.

An airport bus is also being introduced to link in with afternoon and morning flights. Also included is a new summer service to Tarbert via Carradale and Skipness.

A new Saturday morning service, returning at lunchtime, will link Gigha with Campbeltown.

There are also plans for a Dial-a-Bus service for the disabled on Thursdays.

West Coast Motors is to run a day-time service, without subsidy, between Campbeltown and Machrihanish. Ess Bee will be running buses on the route at 6.42am, 7.30am and after 6.30pm until 10.20pm.

Meanwhile local taxi drivers are concerned over West Coast Motors' plans to run bus services round the supermarkets.

One owner said: 'We have provided transport for customers since the supermarkets opened and feel a bit aggrieved that West Coast believes there is a demand for transport now.'

'Why did they not think of that before they lost the contract? Supermarkets are a big part of our daily business and we provide a service for people who have no car and who do not drive.'

'We understand that people's livelihoods could be at stake but we have to make a living too.'

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday January 22, 1970

### Dhorlin mystery walker...the truth is out

To crush the fierce rumours circulating in Campbeltown about the mysterious lone figure spotted walking across the Dhorlin

and the two police constables rowing out into the loch after him, the Courier has decided to publish the entire truth. The decision to make this story public was not taken lightly.

On Tuesday afternoon Campbeltown police were informed that a man was in difficulties on the Dhorlin. Two constables hurried to the lochside. But, by the time they had rowed out into the loch, the man had already beaten the rising tide and reached the island. He then disappeared.

Then began the Courier probe to uncover his identity.

We are now able to reveal exclusively to our readers that the mystery man was a lighthouse keeper.

As luck would have it, when we phoned Davaar Lighthouse the voice on the other end belonged to none other but the 'wanted' lighthouse keeper.

He refused to give his name, and insisted that he had not been in any sort of difficulties that afternoon. To prove it, he informed us that he had crossed the Dhorlin without even getting his feet wet. Enough said.

## ONE-HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday January 24, 1920

### Golden wedding

A merry party assembled at Albyn Road on Friday evening last to celebrate the golden wedding of their esteemed friends, Mr and Mrs Alex. McIntyre.

Both still enjoy excellent health, and no brighter spirits could be imagined on such an occasion than the genial couple of 1870, who contributed with zest and heartiness to the entertainment of their guests, among whom was the bridesmaid, Mrs Kelly, Kilkivan, sister of the bride.

Mr and Mrs McIntyre were each recipients of a wallet containing Treasury notes to a substantial amount from the members of their family, and in addition many valuable gifts from friends in honour of the occasion.

Mr McIntyre has been in his present employment in Albyn Distillery for over fifty-two years, and is still doing a full day's work.

## The teaching of Gaelic

Sheriff J. Macmaster Campbell, Campbeltown, presided over a company of about 80 ladies and gentlemen assembled in Burlington House, Glasgow, last Friday night on the occasion of a complimentary dinner and presentation to Mr Malcolm Macleod, the former president of An Comunn Gaidhealach, in recognition of the great service he had rendered to the Gaelic cause, and his efforts in securing the official recognition of the teaching of Gaelic.

An illuminated address, artistically framed, was presented to Mr Macleod by Mr Angus Robertson, who dwelt on the services Mr Macleod had rendered to the Gaelic cause.

They honoured him as a representative Highlander and as a man of their people, who, by his judicious handling of an intricate and delicate subject, along with others, had been the means of securing for Gaelic the standing that it had at the present moment.

They were glad and proud to see that their language had come into its own. (Applause).

It was owing to Mr Macleod's guidance of An Comunn Gaidhealach that they stood where they were to-day.

Mr Macleod, whose health was drunk with Highland honours, returned thanks for the honour which had been done him. Speaking of the introduction of Gaelic into the school curriculum, he said that they had striven for many years to obtain statutory recognition.



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## DOWN MEMORY LANE



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A Courier request for the owners of some previous Down Memory Lane submissions to come forward has unearthed some information about the forgotten photographs.



Elizabeth Johnston, née McLean, and Sandra Harvey outside the Locarno Café.

Roy Johnston identified the two young ladies standing outside the Locarno Café as his wife, Elizabeth - who would have been about 16 at the time and known by her maiden name, Elizabeth McLean - and her friend Sandra Harvey. The girls worked as waitresses at the café at the weekends.

Roy and Elizabeth, who live at 11 Ramsay Place, Campbeltown, celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on January 14.

Many people knew one or two faces in the 1972 school photograph and knew that it was taken at Dalintober Primary School, but teacher Alison Brown revealed that it was her P3 class.

Alison, who was Miss Shanks at the time, still works as a supply teacher at Dalintober from time to time, almost 50 years later.

She was able to share

with the Courier another photograph, taken on the same day, which shows the school's staff.

One of the most surprising pieces of information about the unclaimed photographs came from 87-year-old Rita Lawson, who spotted her grandmother in the photo of the ladies beside barrels of salted herring on the pier.

Rita revealed that the image was actually printed on a postcard, one of which she owns, published by the Campbeltown Courier and Argyllshire Advertiser.

Rita's grandmother, Agnes McSporrán, is standing second from the left in the photograph, believed to have been taken circa 1910.

It is interesting to note that the Victoria Hall, which would be visible in the background if the photograph was taken today, had not been built yet.



Dalintober Primary School's staff in 1972, courtesy of Alison Brown.



Rita Lawson's grandmother, Agnes McSporrán, is second from the left.



This 1972 school group has been identified as Alison Brown's P3 class at Dalintober Primary School.

Other photos of the large quantities of herring which were landed, gutted, filleted and cured in barrels on the Old Quay can be seen in Campbeltown Heritage Centre.

The heritage centre's web-

site reads: 'The busy scenes of gutting and packing herring into barrels, using the labour of women from the Scottish East Coast and Ireland, have been captured in these photographs.'

'But when ring-netting

arrived, combined with railway and steamship communication, the market in fresh herring became increasingly important, and the gutting, smoking and salting was no longer carried out.'

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# Energy distributor warns against tampering with power supplies

It was reported last week that a man had been charged with the theft of electricity after allegedly tampering with the meter in his Campbeltown flat. This week Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) launched its Not Worth The Risk campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of tampering with and altering electricity supplies.

Using the hashtag #NOTWORTHTHERISK, the network operator is using social media to help spread the message on the potentially fatal consequences that can result in customers attempting to install, change or misuse their power supply.

In the past 12 months, SSEN has recorded more than 548 incidents where its network has been deliberately damaged by those seeking to use supplies illegally.

These 'illegal connections and illegal service alterations' include domestic and commercial customers moving the location of their meters, creating additional connections to outbuildings or gardens, and even bypassing network equipment to run illegal cannabis plants in domestic properties.

Shane Scarsbrook, head of SSEN's Network Protection team, said: 'Our team is responsible for ensuring the safety, security and integrity of the company's equipment across its network and we want to use this campaign to protect both our network and our customers. Any alteration or illegal connection made to our network, no matter how small, has the potential to result in serious injury, or even worse.'

**'By helping us to highlight the dangers and spread the message, they could be helping to save a life.'**

'Interfering with the electricity network can have far-reaching consequences; even if you are lucky enough to avoid immediate and possibly fatal injury, you have now created a situation that can easily result in fire spreading through a property, endangering the lives of occupants and those in neighbouring properties.'

SSEN is asking anyone who

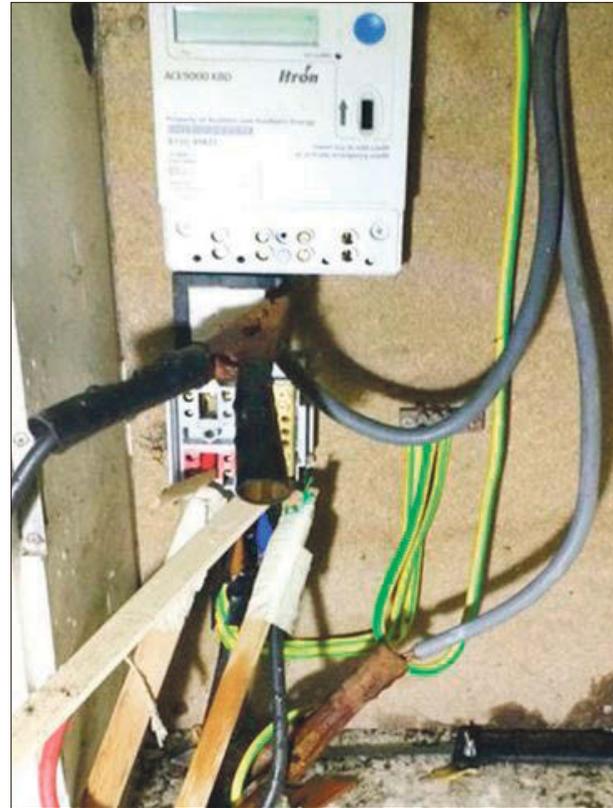
comes across what looks like illegal interference to its electricity network, or sees something that doesn't look right, to stay away from the network and immediately call the Network Protection team on 0800 0481618 – this is free to call – and SSEN will arrange for an engineer to attend as soon as possible to check the situation and, if necessary, make it safe again.

All reports are dealt with in the strictest confidence and the reporter's name will not be used anywhere else.

The network operator is also encouraging its customers to use the #NOTWORTHTHERISK hashtag and help to spread the word through their social media channels.

For the next week, SSEN will feature the #NOTWORTHTHERISK hashtag along with case studies, a video and images of deliberate alterations to their network on its Twitter and Facebook feeds, and wants to highlight the dangers by asking its followers to retweet and repost the warnings.

Shane continued: 'Any customer who attempts to alter the electricity network – no matter how innocent their



SSEN is urging people not to carry out illegal 'DIY' electrical work.

ing to save a life.'

SSEN is also keen to highlight the illegality of unauthorised and DIY work on its network, as it constitutes 'tampering and damage to plant' as laid out in the Electricity Act (1989).

Service alterations and modifications to domestic and commercial service cables have the potential to impact not only those carrying out the work, but also the occupants of the building as well as neighbouring properties.

Where work at the point of connection to the network has been carried out by unauthorised contractors, the quality of materials and workmanship will not meet legal regulations. Substandard work could also impact on other areas of the network, create dangerous connections for customers or cause frequent power cuts.

intention – is taking their life in their hands. The negative outcome of their actions can be life-changing, not just for them, but for their family and friends.

'It's just not worth the risk and we're encouraging our

customers to look out for, and to report, any suspicious signs of damage or alteration that they might spot on our network.

'By helping us to highlight the dangers and spread the message, they could be help-



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# Researching Kintyre's 'big cat' sightings

## Have you seen the beast of Argyll?

A London film-making student visited Kintyre earlier this month while researching a documentary project about the mysterious big cat sightings that have been reported in the area over recent decades.

Cameron Nicoll, who is studying at Goldsmiths, University of London, found that almost everyone he met had a story to tell.

Mr Nicoll has written the following article in a bid to find out even more.

Are there big cats lurking in the woods? This is a question that has been answered for many residents in the region – and the answer is a resounding 'yes'.

Although this mysterious creature hasn't been 'officially' documented, there have been reports from across the UK, and this part of the country has contributed a significant number of them. If you've seen it, you know what you saw.

There have been increasing

reports in recent years, and there are a number of theories surrounding the existence of the creature variously described as a puma, leopard, panther, jaguar... the list goes on.

A more commonly heard explanation is that people who owned exotic pets in the 1960s and early '70s were forced to release them when the Dangerous Wild Animals Act came to pass in 1976, leaving these animals to fend for themselves.

Others contend that several cats were released from a small private zoo near Campbeltown around 100 years ago, when the owners could no longer keep the place open. Others still believe that it's an undocumented species, native to the UK, that has been around since the last Ice Age.

### Soul-reaping

For the uninitiated it may seem far-fetched, like the Loch Ness Monster or the Scottish Sasquatch. Of course, this part of the world is hardly short on folklore, from the 16th century Beast of Garloll, a black hound which rose out of a dark Argyll loch to attack three hunters, to the Cait Sidhe (Cat Sith), a soul-reaping fairy in the form of a cat.

Still, one can hardly deny the volume and certainty of



Have you seen a beast lurking in the undergrowth in Kintyre?

sightings over recent years.

Is this big cat a modern-day folk tale? Or can it be tracked and traced through the dense undergrowth?

These are some of the questions that I want to address in a new documentary project

on the story of the big cat, and I want to know what you've seen or heard.

### Fascination

I'm a documentary filmmaker with a fascination for the area and I can't wait to get this project going.

If you or someone you know has seen the big cat or any other unusual creatures out in the wild, please do get in touch.

Call me any time on 07835 721 027 or email at cam.nicoll@gmail.com.

## £3.4 million sewer upgrade for Tarbert



The drop-in session was well attended. 06\_a03TarbSewage01

A well-attended drop-in session gave Tarbert residents the chance to hear about the proposed improved sewerage system for the village.

A £3.4 million investment in the Tarbert sewer network has been planned by Scottish Water to reduce the risk of sewerage flooding.

The work, which will be carried out by Scottish Water alliance partner amey Black and Veatch, will start in March 2020 and will last approximately 13 months. The project will involve installing 350 metres of a larger diameter sewer pipe under Barmore Road and Harbour Street – the largest diameter being 1.2 metres.

Attending the event on January 14 at Templar Arts

and Leisure Centre, Tarbert resident Ian MacIntyre commented on the proposals: 'I have my concerns. These are fairly big diameter pipes they are talking about installing on Harbour Street and the foundations of the properties along there are built on infilled land.'

'I would worry major disruption could cause damage to these.'

'I have my concerns but they assure me they have thought of everything and are taking all the necessary precautions.'

To cause minimum disruption, work will be suspended during July to avoid clashing with the various summer festivals and only short-term road closures are planned.

A one-lane closure will be put in place on School Road while work is carried out to divert a water-main and new sewer pipes and manholes are installed. Barmore Road will be closed for two weekends for critical sewer tie-in work. A diversion along the B8024 will allow vehicles to pass round Tarbert.

While work is carried out along Harbour Street there will be a one-lane closure, controlled by traffic lights. The pipe laying will be phased to 50-metre sections to minimise disruption and allow shops and businesses to remain open.

Information about the project is available on a dedicated customer webpage at [www.scottishwater.co.uk/tarbert](http://www.scottishwater.co.uk/tarbert)



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# Two new heads of service recently appointed by HSCP

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) has recently appointed two new heads of service – Caroline Cherry as head of service for older adults and community hospitals, and Julie Lusk as head of mental health, learning disability, addictions and lifelong conditions services.

Ms Cherry trained first as a community worker working in a third sector alcohol rehabilitation service in England before returning to Easterhouse in Glasgow to develop community alcohol services before working to improve the support, services and recovery for women and children affected by problematic substance misuse and dependence.

Ms Cherry joined the NHS in 2003 working in the alcohol policy field before moving to establish integrated

community alcohol and drug support/recovery services in East Dunbartonshire.

She went on to complete her social work degree and spent three years as a locality manager in Stirling, managing and developing services for older adults including community-based responses for people with dementia.

Ms Cherry said: 'I feel really welcomed into Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership.

'I am very keen to listen to feedback and work with our staff, service users and communities to see how we can further develop our high-quality health and social care services.

'I recognise the strong community assets that we have locally and the importance of working with a wide range of partners to ensure our services are delivered in the



Caroline Cherry.

most effective way.'

Ms Cherry is a keen runner and has completed the Mull of Kintyre Run on several occasions.

Joanna Macdonald, chief officer for Argyll and Bute HSCP, said: 'I am really pleased that we have appointed Caroline. She brings with her a wide range of exceptional leadership experience across health and social care.

'Her passion and expertise will be a valuable addition to



Julie Lusk.

Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership and the communities which we serve.'

Ms Lusk, who was appointed head of mental health, learning disability, addictions and lifelong conditions services, 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.

Ms Lusk said: 'I am really pleased to be appointed as head of service for mental health, learning disability, addictions and lifelong conditions and look forward to meeting HSCP colleagues, partners, organisations, community groups and 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.'

Ms Lusk's main interests are mental health, addictions and learning disability services in health and social care integrated settings.

She is currently vice chair 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.

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

## HSCP backs cervical cancer awareness week

Cervical Cancer Awareness Week, which encourages women to be aware of the disease and to ensure they do not skip their regular cervical cancer screening appointments, is being supported by Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP).

One in four women do not take up the opportunity to participate in cervical screening when invited to do so, with uptake being particularly low among women aged 25 to 29.

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 to 49 are routinely invited every three years, women aged 50 to 64 are routinely invited

# Argyll & Bute HSCP

every five years, and some transgender men may also be eligible for screening.

If anyone missed their last screening invite, they don't have to wait until they next receive an invitation letter – they can make an appointment to be screened at their GP practice.

Heather McAdam, screening engagement practitioner for Argyll and Bute, said: 'Cervical screening is designed to spot cell changes before cervical cancer has a chance to develop so it is important for all women to attend their cervical screening test, when invited, to reduce their risk of cervical cancer.'

There are usually no symptoms with changes in cer-

vical cells and sometimes there are no symptoms with early-stage cervical cancer.

But if anyone has unusual discharge, pain during sexual intercourse or bleeding after sex, between periods or after the menopause they should make an appointment with their GP as soon as possible.

These symptoms can be caused by conditions that are not related to cancer.

However, if they are experienced, make an appointment as soon as possible, even if a normal cervical screening test result has been recently received.

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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 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

Kilmory Castle is committed to providing customers with healthy choices that taste great, and it has worked tirelessly to achieve this award.'

'The canteen is continuing to go from strength to strength and the food the team serves is to the highest standard. It supplies catering to a number of local business and organisations on a daily basis too, as well as catering at private functions – it is gaining a growing customer base outwith Kilmory.'

'The criteria for

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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# '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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 **business gateway**  
slighe gnothachais

# 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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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT'S ON IN CAMPBELTOWN AND KINTYRE

## Kintyre date for Peat and Diesel

Tickets went on sale last week for The Big Gig In the Hall at Tarbert Music Festival in September.

Following last year's sold-out Tide Lines show, West Kintyre Promotions CIC reached out to Scots Trad Live Act of the Year Peat and Diesel to see if the Stornoway-based band would bring their live show to Tarbert.

Fresh from their stunning Christmas chart success with Fairytale of Stornoway, a sold-out tour and with a new album on the way, the guys were delighted to headline the big night.

Support will be from Glasgow's The Ronains, who were themselves nominated for Scottish Album of the Year in 2019.

They also played a sold-out tour of America, and were

all over papers with their Funtime Frankie track and video featuring Old Firm legends Frank McAvennie and Andy Goram.

There will also be a set from Tarbert band Famous Last Words, whose members attend Tarbert Academy, as well as a few surprises.



Peat and Diesel are set to headline the Tarbert Music Festival gig.

## Don't miss The Personal History of David Copperfield

The latest movie to hit the silver screen at Campbeltown Picture House is The Personal History of David Copperfield.

The comedy-drama film, written and directed by Armando Iannucci and based on the Victorian era novel David Copperfield by Charles Dickens, stars Dev Patel as the title character.

The feature has an extensive and impressive cast, including Peter Capaldi, Morfydd Clark, Daisy May Cooper, Rosalind Eleazar, Hugh Laurie, Tilda Swinton, Ben Whishaw and Paul Whitehouse.

The film is being described by critics as 'charming' and 'optimistic' and it makes its theatrical UK release today (Friday January 24), the same day it launches in Campbeltown.

From birth to infancy, from adolescence to adulthood, the good-hearted David Copperfield is surrounded by kindness, wickedness, poverty and wealth, as he meets an array of remarkable characters in Victorian England. As David sets out to be a writer, in his quest for family, friendship,



The Personal History of David Copperfield is showing from today.

romance and status, the story of his life is the most seductive tale of all.

Showing daily at 2.30pm and 7.45pm, from today to Thursday January 30, don't miss it.



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Admission free - tickets from Fresh Connection and McIlcheres  
Run by Campbeltown Community Council

Mid Argyll Arts Association  
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#### FYRISH STRING QUARTET

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

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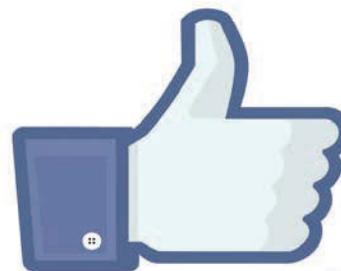
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# Calling all songwriters

The organisers of Kintyre Songwriters Festival (KSF) are appealing for any of the area's songwriters and bands to take part in this year's festival.

The 13th annual KSF will be held in Campbeltown on the early May holiday weekend, from May 8 to 10.

The festival was set up to support local talent, give local audiences a chance to hear the music of Kintyre's songwriters and see the best performers from across

Scotland and beyond. A spokesperson added: 'The aim is to accommodate as many local performers as possible, so if you write and/or perform your own songs, or know anyone who does, we want to hear from you.'

Spaces for performers at the festival are limited and to make sure local talent can be given priority, the organisers urge musicians, singer/songwriters, bands and groups of any genre who are interested in getting involved to email



Pronto Mama on stage at the 2017 Kintyre Songwriters Festival.



Roddy Woomble of Idlewild at the 2018 festival.



Djana Gabrielle was a hit at last year's festival.

info@kintyresongwritersfestival.co.uk to register their interest before the closing date of Friday February 7.

Non-performing local songwriters, who are interested in having their material performed at the festival, should also get in touch.

This year the bank holiday is on Friday May 8 due to the 75th anniversary of VE day, so the main showcase events will be held on the Friday and Saturday.

There will be open stage

events throughout the weekend.

The event has attracted performers from as far afield as Barcelona and Berlin, with previous guests including top Scottish acts like Roddy Woomble, Mull Historical Society, Frightened Rabbit, Pronto Mama, Rachel Sermanni and Admiral Fallow.

For more information visit the festival's website at <http://www.kintyresongwritersfestival.co.uk>

## Kind-hearted Ollie's bid to raise funds

A charitable Kintyre boy has set his mind to raising funds to help his school buy some computer accessories.

Ollie Graham, eight, has organised a coffee afternoon for Sunday and has decided to split the money he raises between Drumlemble Primary School and the Kintyre branch of Macmillan Cancer Support, for which his granny Valerie volunteers. The money is to be spent within Campbeltown.

The fundraiser will feature a baking stall and children's lucky dip, as well as a raffle to which lots of friends and Campbeltown businesses have kindly donated.

Ollie will be supported by some of his school friends and members of the Macmillan Cancer Support



Ollie decided to organise a fundraiser.

committee, who look forward to welcoming people to Machrihanish Village Hall on Sunday from 2pm.

## CONTACTUS

email us at [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk)  
telephone 01586 554646

### 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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## Get your free ticket to senior citizens' concert

An assortment of acts has been booked for Campbeltown Community Council's annual senior citizens' variety concert.

The mixed programme of entertainment in the Victoria Hall on Saturday February 1, runs from 2pm to 4pm and includes tea, coffee, cakes and a raffle.

Tickets, which are free, can be obtained from Fresh Connection and McIlchere's, both on Main Street.

**CONTACTUS**  
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# Salvation Army shares carol service cash

The Campbeltown branch of the Salvation Army has donated half the money raised at its town carol service to the Christmas Lights Committee.

Raymond Harvey, chairman of the lights committee, recently met with the Salvation Army's Major Ruth Russell to receive a cheque for £153.03.



Major Ruth Russell was on duty at last Saturday's fundraiser. KC\_c04sacoffee02

The other half of the money, which was raised in early December last year, is being used for the continuing work of the Salvation Army in Campbeltown.

Major Ruth would like to thank all those who attended the service for their generosity on behalf of everyone involved in the work of the Campbeltown Citadel.

The branch holds regular fundraisers, like the coffee morning which took place

last Saturday, which also helps to fund its work.

The event, at which home-baking and freshly cooked pancakes were on offer, raised £141.50.



Leah Russell and Margaret Raeside were busy in the kitchen at the coffee morning. KC\_c04sacoffee01



Raymond Harvey, left, is presented with a cheque by Major Ruth Russell.



A table of visitors enjoying a blether and a catch-up at the coffee morning. KC\_c04sacoffee03



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# BIG ENERGY SAVING WEEK...



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### Over 17,000 households helped by Scottish Government's flagship energy efficiency scheme

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.



LOOKING FOR FREE, IMPARTIAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY, AND HAVE A WARMER HOME?

Call Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282 to speak to a friendly advisor.

HOME ENERGY SCOTLAND

Greener Scotland  
Scottish Government

## 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/>



## Warm up this winter with **MACLEOD**

Air Source heating

PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL



### Key Benefits...

- ✓ EASY TO OPERATE
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- ✓ LOW RUNNING COSTS
- ✓ ENERGY EFFICIENT
- ✓ AVERAGE LIFESPAN 18-20 YEARS
- ✓ LOWER CO2 EMISSIONS
- ✓ RELIABLE



Tel: 01546 602989 [www.macleodconstruction.co.uk](http://www.macleodconstruction.co.uk)



## Intelligent heating installed by Team MacLeod

The Mitsubishi Electric range of Ecodan air source heating pumps is one of the most advanced heating systems available for homeowners and businesses. With A++ ErP Energy Rating Label across the range, this is the ideal clean and green intelligent heating solution.

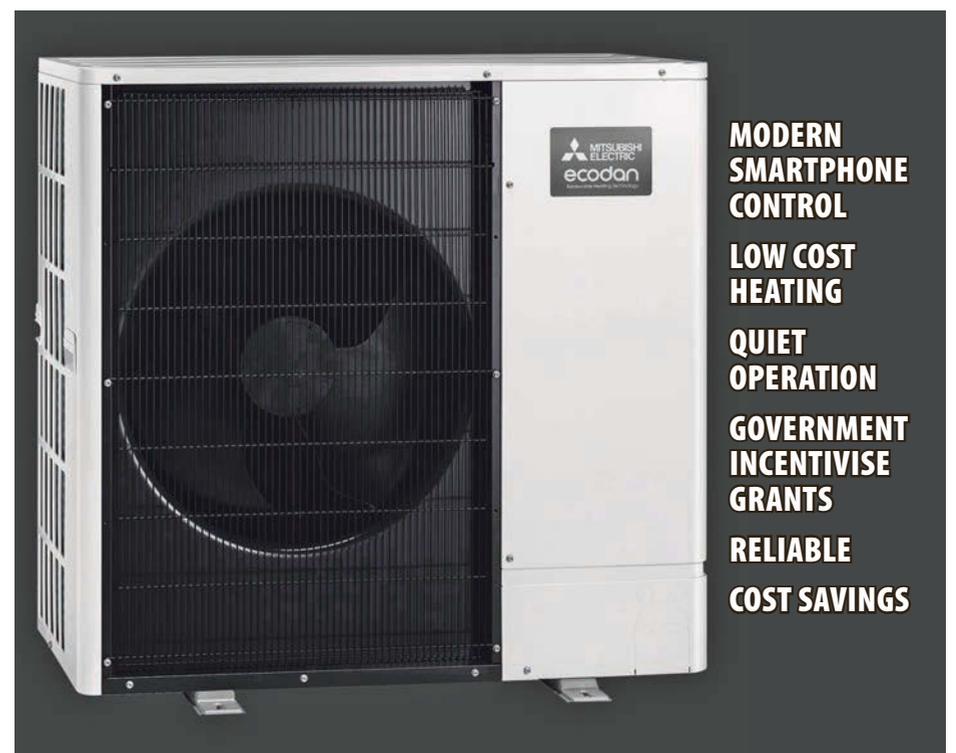
The entire line up is also certified by the Microgeneration Certificate Scheme (MCS)

which certifies that it's an intelligent technology that produces heat from a renewable source.

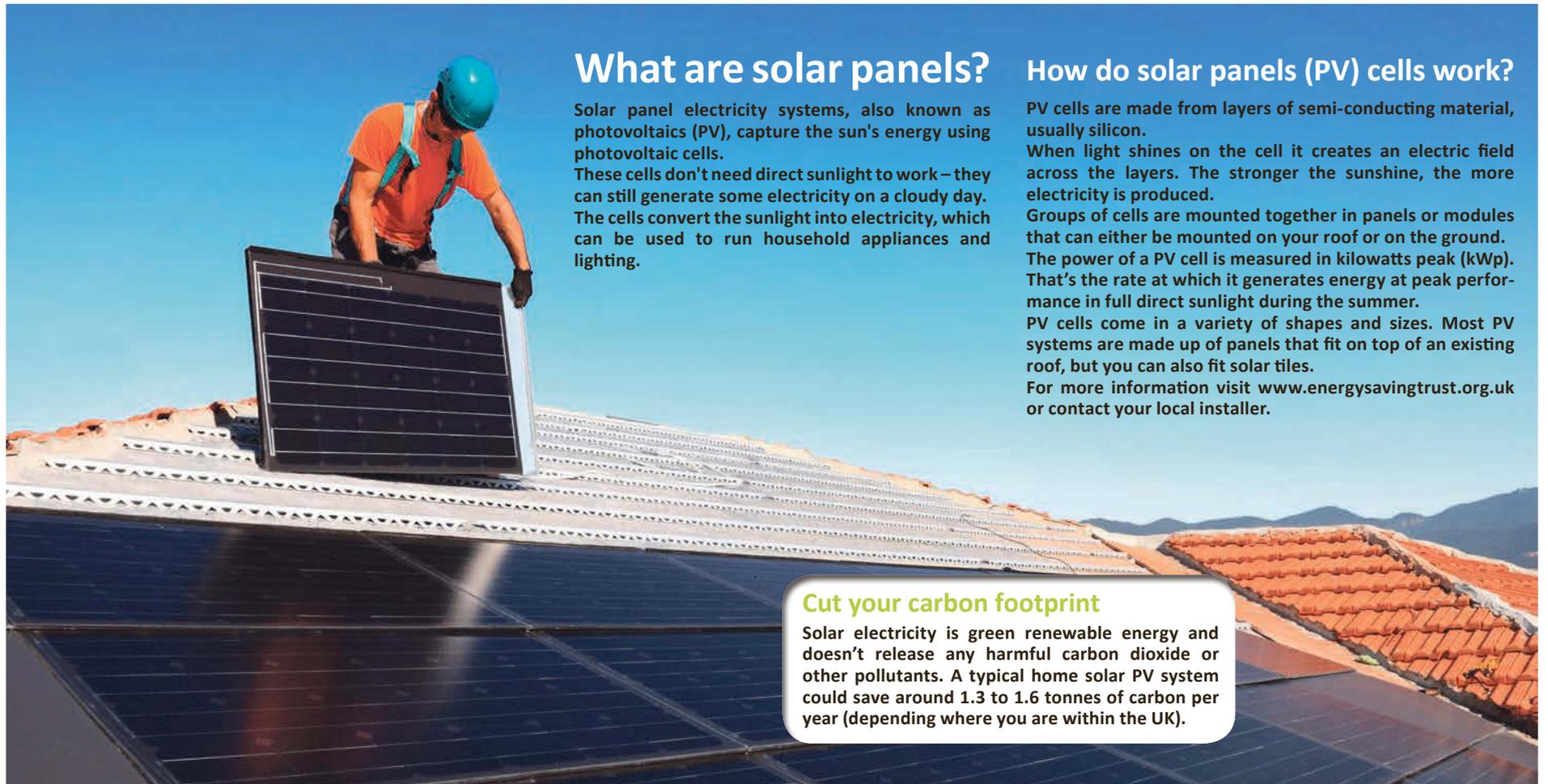
### Highly versatile and compatible

Whether installed in small flats or large detached properties, Ecodan can reduce running costs, lower CO2 emissions and offer reliable, sustainable heating and hot water all year around for the majority of homes and small commercial properties. Ecodan can be installed to replace an existing heating system or work alongside it in a hybrid set up.

To start your path to sustainable heating, call MacLeod Plumbing & Electrical division today on 01546 602989



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- RELIABLE
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## What are solar panels?

Solar panel electricity systems, also known as photovoltaics (PV), capture the sun's energy using photovoltaic cells. These cells don't need direct sunlight to work – they can still generate some electricity on a cloudy day. The cells convert the sunlight into electricity, which can be used to run household appliances and lighting.

## How do solar panels (PV) cells work?

PV cells are made from layers of semi-conducting material, usually silicon. When light shines on the cell it creates an electric field across the layers. The stronger the sunshine, the more electricity is produced. Groups of cells are mounted together in panels or modules that can either be mounted on your roof or on the ground. The power of a PV cell is measured in kilowatts peak (kWp). That's the rate at which it generates energy at peak performance in full direct sunlight during the summer. PV cells come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Most PV systems are made up of panels that fit on top of an existing roof, but you can also fit solar tiles. For more information visit [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk) or contact your local installer.

### Cut your carbon footprint

Solar electricity is green renewable energy and doesn't release any harmful carbon dioxide or other pollutants. A typical home solar PV system could save around 1.3 to 1.6 tonnes of carbon per year (depending where you are within the UK).



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





secure your  
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# West Coast **MOTORING**

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## 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.

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**CALL TODAY ON 0778 985 5381**

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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**



## 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**

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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)**

### 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**

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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.

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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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# 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 activities.
- 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.**



## 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 works 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**

When Robert Glancy's first shift with Carr Gomm ended he knew that this was where his future lay.

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

for a multitude of reasons ranging from falls to false alarms, covering a large area including Dunoon, Toward, Ardentinn, Strachur, Colintrave 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.

In October 2018 Robert started a full-time contract as a support practitioner with the homecare service.

'I have found working on the homecare service to be both rewarding and challenging.

'You have the chance to get to know the supported people better, about them and their lives and what they like and dislike.

'It is also a challenging job at times especially if the client takes unwell, but being able to help and support them is a reward in itself and at times bringing a smile to someone's face is a great feeling.

'There can be times of sadness in this job but there can also be times of uncontrollable laughter with supported people who have a great sense of humour.

'Carr Gomm has helped me develop in the job and I have attended several training courses including moving and handling,

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*



## 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

## 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.



## 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)**

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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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• By phoning the Early Years Helpline on 01369 708503  
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**PLANNING**

These applications listed below may be inspected between 09:00-12:30 – 13:30-16:00 hrs Monday to Friday at 1A Manse Brae Lochgilhead 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	Site Address
19/02638/PP	External alterations including; installation of external hot tub, sauna and associated landscaping works	Loch Fyne Hotel, Inveraray, Argyll And Bute, PA32 8XT
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	99 And 101 Millknowe, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6NJ
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.	Keillmore, Keills, Tayvallich, Lochgilhead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8PQ
19/02513/PP	Use of land for the siting of 1 glamping pod	Garden Ground Of Cruach Cottage, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilhead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8QA
20/00010/LIB	Internal alterations to form visitors and clients lounge	Springbank Distillery, Well Close, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6ET
19/02554/LIB	Installation of replacement windows and door and internal alterations	99 And 101 Millknowe, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6NJ
19/02170/PP	Erection of telecommunications equipment compound with 25 metre lattice tower, associated works and formation of vehicular access	Land South West Of Loch Craiglin, Achnamara Road, Achnamara, Lochgilhead, Argyll And Bute
20/00009/PP	Change of use of distillery visitors workshop to visitors and clients lounge	Springbank Distillery, Well Close, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6ET
20/00021/PP	Repainting of shop front	14 Main Street, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6AG
20/00014/PP	Erection of shed	Land South East Of Ardailly Mill Croft, Isle Of Gigha, Argyll And Bute

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

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

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

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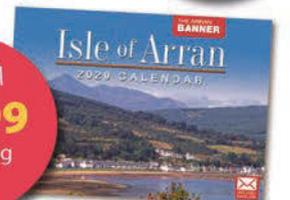


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## Around the markets

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

UA sold 178 store and breeding cattle, followed by 142 sheep of all classes. Bulls 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. Bulls 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, SaIX 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 Kilphedar; £835, 205 Stoneybridge; £820 (4), 8 Milton; £805 (2), £800, 261 Daliburgh; £800 (2), 301/324 Kilphedar. 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, 2 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. TextX – £76.50, 29 Claddach, North Uist; £69.00, £65.00, Croismorag, North Uist. BF – £61.00, 88 Bualadubh.

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

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

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

Old Season Lambs (3,597) – Luckenburn (BTeX) £120.00; Langside (Cross) £118.00; Langside (Tex) £114.00; Langside (Cha) £110.00; Henderston (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 Pitlochrie (Tex) £158.00; Burnside of Edingight (BTeX) £150.00; Meadowbank (Suf) £114.00; West Lecropt (Hamp) £110.00; Beeches (BFL) £105.00; Blinkbonny (LleyX) £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 Auchencarroch (Tex) £124.00; Mid Auchencarroch (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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Wednesday 29th January 2020

Route: 10.30am Kilmaho Farm; 11.15am Kilkeddan Farm

12.15pm Lunch The Argyll Hotel, Campbeltown

1.15pm Trodugal 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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- The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
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- The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
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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.

### 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' - 'a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' 4

\*And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. \*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. \*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, the straps of whose sandals I

\* Or John (Greek: Iohannes) and John (Greek) both mean Anointed One.  
 \* Some manuscripts do not have the Son of God.  
 \* Mal. 3:1  
 \* Is. 40:3

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The Gospel

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From Mum & Dad

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

### BOOKS

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### BUILDING / DIY

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

### CARS AND CAR PARTS UNDER £250

BMW E46 3 SERIES COUPE SILL - Genuine BMW part and unused, £80.00 ono Telephone 01631 564578

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WEST LIFE AT CROKE PARK - DVD excellent condition, played once, in original case, £5.00 Telephone 01586 554537

### 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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### DOMESTIC PETS

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ANTIQUE SIDEBOARD - polished dark wood, excellent storage capacity, £95.00 Telephone 01631 570955 or 07845 766043

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### OUTDOOR SPORTING EQUIPMENT

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### TRAILERS

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Scagg 52 in walk behind mower £800, Telephone 07765 644713

### WANTED

MILITARIA ITEMS WANTED - Local collector, Telephone 07796 314296

**BUNGALOW SWAP** - 1 Bed (Lochgilphead) swap for 1 Bed only property (sorry no flats). All areas considered  
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JURA

Environmental group recognised as charity

Campaign group Friends of the Sound of Jura has become a Scottish registered charity, much to the delight of members.

Formed in January 2017, the group felt it was rare for the opinions of coastal people to be heard or given due weight when it came to issues affecting the area's wildlife and sustainable economy.

Since the early days, which involved a campaign against a proposed fish farm at Dounie, the group has aimed to inform and help the community express its opinions and to campaign widely for marine conservation and sustainable use of the sea.

Now, as a Scottish registered charity, the group hopes to have more weight to carry out its objectives of raising awareness of issues affecting life in the sea and its sustainable use; preserving and enhancing the outstanding natural diversity of the Sound of Jura and Loch Sween, while promoting a sustainable economy; seeking closer engagement with organisations and individuals whose actions affect the marine environment and to represent the community's opinions on this and educating future generations on the need for marine conservation.



A snow-covered Jura, photographed from Kintyre. 50\_c04jura01

ISLAY

Room for one more whisky distillery?

Another distillery could be on its way to Islay under plans being considered by Argyll and Bute Council's major applications team.

Speciality Drinks Ltd, represented by Blyth and Blyth Consulting Engineers, wants to build a new distillery on land south and east of Farkin Cottage in Port Ellen.

The planned distillery would also have a restaurant, shop and meeting facilities, as well as a new junction with access roads and parking.

According to the council website, a decision from planning officers should be expected by Friday April 17.

In a design and access statement, the project's consulting engineers said: 'Our client has always had a passion to create his own whisky.'

'As the 'place' is so important to whisky making, he felt the only place to site the distillery had to be on Islay.'

'After a long search and site purchase negotiations, the site between Port Ellen and Laphroaig was secured.'

'The vision is to establish a completely new contemporary distillery which will incorporate the best of both traditional and new distilling methods to create a whole family of spirits. The new



Another whisky distillery for Islay?

distillery will incorporate a new floor maltings and high-quality visitor experience.

'The new distillery will also incorporate an experimental pilot plant for other types of whisky and will include facilities for growing botanics.'

Envisaged

'It is envisaged that working at full capacity the malt whisky distillery element will produce up to approximately 1.2 million litres of alcohol (mla) per annum plus a further 0.3 mla of other spirits in a pilot plant.'

'The aim is to commence production in 2021.'

The designers added: 'Scotch whisky distilling is all about the coming together of pure ingredients (malted barley and water) which seem to encapsu-

late the character of the place.'

'In terms of Islay, this identity is further reinforced by the distinctive neighbouring distilleries such as Ardbeg and Laphroaig.'

'Therefore the design proposals seek to capture this sense of place in a contemporary way while expressing the functions of a modern distillery.'

'The proposals treat the distillery as a cluster of buildings each expressing the key process stages such as malting, mashing, fermenting and distilling each of which require buildings with a distinctive form.'

'This reflects traditional Islay distilleries which tend to be a cluster of buildings adapted and altered as they evolve through time.'

Thought for the Week

with Marilyn Shedden

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.'

CONTACTUS

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- The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed

- by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
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- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

## DEATHS

**BECKWITH** - Nancy, passed away peacefully, at Ardenaig 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.

**CLARK** - Donald Clark, George Hotel, Inveraray, peacefully, at Oban Hospital, on January 19, 2020, devoted father to Donald John and Kris, grandfather to Anouk, Manon and Lola, and very much loved partner of Jane Somerville. Funeral service to be held at Inveraray Parish Church, on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 12.30pm, interment thereafter at Glen Shira Cemetery, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Cancer Research UK. Colourful attire requested to celebrate the Great Man's life.

**CLARK** - Suddenly, but peacefully, at the Mid Argyll Hospital, on Sunday, January 19, 2020, Margaret Clark, in her 74th year, of 3 Balure, Ford. Loving partner of Tosh Beaton, dearly loved mum of Tracy and Ian, adored nana of Ben, Connor, Skye, John and the late Tasha. Much respected mother-in-law of Gordon and Brenda, dear sister, aunt and cousin to all the family and a good neighbour and dear friend to many. Funeral service will be held, today, Friday, January 24, 2020 at 12.30pm at St Margaret's Church, Lochgilphead, thereafter to Achnabreac Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations to Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll 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 granddad 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 Bishopton 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.

## 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. Thanks to all who attended the church service and graveside and to the Argyll Arms Hotel for purvey.

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

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 MEMORIAM

**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.

- Hugh, Christine, Morag and families xxx.

**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

## 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



**Sunday 26th January**

Epiphany 3

Holy Communion

10.45am

Enquiries tel:

01586 551141

The Scottish Episcopal

Church is a Province of

the Worldwide Anglican

Communion

**ST KIERAN RC CHURCH**

St. John Street,

Campbeltown

01586 552160

Rev Tony Wood

stkieransrc.org

**Vigil Mass**

**Saturday 6.00pm**

(except 1st Saturday of

the month)

**Sundays, Holy Mass**

**10.00am**

All welcome

(SC002876)

### SALVATION ARMY



**Sunday 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 SCO9359

### CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH



George Street,  
Campbeltown

**Sunday 26th January**

11.15am Worship

Service

Pastor Mark Jasper

11.15am Sunday School

3.00pm Discipleship

Explored

**Wednesday 29th**

**January**

12.00 noon Prayer &

Bible Study

All welcome

www.campbeltownfree-

church.co.uk

Scottish Charity

Number: SC046745

### CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



**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

www.campbeltowncom-

munitychurch.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

**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

### ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilphead

Holy Mass Sunday 10am

**All Saints, Inveraray**

Holy Mass Sunday

12.30pm

Fr Ronald Campbell

01546 602380

All Welcome

(SC0002876)

### GLASSARY, KILMARTIN & FORD PARISH CHURCH

Kilmartin

**Sunday 26th January**

10.00am

Mr Jim Malcolm

All very welcome

(SC0 02121)

### NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

Charity number

SC001002

**Sunday 26th January**

Bellanoch Church

10.30am Choir Practise

11.30am Morning

Worship

**Friday 24th January**

7.00pm Achnamara Hall

Alpha 'taster'. Meal and

Video

**Saturday 25th January**

Achnamara Hall

10.30am - 12.30pm

Café Connect

1.00pm Alpha 'taster'.

Meal and Video

All welcome

www.northknappdale.org

### SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

**Sunday 26th January**

Skipness Service

10.00am

Dr J L Morrison

Tarbert Service 11.30am

Kilberry Service 2.00pm

both Rev Chris Holden

All welcome

T

# Kintyre swimmers make an early splash in 2020

Kintyre swimmers have already been on their travels twice since the turn of the year with meets in Grangemouth and Glasgow.

Over the weekend of January 4 and 5, seven Kintyre swimmers teamed up with swimmers from Inverclyde ASC to compete in the composite Argyll and Clyde Swim Team (ACST).

In the first event of the weekend both Niamh Quinn and Euan Charlwood started well recording new personal bests in the 50m butterfly and Sophie McSporrán dropped 3.83 seconds off her existing time to finish fifth in 2:37.30 in the 200m backstroke.

Strong swims in the 100m breaststroke saw wins for Evie Judge and Niamh Quinn and another personal best for Euan. Evie's new personal best here of 1:25.79 was a consideration time for the

Scottish Nationals to be held in Aberdeen.

Hannah Millar took 1.18 seconds off her time in the 50m breaststroke and Rianne Coffield knocked 1.43 seconds off her time in the 100m backstroke.

On both days Kintyre's Evie Judge and Sophie McSporrán formed part of a medal-winning quartet representing ACST in the relays.

## Best times

It was an outstanding start to 2020 for Kintyre's 11-year-old Emma Millar, who competed in eight individual events, recording eight new personal best times and bringing home eight individual medals, including three golds, three silvers and two bronzes.

The host club, Falkirk Integrated Regional Swim Team (FIRST), took the overall team shield ahead of the

Argyll and Clyde Swim Team.

Stuart McQuaker, coach with the ACST, said: 'What a fantastic team effort from all swimmers competing this weekend as part of the ACST. This was our first outing as a composite squad for some time and we competed very well with a large haul of medals and new personal bests set.'

'Shirley Reford, head coach, has put a programme of training in place which will only benefit our swimmers and provide opportunities for them to integrate and compete as part of a bigger team.'

The following weekend saw three Kintyre girls represent the club at the West District Long Course Championships at Tollcross International Swimming Centre, Glasgow.

Emma Millar continued her fine form narrowly qualifying for the final of the



Swimmers in the Argyll and Clyde Swim Team (ACST) at Grangemouth.



Emma Millar with her eight medals won at Grangemouth.



From left to right: Emma Millar, Evie Judge and Sophie McSporrán, the three Kintyre swimmers at the West Districts.

100m butterfly in 10th place, dropping 1.81 seconds with a new personal best.

Later in the morning session she produced an outstanding swim in the final to finish seventh in 1:27.60, dropping another 2.07 seconds from her earlier swim.

In the same event Sophie McSporrán also showed fine form early in the year dropping 1.13 seconds to record a new personal best of 1:21.04.

The weekend continued with strong swims from

Kintyre's Evie Judge in the 100m breaststroke and the 400m freestyle. After an excellent swim in the 100m freestyle Evie had to swim-off with another swimmer for a place in the final. In this head-to-head she had an excellent swim, recording a new personal best but just missed out on a place in the final.

Leaving her best until last, Emma Millar qualified seventh fastest for the 100m freestyle in another personal

best time of 1:12.44. At the end of the weekend's events she took to the pool for her second West District final. Turning towards the back of the pack she then powered down the last 50m to finish in fourth place, dropping 0.51 seconds to record a time of 1:11.93.

Emma will again travel to Tollcross on Saturday January 25 to represent Castlehill Primary School in the Scottish Schools finals in the 50m freestyle.

## Young Pupils knocked out of West Cup

Greenock Morton CC	4
Campbeltown Pupils	1
West Region Cup - U15s	

Campbeltown Pupils Youth Under 15s travelled for the second time in seven days to play Greenock Morton CC in the second round of West Region Cup last Saturday.

It was the first time the two sides had met and it didn't disappoint as both teams served up a cracking cup tie.

After an even start the home side broke the deadlock in the 21st minute and doubled their advantage four minutes later.

This only spurred on the young Ardshiel Hotel-sponsored side who started to dominate play. The 3,5,2 formation the Pupils started with was starting to pay off as

the Pupils took the game to the Inverclyde side and were justly rewarded when Ellis was fouled in the box.

Ellis dusted himself down to make it 2-1, scoring his 16th goal of the season.

The second half started as the first finished with the Pupils being the better team – the defence of Dott, Paterson and Arkell stood strong whilst Campbell, Semple, Paterson, Shields and Graham held their own in the midfield and on the flanks trying to push the game to their forwards Phillips and Ellis, with Parker being introduced to the play at half time.

Neither side created any notable clear chances in this period. However, with 15 minutes to go, and as the Kintyre side pushed for an

equaliser, Morton played an outstanding passage of passing before their number eight unleashed an unstoppable shot from 25 yards.

Within five minutes it was 4-1 as the home side scored with an almost identical shot.

The visitors battled until the end and can be proud of their efforts against a good side.

After the game the boys were treated to some hospitality back at the home of Scottish Championship side Greenock Morton as well as getting a tour of the stadium before making the trip home.

The Pupils 2005s return to league action this Sunday as they welcome Hampden BC to Campbeltown – kick-off is expected to be at 1.30pm on the 3G all-weather pitch at Kinloch Green.



The Pupils players and coaches inside the Morton changing rooms at Cappelow Park.



RBLs Campbeltown branch chairman George Rahman, centre, with the winning team of James McPhee, Gordon Graham and Richard Tavendale, left, and runners up Kenny Kerr, Bobby Mathieson and Lee Allen, right. KC\_c04abc01

## Legion benefits from charity triples

The Campbeltown branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland (RBLs) was chosen to benefit from Argyll Bowling Club's annual charity triples competition.

Ten teams competed in two sections of five at the January 12 event.

The winners of section A were Kenny Kerr, Bobby Mathieson and Lee Allen, while the section B

winners James McPhee, Richard Tavendale and Gordon Graham. After a hard-fought contest, Gordon's team won the final.

The day raised £265. Branch chairman George Rahman attended and thanked the committee and members of the club for choosing RBLs Campbeltown as the recipient.



Amelie Ralston and Abigail McAllister race across the Victoria Hall during last year's Kintyre heat. 50\_c10athletics27

## Date set for Kintyre athletics heat

The Kintyre heat of Mid Argyll Athletic Club's annual Sports Hall Athletics competition is to take place on Sunday March 1.

The Mid Argyll contest, which is at Lochgilphead Joint Campus on Sunday, is the first of the four area contests to take place ahead of the March 22 final at Oban's Atlantis Leisure centre.

### Ideal opportunity

Specialist equipment is used for various running, jumping and throwing events bringing the excitement of track and field athletics indoors in a warm and dry environment, and the heats provide an ideal opportunity for young boys and girls to try athletics for the first time.

The annual competition is held in

Argyll each winter and is 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 on March 1. A date for the Mull contest held in Tobermory High School has still to be confirmed.

Successful athletes from the area competitions will qualify to take part in the Argyll final, the date for which was moved to March 22 to avoid a clash with the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival in Oban.

## Argyll 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

# new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

Win!  
THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT  
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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 Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



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

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### 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

Young Pupils  
knocked out of  
West Cup

Kintyre swimmers  
make an early  
splash in 2020

# Pupils share the points in Argyll derby draw



Lochgilhead Red Star 1  
Campbeltown Pupils 1  
SAFL Premier Division One

Campbeltown Pupils battled out a draw last Saturday away to county rivals Lochgilhead Red Star.

After both winning their respective Jimmy Marshall Cup ties on penalties the previous weekend, the Pupils enjoyed the better of the first half play before their hosts put on an improved showing in the second half to take a late point from the game.

After settling in to the game after a shaky opening few minutes, and imposing some sharp creative moves on their hosts, the McFadyens-sponsored Pupils took the lead when Ryan Deans' curling free kick from the right-hand side found Ellis Robertson, who found him-



The Pupils took the lead when a free kick from Ryan Deans, above, found Ellis Robertson. 51\_c04pupils01

self with the goal at his mercy after controlling the ball on the chest, and blasted a finish into the net from six yards.

Into the second half, Donald McCallum saw a superb long-

range effort pushed over the bar by the Red Star keeper, before Ellis Robertson saw a goal-bound effort from distance tipped away.

In truth, though, the Pupils didn't do enough to double their lead by measure of great chances in the second period, and combined with a Red Star tactical change, found themselves defending more of the hosts' probes forward, albeit deeper than was perhaps necessary, to hold out for three points.

And with 15 minutes to go, Lochgilhead's Aaron Moore guided a free-kick in off the post to Pupils keeper Alasdair Ferguson's right-hand post.

The derby element of the game was visible throughout, with committed tackles flying



Ellis Robertson scored in the first half of last Saturday's match. 51\_c04pupils02

in across the park, but at times it boiled over.

Red Star were arguably lucky to finish the match with 11 men, two identically vicious fouls in each half, from the same culprit, only punished with one yellow card.

The Pupils were reduced to 10 men late on when substitute Kenny Kerr was forced

to take drastic measures to stop a Red Star attacker from advancing on goal and snatching a late winner, the last dramatic action of the match and one that ensured it would end a draw.

Tomorrow (Saturday) the Feathers Inn-sponsored Pupils welcome Clydebank-based outfit Parkhall Villa, with the match to be played at

Kintyre Park at 2pm.

For more information, see Campbeltown Football on Facebook or @PupilsAFC on Twitter.



John McCallum in action last Saturday. 51\_c04pupils03



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