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Move aside Hollywood – Argyll in movie focus

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

The beauty and variety of Argyll is showcased to perfection in the latest Hollywood movie to feature the area's stunning land, sea and townscapes.

Shot in 2018 and released

this month, *Then Came You*, known at the time of production as *Love me to Death*, was written by and stars US TV presenter and singer Kathie Lee Gifford, with Scots actors Craig Ferguson and Ford Kiernan alongside Liz Hurley.

Then Came You, directed by Adriana Trigiani, tells the sto-

ry of a lonely widow (Gifford) who plans a trip around the world with her husband's ashes to visit the places they loved in the movies.

On her first stop in Scotland, at an inn – Ardkinglas House, Cairndow – she meets the owner – Ferguson – and her plans suddenly change.

Location

The cast and crew stayed on location during the six-week shoot at Drimsynie Holiday Park and among the locations featured in the film are Lochgilphead, the George Hotel in Inveraray, the Rest and be Thankful, Kilmorich Church, Cairndow and the Lodge on Loch Goil.

The romantic comedy was funded by the National Lottery through Screen Scotland's Production Growth Fund.

Argyll is no stranger to movies being shot here – think *Ring of Bright Water*, *Restless Natives*, *The Water Horse*,



Kathie Lee Gifford enjoys cafe culture in Lochgilphead.

Photograph: Vertical Entertainment/Adriana Trigiani New York City.

The Eagle and Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom and many more.

'Argyll looks fantastic on screen,' said Jenni Steele, Film and Creative Industries Manager at VisitScotland, 'and this is another welcome opportunity to engage with an international audience and

keep Scotland front of mind for potential visitors to travel when they can do so.'

Councillor Alastair Redman, policy lead for economic growth, added: 'We are working hard to make sure it is as attractive and as simple as possible for productions to come to Argyll and Bute, and I'm

pleased it remains a popular location.'

A dedicated website www.filminargyll.co.uk provides updated information to anyone considering Argyll and Bute as a set location.

Then Came You is available now on various online streaming services.

Council rejects bullying probe

Councillors have failed to back calls for an independent probe into the bullying issue within Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP).

The influential policy and resources committee last week heard an update on the response to a survey on bullying by the HSCP.

A proposal by Councillor Douglas Philand calling for the matter to be referred to the full council, with a recommendation an independent review be conducted, was rejected by eight votes to five. The committee instead endorsed the approach adopted by the HSCP in developing a 100 Day Plan, building on the NHS Highland Culture Fit for Future Programme.

More on page three.



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Woman overcame prescription addiction

A 33-year-old woman has overcome an addiction that began when she was prescribed painkillers two years ago.

Sheriff Patrick Hughes said the offences to which Laura Downie, of 9 Tigh na Creige, West Bank Road, Ardrishaig, pleaded guilty at Campbeltown Sheriff Court last week 'appear out of character'.

Downie admitted obtaining prescription drugs by fraud by providing a false name, address and date of birth at the medical practice and pharmacy in Tarbert in October last year and pretending to be an employee of Boots Chemist, on Longrow, Campbeltown, and that she was authorised to pick up a prescription for dihydrocodine tablets on someone's behalf on June 11 2019.

Her defence agent Stephen MacSporran said Downie 'expressed remorse for her actions'.

'At one point she was prescribed the drugs legitimately and became addicted and spiralled out of control,' he added.

The sheriff said it was to her credit she had overcome the addiction and deferred sentence for six months until April 2021 for Downie to be of good behaviour.



Inveraray Pier has been shut off from the public for years – now the community hopes to own the pier. 06_a21InverarayPier08

Community pier buyout making good progress

A month into the campaign to buy Inveraray Pier for the community, the tide of donations continues to rise.

The pier in Inveraray has been privately owned for more than 20 years and in the past five years has been closed to the public.

The Inveraray community has been given the opportunity to buy the iconic structure – for the same price he paid for it – by Inveraray Inn owner Geaspar Byrne, who bought the pier in 2019.

To purchase the pier and carry out remedial works to the stone section only, £100,000 is required. The hope is that re-opening of the stone pier and harbour would enable folk to walk on the structure again, tie up their boats, launch dinghies, paddle boards or kayaks and land crew and passengers from larger boats.

A joint fundraising campaign between

Inveraray Community Council (ICC) and [community development company] Inspire Inveraray was launched in September, spear-headed by ICC convener Linda Divers.

Earlier this week the online total raised was £2,749 and rising.

Linda said: 'We need the town's support and donations to be able to do this. We will apply for grants, but to get the ball rolling any donation would be greatly appreciated.'

A crowdfunding GoFundMe web page – 'Inveraray Pier Fund' – has been set up for online donations, with collection tins in shops around Inveraray. If you would like to donate by cheque, make it out to Inveraray Community Council, write 'pier fund' on the back and send to Mrs Aly Stewart, 23 Newton, Inveraray. If you would like further information, email inveraray@btinternet.com.

POLICE FILES

Vehicle damages garden

Police are investigating and appealing for witnesses after an unknown vehicle drove on to garden ground at Minard Castle, damaging grass and hedges, sometime between 1pm and 2pm on Monday October 12.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the police on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Fine for no insurance

About 12.30pm on Wednesday October 14, a car was stopped by police for a routine check on Argyll Street, Lochgilphead.

Checks revealed there was no insurance in force for the vehicle and the driver, a 35-year-old man, was charged with the offence and issued with a £300 fixed penalty ticket and six penalty points.

No MOT

The 26-year-old female driver of a car stopped by police for a routine check on the A83 near Inverneil on Friday October 16 at 8.30am has been charged with having no MOT. A report will be sent to the procurator fiscal.

ASBO for erratic driving

At 12.10am on Saturday October 17, on Main Street, Bowmore, Islay, a white Ford Fiesta car was allegedly being driven in an anti-social and erratic manner.

The car was stopped by police and the driver, a 20-year-old man, was issued with an anti-social behaviour warning. If the driver of the vehicle is involved in a similar anti-social driving incident within 12 months, the vehicle will be seized by police.

The vehicle will only be returned to the owner on production of proof of ownership and payment of the recovery/storage fees.

GP warning amid Covid surge in city

A Loch Fyne-side GP has warned Argyll residents of the Covid risk of heading to Glasgow. Dr Alison MacBeth, GP at Strachur Medical Practice, also spends time in Glasgow hospitals treating Covid cases and last week issued a warning that the number of Covid-19 cases is growing rapidly in the city.

Dr MacBeth has advised people in Argyll to avoid travelling to the Glasgow area, whether for shopping or other non-essential purposes, while virus cases are on the rise.

'I would say to people who don't need to travel to the city, not to do so.'



The Dochas Carer Centre

We are still here for you even though the Centre has to remain closed.

We provide a service to unpaid adult carers across Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles (MAKI). We have three teams:

- Support outreach worker team
- Qualified counselling team
- Volunteer befriending team

The Outreach/Support Team are maintaining regular contact with carers via telephone. Our team is providing a listening ear during this challenging time and we have been fortunate to receive additional funding to support carers and those they care for with creative solutions to help with their mental and emotional health while in isolation.

Please visit our website – www.dochasfund.org.uk and Facebook page – www.facebook.com/dochascentre which will be updated regularly with information and advice.

We are available 10-4pm Monday to Friday. Contact number for the centre 01546 600 022. Email – enquiries@dochasfund.org.uk

Contact numbers for the outreach/support team
Mid Argyll: 07464 308 418
Kintyre: 0753 503 6953
Islay/Jura: 0791 201 5393

The Volunteer Befriending Team

Our volunteer befriending service called Circle of Friends is continuing to run. Volunteers are maintaining contact with the individuals they are befriending by telephone. Our Co-ordinator, Ryan Taylor, continues to support this service. We are looking for more Telephone Befriending Volunteers. We would love to hear from you if you wish to help, please contact us on 0793 203 9801.

Dochas Counselling Team

The dedicated Counselling Team are currently offering online and telephone counselling to unpaid carers and their families, those who have been bereaved or those living with a long term or terminal condition.

During the Covid-19 crisis, the Team have also set up a telephone support service for anyone feeling anxious or struggling during lockdown.

For further information or to arrange an appointment, please telephone Alison Whitefield, Lead Counsellor, on 07432 231217 or contact the service via counselling@dochasfund.org.uk or message the Dochas Facebook page. We are here to support you.



Mid Argyll Youth Development Services

Providing Information and Accessible Youth Friendly Services

Are you a young carer?

We are here for you...

MAYDS are still providing support for children, young people and families where we can. Anyone needing advice or help can contact the above at anytime.

We are providing our child and adolescent counselling services via skype, phone etc., and still open for referrals for any young person feeling isolated or in need of support. Our Young Carers are still being supported by our team across MAKI and again referrals are still being taken.

We have regular information and updates on our facebook page mid Argyll youth development services.

Online support is also available on www.cool2talk.org.

Contact 07788900049 or
fiona@mayds.org.uk lynn@mayds.org.uk

No independent ear for staff as councillors back HSCP

A councillor's bid to get council backing for an independent review of bullying behaviour within NHS Highland has failed.

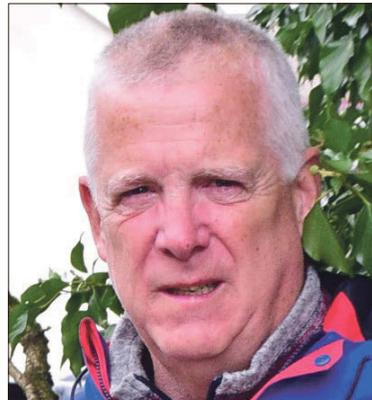
Meeting on October 15, Argyll and Bute Council's policy and resources committee heard an update on the response by the area's health and social care partnership (HSCP) to a staff survey earlier this year which revealed widespread bullying within the organisation.

Councillor Douglas Philand submitted an amendment which called for the matter to be referred to the full council, with a recommendation that staff should have the opportunity to relate their views to an independent body, and that the Integration Joint Board, which oversees the HSCP, should instigate a comprehensive review of bullying, affording all staff the opportunity to report on their experience.

But it gained only the backing of four committee members – Councillors Audrey Forrest, Lorna Douglas, Sandy Taylor and Richard Trail.

A motion by Councillor Kieron Green that the committee should welcome the actions of the IJB and endorse the HSCP's approach gained eight votes and was carried.

The Sturrock Report, published in May 2019, suggested that hundreds of health work-



Councillor Dougie Philand.

ers in NHS Highland had experienced 'fear, intimidation and inappropriate behaviour at work'. Argyll and Bute was not, however, included in this review.

Councillor Philand said: 'Sometimes you don't know what is going on and that is the whole point of asking for this.'

Brave

'Now is the time to be brave enough to say that there is a real problem here.'

'It is so important to get the culture right as to how people feel. People are employed by us, but we are not asking them whether what happened is continuing to happen.'

'I am doing this because I believe it is right for the people who say they are genuinely hurting in this process. Let's help the people who are needing help.'

Summing up his motion,

Councillor Green said: 'We have had an independent review and follow-on action from NHS Highland.'

'I am aware of staff in the HSCP who will have experienced bullying but with the steps taken following the culture survey, and the work currently in progress to advance the actions arising, I strongly feel we have to give time for change.'

'Let us take a positive step today, recognise the work that has been done, and the work that is still to be done.'

Council leader Robin Currie, who is chairman of the policy and resources committee, seconded the motion. He was joined in backing it by Councillors Rory Colville, Bobby Good, Yvonne McNeilly, Gary Mulvaney, Alastair Redman and Elaine Robertson.

Authority backs pragmatic option for the Rest

A route close to the existing A83 has been revealed as Argyll and Bute Council's preferred option as a solution to problems at the Rest and be Thankful.

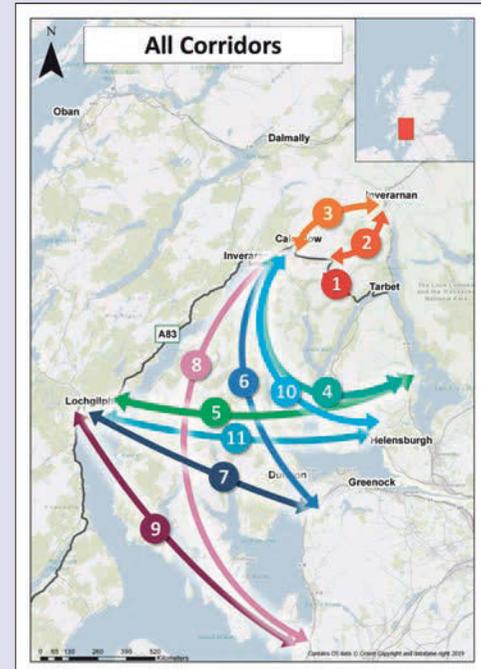
The authority, however, also said that a further option to link Lochgilphead to Loch Lomond-side, making use of current roads and building two crossings over water 'may provide merit for longer term consideration'.

Councillors were expected to approve the council's response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Rest and be Thankful at a full meeting yesterday, Thursday October 22.

The Scottish Government last month released details of 11 potential solutions to bypass the Rest, with a deadline for responses of October 30.

In its response to 'option one', involving a new road on the opposite side of Glen Croe to the current A83, the council said: 'Argyll and Bute Council is ambitious for its area.'

'That ambition must be tempered with a degree of realism – Argyll and Bute needs a solution to be delivered as soon as possible and the delivery timeline is a key issue in considering all the options.'



A Scottish Government graphic showing the 11 options.

'That is why the council supports option one as offering realistic solutions which will increase resilience on the A83 and provide the uninterrupted year-round access that Argyll and Bute needs and deserves.'

Of the remaining alternatives, the council rates option five as its preference. The route would make use of existing roads while new crossings would be built over Loch Long between Whistlefield and

Barnacaber, and Loch Fyne between Otter Ferry and Port Ann.

Councillors were also recommended to agree that a permanent solution is sought to be complete during the next term of the Scottish Parliament, from 2021 to 2026.

You can view the options at the website Access to Argyll and Bute (A83) and have your say before the consultation closes on October 30.

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Lochgilthead gets more mobile post office visits

Three visits per week to Lochgilthead by a mobile post office van have been arranged, as Post Office Ltd continues its search for a business to host a more permanent arrangement.

The company has announced that for three months from the October 16 there will be visits on a Monday and Friday from 10am-1pm and on a Wednesday from 10am-3pm. The postmaster for Tarbert originally provided one mobile post office visit per week to restore service after the sudden passing in June of Findlay Campbell, postmaster for Lochgilthead.

The Post Office also confirmed that there is also now a new location for the mobile post office, which will be sited in the car park of the Royal Mail delivery office on Lorne Street, Lochgilthead.

CONTACTUS

email editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
telephone 01546 602345

Flu vaccine supply shortage hits Argyll

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

National shortages of flu vaccine have forced Argyll GP surgeries to curtail planned vaccination programmes.

After an initial vaccination drive early in October and another planned later this month the supply of vaccine to surgeries, including Lochgilthead Medical Practice, has dried up.

Dr Andrew Strain of Lochgilthead Medical Practice explained that supplies have been under pressure from the beginning.

'Each GP practice is given an allocation based upon the uptake in previous years. Our total allocation was 1,180 vaccines for those over 65 and 230 for those with medical conditions which put them at risk. We recognised this would not be enough to meet demand this year and therefore submit-

ted a larger order for those in "at risk" groups (500 vaccines). We initially were then told we would receive only 70 per cent of these, but thankfully in the end 800 doses for those over 65 and 400 doses for those in "at risk" groups were delivered, allowing us to proceed with our flu week campaign to get as many people vaccinated as quickly and safely as possible.

'All 1,200 vaccines have now been given to patients in the practice and by our community nurses to our most vulnerable patients in the community.'

After receiving a further 380 doses, two further flu clinics were planned for October 27 and 28, with booking starting on Friday October 16.

Dr Strain explained: 'All these appointments were filled by the end of Monday and we are now once again in the situation of having no more vaccine to give. We have re-



Dr Andrew Strain.

Dr Tim Allison, NHS Highland's Director of Public Health, said: 'We are following the Scottish Government guidance in relation to prioritising the eligible groups and we would encourage eligible individuals to get vaccinated as this is the best way to help protect yourself against flu.'

'We will still be looking to offer the vaccine to everyone over 55 and to those over 50 as supply allows.'

'However, our ability to offer the vaccination to those aged 50-54, who have not been eligible before, is similar for the rest of Scotland in that it is dependent on sufficient vaccine being available.'

ceived confirmation from our suppliers that we cannot order any more until further notice.

'This is a situation outwith the control of the practice.'

He added: 'We are lucky in

Argyll and Bute that our GP practices have been able to vaccinate as many people as possible with the vaccine supplies available to us in a very short period of time.'



STARTERS

SOUP OF THE DAY £5.50
Served with a warm bread roll and butter (vegetarian)

SEAFOOD SOUP £6.50
with warm bread roll and butter

HADDOCK, LANGOUSTINE AND VINE TOMATOES BAKE £9
with chilli herb and garlic oil served with a warm bread roll

MACARONI CHEESE £7
with garlic bread - add smoked salmon £1.50

HAND DIVED TAYVALLICH LANDED KING SCALLOPS £12
3 scallops pan fried in garlic butter served with dressed leaves

CLASSIC MOULES MARINIÈRE £8
Scottish mussels steamed in white wine, cream, garlic and onions served with a warm bread roll

A menu to match the views

SOUND OF JURA LANGOUSTINE £10
Served hot in garlic butter with a bread roll or served cold with salad and garlic mayonnaise

MAIN COURSES

FISH & CHIPS £13
in our own beer batter served with tartare sauce

SOUND OF JURA LANGOUSTINE £21
baked in garlic butter or served cold with garlic mayonnaise and salad - both served with rustic chips

HAND DIVED TAYVALLICH LANDED KING SCALLOPS £25
6 king scallops pan fried in garlic butter served with salad and rustic chips

MACARONI CHEESE £10
with ciabatta garlic bread - Add smoked salmon £3

CLASSIC MOULES MARINIÈRE £14.50
Scottish mussels steamed in white wine, cream, garlic and onions served with a warm bread roll or swap to chips for £2

HOT SMOKED SALMON AND PRAWN LINGUINE £16.50
in a white wine and cream sauce, served with garlic bread

HADDOCK, SMOKED SALMON AND PRAWN GRATIN £17
oven baked with a cheese, cream and

leek sauce, topped with breadcrumbs and served with rustic chips

10Z RIBEYE STEAK £28
served with roasted vine tomatoes, onion rings, rustic chips, salad and peppercorn sauce.

HOMEMADE BEEF BURGER £12
2 x 4oz burgers served on a seeded bun with salad, onion rings and burger sauce served with rustic chips on the side - add cheese & bacon - £1 each

CURRY OF THE DAY £12
served with wild rice, popadom, mango chutney & spiced onions

SIDES

RUSTIC SKIN ON CHIPS £3.
MIXED LEAF SALAD £3
ONION RINGS £3
2 WARM BREAD ROLLS AND BUTTER £2
GARLIC BREAD £3

SOMETHING SWEET

BANOFFEE PIE £6
biscuit base with toffee sauce & bananas topped with fresh cream

WARM CHOCOLATE BROWNIE £6
with chocolate sauce and vanilla ice cream

TODAYS CHEESECAKE £6
with toasted oats and fresh raspberries

WEE ISLE DAIRY ICE CREAM

1 SCOOP £2 // 2 SCOOPS £4 // 3 SCOOPS £6
Chocolate, Vanilla, Strawberry & Salted Caramel

LEMON SORBET £4

CHILDREN'S MENU

FISH AND CHIPS £7
fresh haddock fillet in our own batter served with chips

CURRY OF THE DAY £7
served with wild rice and popadom (curry may be spicy, please ask)

CHICKEN GOUJONS £7
fresh chicken fillet in our own batter served with chips and beans

4oz BEEF BURGER £7
served with chips

MINI MOULES MARINIÈRE £7
with chips

MACARONI CHEESE £7
served with garlic bread



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More car charging points to be installed in Argyll

Twenty-four new rapid charging points will be installed in Argyll and Bute and elsewhere in the west Highlands in a bid to break down the main barriers to ownership of electrical vehicles in rural communities.

HITRANS – The Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership – received £1.5 million in funding and intends to employ two new members of staff to deliver the project, which has attracted Euro funding and support from the Scottish Government.

Units will be installed in Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh, Argyll and Bute and the Western Isles at locations yet to be confirmed.

The partnership has tapped into a European collaboration to help deliver the FASTER Project - Facilitating a Sustainable Transition to Electric Vehicles in the Regions. It is a project support-



Charging points will become more common across Argyll, Bute and the west Highlands.

ed by the European Union's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The project will assist with analysis of the planning and procurement requirements needed to kick start a commercial charging service. Ireland and Northern Ireland are included in the project partners.

Allan Henderson, chairman of HITRANS, said the FASTER project was the latest in a growing number of environmentally-friendly European projects

that HITRANS was involved in. He said: 'We are committed to delivering practical projects which contribute towards the greening of transport in our diverse, rural area. FASTER will share best practice for deploying charge points and promote sustainable transport in the region. We are leading on the design and procurement work package and it is expected we will install 24 rapid charge points or more if the budget allows.'

He said preliminary work has been conducted on possible locations for the chargers through the HITRANS EV Strategy and discussions were ongoing with Transport Scotland project partner Strathclyde University, engaging with SSE Networks, to ensure locations were chosen wisely and in line with grid capacity and existing infrastructure.

Food rules driving up school meal costs

School meal regulations are placing an additional strain on Argyll and Bute Council's budget, the authority's executive director has said.

A report revealed that new cost and demand pressures for 'food and drink standards' were handing the council an extra £65,000 cost every year.

That prompted council leader Robin Currie to seek clarity on whether this was due to school meals being given out while schools were closed because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

But executive director Kirsty Flanagan said the increased cost had come from new regulations for school meals set out by the Scottish Government.

The discussion took place at a meeting of the council's policy and resources committee as it debated the authority's budget outlook up to 2025/26.

Ms Flanagan said: 'There have been new regulations on what we are allowed to give children as part of a school meal and that has brought about an increase in costs.'

'One example of this would be that we are only allowed to give pupils a specific type of yoghurt and demand is pushing costs up. It has nothing to do with Covid costs.'

Ms Flanagan's fellow executive director Douglas Hendry also stated uptake of school meals had not been up to the same level as they had been before the Covid-19 pandemic. He said: 'That is something we have an eye on and will bring back to members as and when we have a firmer handle of it.'

Scottish Government regulations to be introduced in April 2021 will reduce the level of sugar served, increase the amount of fruit and vegetables and place a maximum on the amount of red and red processed meat that can be served in a school week.



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Pair seek land partnership deal to realise eco dream

An Ardchattan couple looking to start up their own replanting project are asking local landowners to help them realise their dream of living an eco friendly and sustainable life.

Stuart Livings and his partner Sophie currently live near Benderloch, along with their dog Mouse, in a vintage Mercedes motor home.

Having enjoyed living 'off grid' for several years, the pair are now looking to form a partnership which would allow them a small area of land on which they can begin planting trees.

'We are both old fashioned hard workers with a real concern for the environment but, unfortunately, we are not of a generation that has been able to acquire any space to do anything about it,' explained Stuart.

'We want to make a difference for the environment but

feel powerless as the space to do so is either unavailable or unaffordable.

'With the help of landowners, we would like to make an arrangement that would benefit us all.'

Stuart currently runs his own community interest company called Woodhism www.instagram.com/woodhism that aims to work with the community to organise and oversee natural build projects and general forestry-related work and activities, while Sophie works at the Caledonian oyster farm near Benderloch.

The pair claim to be self sufficient enough to move onto any suitable piece of land for planting and don't require a water supply, electricity or gas. Space for their caravan and vehicle and an area to grow vegetables and construct a wood store and composting toilet is all they need.

Stuart and Sophie would be happy to discuss the rebuilding or restoration of a dilapidated building to use as a small green workshop.

'By working together we feel we can make a difference and be part of the movement that is positive change,' added Stuart.

'Unfortunately for our generation, land is not so affordable or easy to come by. We are open to any discussions and ideas on how we can find a place to settle and do some good for the area. We feel it is our duty to act now as waiting for government and councils that are too preoccupied is no longer an option. It's up to common folk and consumers to make the right informed choices and actions. Every little act counts now.'

Anyone interested in helping Stuart and Sophie with their project can contact them on 07900 690862.



Stuart Livings, his partner Sophie and their dog Mouse.

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Saturday 4pm

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Friday 5pm. Saturday & Sunday 1.30pm

Pixie (15)
Friday 5.30pm. Saturday & Sunday 5pm

The Elfkins (U)
Saturday 1pm

Two by Two: Overboard! (U)
Sunday 1pm

Cats & Dogs: Paws Unite (U)
Saturday & Sunday 3pm

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk



UK Government
Scotland

NHS

I make
space to
protect
you.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk
or The Editor, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB**Positively beautiful**

There is plenty of less-than-positive news around these days, so it is nice to remember just how stunning Argyll and Bute is.

The autumn colours over the last couple of weeks have been something else, but we are fortunate to be among such beauty at any time of the year.

And Hollywood film producers certainly see our region as a desirable movie location.

When the coronavirus situation settles down, as it surely must (eventually), hopefully we will see the benefit in visitors keen to see such gorgeous film locations.

Don't rest, have your say

The opportunity to comment on Transport Scotland's 11 'options' to avoid the Rest and Be Thankful will end next Friday, October 30.

As we have said before, though, this exercise leaves us with Hobson's choice – a simple road up the opposite side of Glen Croe.

We suspect that was the plan all along, with the other expensive and impractical options thrown in so politicians could tell us: 'Well, you had your chance.'

We hope we are wrong, but time will tell whether there is a genuine longer term political aspiration to properly connect Argyll by road.

Rest options are unfeasible

Sir,
Transport Scotland is consulting with the public on corridor options for the A83, with more information available on the Transport Scotland website.

We at the Argyll and Bute branch of the Scottish Green Party are concerned that the 11 options proposed fail to address the present and future needs of Argyll and Bute, including the need for secure and resilient supply routes to the whole of the region, particularly to island communities; safe roads across our area; well-maintained roads; roads that go to and from the right places and a joined-up local transport policy designed to serve the needs of residents, businesses and visitors to Argyll and Bute. Most alarmingly, the consultation provides no reference to climate change, either as a cause of the current A83 emergency or as a factor to be considered in each of the options.

There appears to have been a process of elimination of options prior to the publication of the consultation. For example, there is no reference to rail links, a tunnel, improved ferry services or alternative routes for freight and it would be in the public interest to make explicit how this process was undertaken, by whom and whether any surveys or studies on the geological, economic, social or environmental impact of each option have been undertaken.

We believe most of the options presented would be so unfeasible in terms of engineering costs that we would be drawn to only one or two that would appear to offer the least challenging

short-term solution for restoring a safe and reliable route in Argyll and Bute. If we are correct in this assumption, this is a very disingenuous process by Transport Scotland, for it is not a consultation in the true sense of the word.

There is no doubt the need to address the A83 crisis of connectivity is an urgent one. We must not, however, be driven to actions that might bring even greater problems further down the line. Is it time perhaps for both a short and long-term solution?

Dennis Archer and Cathy Cameron,
co-convenors, Argyll and Bute Greens.

No costings or timescale

Sir,
I write as a retired civil engineer with regard to the Rest and Be Thankful.

The problem seems to stem from a complete lack of proper maintenance over many, many years. Mountains in such locations need to be treated as living things and action taken to ensure they are kept under control.

In the case of the Rest, there appear to be particular problems:

- Action is needed in different areas. In this context, I would suggest that pressure grouting much higher up the mountain, down to bedrock, would solve a number of problems with the more minor landslides.

- The road could be protected in many places by the use of gabions. These would surely be a better solution than the fencing currently in use.

- At the locations where small side streams can

act as a conduit for debris to come and block the road, the provision of a box culvert under the road would ensure the debris could be diverted into the valley.

- There may be a few locations where it could be more advantageous to install portal frame protection, but I believe these are relatively few. The provision of a suitable 'ditch' on the eastern side would also help.

I am horrified the authorities had the audacity to suggest the number of options they did for public comment. I think questions need to be asked as to who was responsible for this and why they were presented with no cost indication and no potential build-out timescale.

I would recommend qualified engineers who have a track record of overcoming these problems are appointed with a remit to prepare a properly costed report within six months.

I firmly believe the proposals I have outlined here are by far the most economical solution to the problem and, with proper control, the end result could probably be achieved by the autumn of 2022. This depends on meaningful management of the problem. There are many major roads in the Alps where similar problems have been successfully overcome.

I am only too well aware I do not live in Argyll, but I have strong family links and it is incumbent on all interested parties to make comment and to ensure the public is fully aware of the shortcomings exhibited in the proposals presented to date.

Fergus Macdonald, Burton Latimer,
Northamptonshire.

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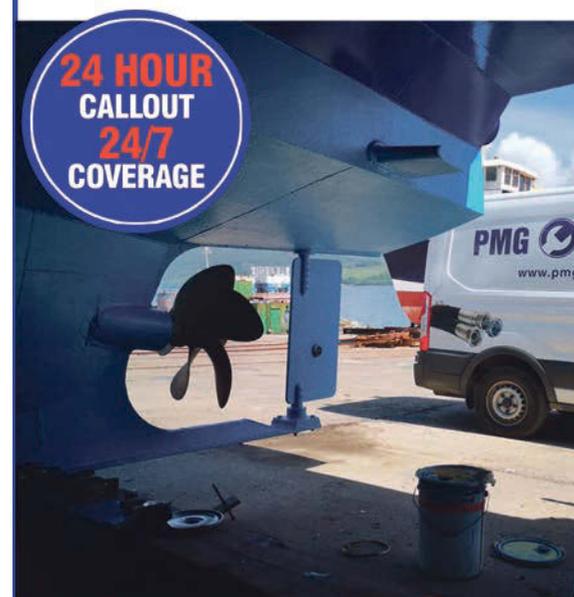
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National Covid support service needed

Sir,
Urgent action is needed to improve care for people living with 'long Covid' in Scotland.

Thousands in Scotland are living with the long-term effects of this virus, many going without proper help.

There are significant psychological and social impacts that will have long-term consequences.

Hospital one-stop clinics and social support must be considered, along with the financial pressures on previously economically active people.

People are struggling to breathe, walk to the end of their street and some people have felt almost bed bound for months.

We have a chance in Scotland to bring together health professionals and charities to provide a seamless package of care.

We need to see a full national support service for long Covid in Scotland. People don't have time to wait.

Jane-Claire Judson, chief executive, Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland.



YOUR PICTURES



This week's featured photograph was submitted by Duncan Cameron who said: 'This was taken on October 2, looking from Ardrishaig over the rooftop of Johnny Law's shop.'

'The photograph was taken by Lilly Cameron on her dad's phone.'

■ Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk.

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Changes to short-term let licensing could 'devastate' rural areas

Among issues such as the options for an alternative to the Rest and be Thankful, Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce might just have another hot topic on the agenda for its AGM.

A public consultation closed on October 16 concerning Scottish Government proposals to tighten controls on short-term accommodation lets.

New licensing regulations are being considered, primarily to tackle Airbnb 'hot-spots' in urban areas where housing is in short supply and to apply safety standards.

A group representing rural businesses, however, claims the plans as they currently stand would have a 'devastating impact' on Scotland's rural communities as they deal with the impacts of Covid-19.

In its response to the consulta-

tion, Scottish Land and Estates (SLE) said the measures do not take into account the important role short-term lets play in rural Scotland by providing housing for communities and workers, as well as bringing in vital tourism.

Agree

Gavin Mowat, SLE policy advisor said: 'We absolutely agree that the safety of people using short-term lets is paramount and communities shouldn't be forced apart by a lack of adequate long-term housing.'

'The wording of this consultation suggests that it has been written primarily to tackle the pressures that some short-term holiday accommodation cause in specific areas, most notably in city centres or popular rural destinations. Worryingly, however, the proposals go much further and will im-

act anyone who offers short-term let housing, regardless of whether it is used as a holiday destination or not.

'A number of rural businesses take on seasonal and short-term workers for roles which may only last a short number of weeks or months. Providing accommodation is key to filling these roles, but if these new regulations are to be introduced then that could be put at risk.'

'The Covid-19 pandemic has devastated Scotland's tourism industry, and at a time when we want to see the Scottish Government support this vital sector, these proposals are instead creating additional bureaucracy and stress throughout the industry.'

'These regulations will not only impact short-term let providers but will also affect other local

businesses, such as pubs, restaurants, cafes, shops and tourist attractions, who rely on local tourists visiting their area of rural Scotland. The wider-scale impact of such changes must be understood before any new regulations are brought into force and we do not feel adequate time has been set aside to properly do that.'

The Mid Argyll implications of the proposals are likely to come up during the Mid Argyll Chamber of Commerce 'virtual' AGM on October 29, starting at 11am.

Contact chamber secretary Jane MacLeod by emailing jane@janemacleod.co.uk for more information.

Mid Argyll Chamber of
Commerce secretary
Jane MacLeod.



Tarbert fireworks to go ahead

Under strict coronavirus controls, the Tarbert community fireworks display is all set to go ahead this year – but only for local residents.

Organiser Aggie Dennis said: 'We have managed to obtain insurance to cover the display given on the understanding that there is a strict limit to the number of spectators. In the circumstances, we would appeal that only those people with a PA29 postcode attend.'

'We hope you will understand that in normal times we would welcome visitors from other areas but we are keen to adhere to the current restrictions.'

The display, is due to be held on Friday November 6, starting at 7pm and launched from the Beilding in the harbour.

Spruce up in store for Argyll shop fronts

Shop front improvements around Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islay are being proposed for funding by Argyll and Bute Council.

The authority is proposing to support the works for Lochgilphead, Tarbert, Bowmore and Campbeltown after receiving funding from the Scottish Government's Town Centre Capital Fund.

The total grant of £444,000 from the fund is being shared evenly between the council's four administrative areas.

A total of £33,500 each is being proposed to be distributed for shopfronts in Lochgilphead, Tarbert and Bowmore.



Argyl Street in Lochgilphead. 06_a43Lochgilphead01

The remaining £10,500 share would go towards shopfronts in Campbeltown. In all cases,

property owners would be required to contribute towards improvement works.

Councillors were asked to approve a full list of capital projects at a full council meeting on Thursday October 22.

Council executive director Kirsty Flanagan said in a covering report: 'Due to the immediate need to build resilience within the economy, the aim of the fund is to support construction activity within town centres.'

'A key constraint of the fund is therefore the tight timeline to physically deliver capital projects within the current financial year, or at the very least, agree a signed contract for the works or be started on site by April 1, 2021.'

'Consequently, it is likely that

any works we can support are part of an established programme of works, potential match funding is in place if required, and staff/community resources are in place to deliver the identified capital projects.'

'Projects have been chosen to support the viability of our town centres and where possible linked to either a town centre action plan that has often been taken forward through a making places initiative.'

'To achieve a range of capital projects that will make a meaningful difference there is a need to make quick decisions and link where possible to established programmes of work.'

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FINANCE AND DELIVERY ARRANGED

Largest network of virus testing facilities covering all of Scotland

The UK Government has put in place the largest network of diagnostic testing facilities created in British history, setting up a state of the art network of virus testing facilities across Scotland. In support of the Scottish Government, the UK Government is providing all COVID-19 testing in Scotland outside of NHS settings for people in Scotland. Support

includes six drive-through centres, two new walk-in sites with more to follow, 20 mobile units as well as home testing kits, testing for care home staff and residents, and – highlighted here – the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab, operating around the clock to process an estimated 50,000 swabs each day, hoping to soon hit a daily target of 85,000.

THIS TIME last year, every single one of the estimated 400 people who work at the Lighthouse Lab in Glasgow were doing something else.

There was simply no need for a virus testing lab of this scale and ambition in the UK. What a difference a year makes.

The Glasgow “megalab” that now stretches over four floors of a specially commandeered building in Govan is a vital part of the largest network of diagnostic testing facilities yet created by any UK government.

As Chief Operating Officer for the College of Medical Veterinary Sciences at the University of Glasgow, Carol Clugston (pictured) has been involved with the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab since its inception.

“The very first day we started, in April,” she recalls, “we did 41 tests. Now we’ve just passed 2.5 million cumulative tests.”

Facilities like the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab are helping to maximise testing capacity in Scotland

and across the UK. Increasing the number of people tested is a key part of easing lockdown restrictions and getting people back to work.

Shortly after the Glasgow lab opened, in May, a partnership deal was struck with medical research specialist BioClavis, whose company president Harper Van Steenhouse became the lab’s new director.

“It’s amazing what people can do,” he says. “We have taken a bunch of bright, motivated, ambitious people and given them a singular focus – almost, quite truthfully, attempting to save the world. It’s going to pull these people through and provide a skilled

workforce for the future. Once the pandemic is over, we’ll have a huge number of skilled people right around the corner.

“As somebody who runs a small business that hires these sorts of people, I’m keen that they’re learning these skills.”

Let’s hope this ill wind does indeed leave something good behind.



VIRUS TESTING: The Glasgow Lighthouse Lab operates around the clock.



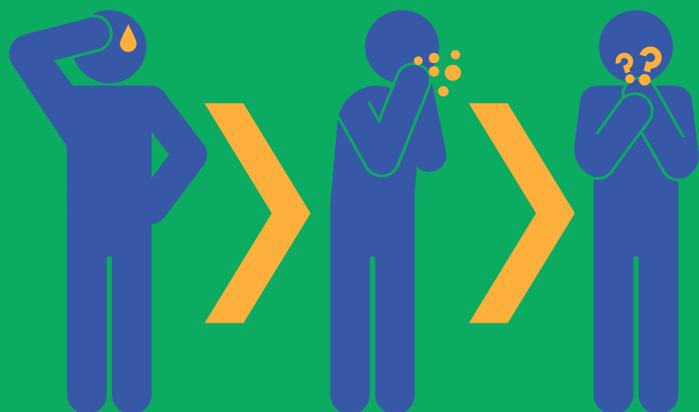
HOW IT WORKS

People get tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms or have been asked to seek a test. Their swab is delivered for analysis to the lab.

“Your swab is inside a tube, which is inside a bag, which is inside a box,” explains lab director, Harper Van Steenhouse. “The samples get processed out of their packaging.”

Individual patients can’t be identified from swabs. “All we monitor are barcodes. The scientific team only gets the tube, with the swab in it. And it’s the liquid in the tube that is the patient sample,” assured the company chief.

From there lab assistants get the RNA – the virus genetic material – from samples. The data file that comes out the end has the same barcode associated with it.



High temperature?

Continuous cough?

Loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste?

If you have symptoms stay at home and get a test to protect your loved ones.

Learn more at scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus

All together >

Heather's Treks – Stob Odhar

Heather Thomas-Smith runs Heathy Heights, a walking company based in Lochgilphead, offering a bespoke guided walking service, from holiday explorations and wild forays to long distance challenges or fun navigation days. She has travelled and trekked throughout the world but now lives in Argyll amongst the scenery she loves. www.heathyheights.co.uk



Heather Thomas-Smith.

Kintyre and Knapdale may not be known for their Munros or Corbetts.

Yet like the backbones of slumbering dragons, the hills and ridges form distinct lines that tail off into the seas beyond offering unrivalled views over to Islay, Jura, Gigha, Arran, Scarba, Mull, north to Ben Cruachan and east towards Cowal and beyond. And it is sunset heaven.

The walk is challenging and takes in three Tumps and a Marilyn – great hill baggers terms – Tumps being tops with a 30m drop all round and Marylins having a 150m drop all round. Stob Odhar, the highest at 562m, is a Marilyn, Tump and even a Dodd and Highland 5! Stob Odhar – the dun-coloured stump – has a profile resembling a mini tabletop mountain when viewed from the north. The two Tumps to make it a trio are Cnoc a' Bharaille and An Gobhlach.

From the small pull-in south of Ormsary Water walk south a short distance and take the new track on your left on the south side of the field. This will take you east avoiding the residential area. Ignore the track on your right and contin-

ue over a small footbridge past the Ormsary hydro scheme. Cross the bridge to the north side of the river (NR742718).

Head east on the metalled road as it wends its way upwards through woodland with Ormsary Water to your right. On leaving the trees, the road passes a croft to your right and a red roofed barn to your left before going through a gate. Continue straight ahead for 750m, ignoring a track to your right. Soon you will re-cross Ormsary Water.

After 450m take the track south that goes uphill, the one on the left - east - leading into the plantation is the one you will be returning by. Continue for 1km and cross the Allt Airigh Sheileach. After a further 250m turn left onto a track. This junction is at NR763707, just off the bottom of Map 358.

Heading northeast, the track leads you the next 5km to just under the summit of your first Tump, Cnoc a' Bharaille. It crosses open ground before following the top edge of the plantation – ignore a new track to your right – down to a ford and bridge over the Allt Creag nan Gobhar then climbs to the ridge itself.

Walk Information

Route: Stob Odhar circuit from Ormsary

Distance: 24km (15 miles)

Ascent: 940m

Time: 7.5 - 8.5hrs walking

Terrain: tracks, road and rough pathless terrain; steep, boggy and uneven sections

Map/s: OS Landranger 62 (1:50 000)

OS Explorer 358 (and 357) (1:25 000)

Start/Finish/Parking: just south of Ormsary Water, keep well tucked off road

Grid Reference: NR 734717

Public Transport: Bus route 421

Toilets: No

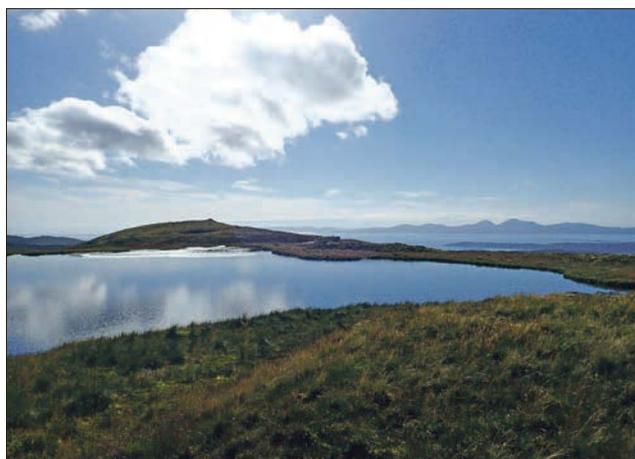
Other considerations: Stalking. There are no shooting parties on Sundays; contact Ormsary Estate Office on 01880 770700 to check other days. Generally, using tracks and ridges is not an issue.

On reaching the ridge, the track will flatten out as it skirts Cnoc a' Bharaille. Ascend from its north-eastern side just before the hairpin bend. Tump 1 - the vista both east and west is fabulous.

The next 2.5km to the summit of Stob Odhar follows the ridge NE veering to NNE. Follow the track to its end. Ahead lies the delightful Lochan a' Ghille-bhlain. Keep this and the other small lochans to your left as you now pick your route over

rough pathless ground and descend to the col.

The odd peat hag and bog needs to be negotiated. The rise of the ridge now takes you towards the steep nose of Sgier Dhubh. It is easiest to skirt round to its eastern flanks and ascend from there. There is also a very steep but short grassy break in its western flanks just 100m north of the nose. Once this obstacle has been tackled the remaining 550m to the summit are straightforward.



Lochan a' Ghille-bhlain.



The ridge to Stob Odhar.



View west to Jura from near Cnoc a' Bharaille.

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Three Tumps and a Marilyn

The summit of Stob Odhar is the highest in Kintyre and Knapdale. Although most reach it from the Meall Mor track to the east, not so many make this journey. Enjoy the views. You now have a choice. Both are similar in distance. The slightly quicker way back is to retrace your steps as this is far easier terrain. To gain your next Tump requires confident hill skills, especially in descent.

For the full circuit, descend Stob Odhar's western ridge which lies just 200m NE of the trig point. The initial slope – marked as a line of crags – is very steep so it is best to use a line of descent around the north or south of this before regaining the centre of the ridge.

Bog trotting is de rigour from now on. The next steep section is a further 300m west but can be negotiated round its northern end before zig-zagging down to the col.

From the col, head west over the somewhat featureless Meall Odhar, its tiny top just a bump, before dropping to the

col prior to An Gobhlach. The ground is a mixture of grasses, heather and the odd peat hag. Deer tracks abound and some usefully take you in the right direction.

Ahead An Gobhlach looks quite tricky, but as you get closer you will see an easy line that can be picked up through the heather, grass and rocks. A less steep line can be taken just to the north. The summit cairn lies at the southern end and is reached surprisingly quickly from the col. Tump 3 and an amazing view.

To the west you will see a track below and this will lead you south to rejoin your earlier route. To reach it carefully, pick your way down the hill's southwestern flanks where there is an obvious break. The track will lead you SW for 5km past Loch Dearg, a new track leading to a viewpoint at NR785739 – easily reached – across a river confluence and through the plantation before turning right onto your original route.

Now it is just 3km back to Ormsary.



Stob Odhar and Cnoc a' Bharaille from An Gobhlach.

Safety in the outdoors

The described route and accompanying information are there to be used as a guide and do not replace the use of map and compass and the skills required to use them.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the route is accurate at the time of going to print, please be aware track and path closures can happen at any time. All walks are undertaken at your own risk.

Please continue to adhere to current guidelines as set out by the government, exercise responsibly and use appropriate clothing and equipment for your chosen outdoor activity. Inform a contact about your route/whereabouts.

Don't forget your phone, snacks, drink, any medication/first aid supplies you may need and to check weather conditions. Most walks are dog friendly but please keep your dog under close control, especially around livestock and wildlife.

Please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.



A map of the Stob Odhar circuit from Ormsary.



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Great work and optimism at Tarbert Castle

With the ninth Tarbert Castle Trust AGM being held remotely next month, papers issued ahead of the event offer a glimpse into the trust's achievements and ambitions.

The group, which voluntarily looks after the community-owned Tarbert Castle ruins and the adjacent woodland and orchard, has a membership of 160.

In her report to trustees, chairwoman Sheila Campbell hails the 2019 big community archaeological dig as 'a great success' adding: 'We have received consents from Historic Environment Scotland to leave the western entrance discovery visible to the public, to carry out a small dig to locate and entrance at the eastern end of the site and construct a new

interpretation area. All this work is in hand in addition to our normal maintenance programme observing Covid rules and recommendations.'

She added: 'We have worked with an excellent Rural Skills group from Tarbert Academy this year.

'The group has been very helpful in keeping our maintenance programme up to date.'

Secretary and treasurer Robert McPhail added thanks to archaeologist Roddy Regan for his advice and help for volunteers, to the volunteers themselves and everyone who has supported the trust.

The 2019/20 trust accounts show an income of £27,930, expenditure of £23,936 leaving a surplus of just under £4,000, most of which is grants still to



Tarbert Castle.

be spent. The trust has £30,000 in restricted funds invested for care of the monument.

On the impact of the pandemic, Mr McPhail said: 'Income will go down due to

Covid, but we will survive and are taking action by Colin Hunter, who looks after the website, establishing a dedicated donations page.

'We are also investigating a

contactless donations unit on site.'

Tarbert Castle Trust AGM will be held via Zoom on Wednesday November 11, with further details to be released.



Robert McPhail, right, supervising tree planting at the castle orchard.



Newly-discovered steps.



Hard at work on the big archeological dig.



The scarier the better.

Call goes out to Mid Argyll's spooky artists

Scary pictures are wanted from budding Mid Argyll artists.

In Inveraray, the community council wants to see Hallowe'en pictures drawn or painted by local children.

The artistic creations will be laminated and displayed on the fencing around Inveraray community hall, as the NHS hero pictures were early in the coronavirus pandemic.

The creators of the three pictures judged the best from all those hung on the fence gallery will be given prizes.

Paintings can be handed into Mrs MacDonald at Inveraray Primary School or Linda Divers at The Tippy Laird.

Lochgilphed Co-op is also looking for spooky artwork.

The help of budding artists is needed to brighten up the shop, so if you would like to draw a spooky picture or draw a pumpkin and colour it in, hand it into the shop or send it by email to tina24burnett@hotmail.co.uk.

Everyone who creates a spooky picture and hands it in will get a goody bag and the top three will receive a fantastic prize.

The closing date for entries will be October 28. All pictures must have name, age and contact number included.

What are you up to for this year's Covid-restricted Hallowe'en? We would love to hear all about it. Send photographs as well to editor@argyllshire-advertiser.co.uk

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Highland Cattle Society annual autumn sale

The Highland Cattle Society Autumn Sale of Pedigree Cattle took place on Monday October 12 at Oban Livestock Centre.

The market was a lot quieter than normal due to current Covid-19 restrictions, with only vendors and buyers allowed to attend. Despite the difficulties, the sale went well with most lots sold, including a run of unaltered older cows to 1400 gns. Both vendors and buyers went home happy with their day.

Sale leader at 3400gns was Nighean Ruadh of Shellachan, from Mr D Buchanan, Shenavallie and bred by Lieutenant Colonel Colin Stewart Winter.

Bred out of Proiseag 3rd of Stair by Neil Ruadh of Shenavallie, she is in calf to Geason Dubh of Shenavllie and heads to Fintry, Glasgow, to Euan MacMillan, Lurg

& Townhead Farms. Next best at 3000gns was a young heifer calve from Mrs Jon H Strickland's Cladich fold. This was Lady Jane White 3rd of Cladich, by Dochie 1st of Gartocharn, out of Lady Jane White of Cladich.

Tom Nelson's Glengorm fold from Mull reached 2700gns for the three-year-old heifer Barabel Ban Flath 22nd of Glengorm. By Craigowl 7th of Glamis Castle, out of Ailsa 1st of Glengorm, she was sold in-calf to Philip of Richmondhill, when knocked down to N & M McLellan.

AJ Ewing paid 2200gns for three-year-old heifer Hannah of Rannoch, from Donald & Malcolm MacNaughton, Kelty, Fife. Her sire is a previous reserve champion overall at Oban bull sales who was sold to Germany for £6,000. She is in calf to MacSaul of Balmoral. Demi 6th of Cladich, from

Mrs Jon H Strickland's Cladich Fold was sold for 2000gns to N & M McLellan, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay, along with two straws of semen from K2 of Cladich, who was the male champion at the Highland Cattle Society Bull Sales in February 2020, a rare opportunity indeed.

Society president Sir Jim Paice said: 'Given that we had to abandon the usual show, the sale was well worthwhile and proves there is a good demand for good Highland cattle.'



Sale leader at 3400gns was Nighean Ruadh of Shellachan, above. Next best at 3000gns was a young heifer calve from Mrs Jon H Strickland's Cladich fold, left, Lady Jane White 3rd of Cladich. For other sale results, visit www.obantimes.co.uk

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/01717/PP	Erection of a boat storage shed and associated works	Plot 1, Site 11B, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8RR
20/01720/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of vehicular access	Boots, 19 Main Street, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6AD
20/01210/PP	Installation of 3 external air conditioning condensing units	Corrie Cook School, Corrie House, Craobh Haven, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8UA
20/01672/PP	Erection of lean to extension and shed (retrospective)	Rudha Loisgte, Pier Road, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute PA29 6UG
20/01446/PP	Alterations and extensions to dwellinghouse and installation of air source heat pump (amendment to previously approved plans ref. 18/02100/PP) amended design and painting of dwellinghouse (retrospective), retention of temporary vehicular access and erection of shed	

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Council's website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at: www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
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AGM

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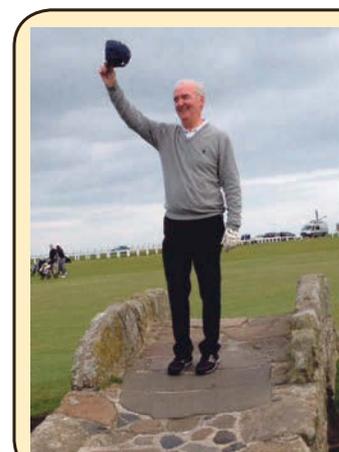
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Thought for the Week
with Marilyn Shedden

I am fascinated by those amazing people who do the sign language for politicians and presenters.

Their expressions are so remarkable and certainly give a flavour of what is being said.

I would dearly love to learn this and I'm delighted to see our children are learning to sign in local schools.

Non-verbal communication is a powerful means of conveying feelings in all members of the animal kingdom. We just need to watch animals from the great majestic elephants to the tiniest ant. Elephants have such sensitivity that they even have their own grieving ritual. When one of their own dies, the herd gather round the dead animal in a circle, gently touching the deceased with their trunks, then just as gently, cover the elephant with leaves, before standing silently and completely still for hours with great respect.

As I watch our two collies I see the amazing communication between each other. Different barks are used for different reasons and they constantly message one another without a phone or an app!

Paws are used to make requests, elicit sympathy or as a sign of affection.

Their little Westie friend has also taught them how to get a quicker response by using a sharp short scrape on the leg!

How important communication is for us all and during this time of lockdown restrictions, we see people suffering because of the lack of social contact and communication.

It is a serious issue and one which will get worse as winter rolls in bringing the dark lonely nights. Pick up the phone and make that call. You never know when a moment and a few sincere words can have an impact on a life.

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ARGYLL AND BUTE

Grant for older people's charity

Argyll charity The Community Bureau SCIO has received a grant of £9,600 from the national older people's charity Independent Age to support its important work with older people as the Covid crisis continues.

The charity, which provides support to community-led intergenerational projects like The Shed, received the funds through the Independent Age Grants Fund, set up to support organisations working directly with older people across the UK during the pandemic.

Glenn Ellie Appleton, manager at The Community Bureau SCIO, said: 'We are delighted to have received grant support from Independent Age. In these challenging and uncertain times, this grant will allow us to lay the foundations for different approaches and to increase our digital support to those most vulnerable in our communities.'

'We will also shortly be able to pursue our plans to offer friendship, company and improve quality of life again in different ways than were easily possible before the Covid crisis.'



Japanese larch - at risk from fungal disease *Phytophthora Ramorum*.

COWAL

Forestry Land Scotland deals with larch tree disease

Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) is drawing up long-term plans to deal with the spread of tree disease *Phytophthora Ramorum*, which attacks larch trees.

This year's national tree health survey revealed 80 potential new sites of infection have been detected in Cowal and the Trossachs.

The news comes as felling work to tackle the disease at previously infected sites resumes, including Puck's Glen and Kilmun Hill, and as the Cowal team begins to schedule the work

required by control orders for 12 new sites. Of those, one has to be felled by the end of October, four by the end of November and one by the end of December. The remaining six must be felled before March 2021.

Fraser McDonald of the Cowal FLS team said: 'It's a real blow to have so many sites to deal with. It's going to substantially tax our resources and challenge our planning and delivery teams. As well as dealing with these sites of infection, we're also getting our normal operations back on track after the Covid-19 lockdown.'

'It's going to be a long haul that will see substantial changes to some well-loved landscapes over the next four years but it's urgent work we have to do if we are to slow the spread of the disease to other sites where larch is present.'

'As we get this work started, we will have to close some sites for public safety.'

'We appreciate this might cause some inconvenience for local people and visitors but we would urge everyone to observe the on-site safety signs.'

Sites that are already being cleared of infected and susceptible trees, or where felling will start soon, include Corlarach, Pucks Glen, Kilmun Hill, Strathlachlan, Gairletter and Whistlefield.

The public is asked to help control the rate of spread by following 'Keep it Clean' advice. The spores that cause this disease can be carried to unaffected sites in mud and forest debris so take a few minutes to brush or wipe off boots, bike wheels, tent pegs and even dogs' paws before and after a visit to any woodland in the area.

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BIRTHS

TURNBULL



Andrew and Emma are delighted to announce the birth of their precious daughter Ayala Isabella. A new granddaughter for Heather and Kevin Williams and Russell and Heather Anderson. First grandchild for Geoff and Shelley Turnbull. Welcome to the world little one!

ENGAGEMENTS

MCFADYEN

MCKERRAL - Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Charles, elder son of Calum and Heather, Campbeltown to Fiona, daughter of Peter and Kate, Southend.

DEATHS

FERGUSON - Peacefully at the Sunshine Room, Campbeltown Hospital, on October 20, 2020, Robert Barbour Ferguson (Bobby) in his 89th year, Glenholm, Southend, dearly beloved husband of the late Isabel Johnston, much loved father of John, Wilma and Robert, father-in-law of Suzy, Willie and Kerry and a loving grandpa of Alasdair, Craig, Kay, Daniel, Thomas, Matthew and Jessica. Funeral Service Private in line with current government guidelines. Bobby's funeral will take place on Friday October 23. The cortege will leave Glenholm at 12 noon. We will travel to Southend Church, stopping for a brief moment, then carry on through the village on our way to Keil Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Bobby may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

McKIERNAN - Daniel. Peacefully after a short illness with his family by his side on October 13, 2020. Dan, aged 73 years, beloved husband of Lynn, much loved dad to Susie and Kerry, a dear brother-in-law to Moira and uncle to John and Lindy. He will be dearly missed by all his family and friends. A private cremation will take place. If so desired in memory of Dan, donations can be made to the Ayrshire Hospice by following the link www.ayrshirehospice.org

SMITH - Peacefully in Ardnahein Care Home, Dunoon on Thursday, October 8, 2020, Margaret Smith (née MacLachlan), much loved mother of Nigel and grandmother to Robert and Ryan. Due to current restrictions a private funeral service will be held.

TITUS - Ann, Barriskell, daughter of Angus and Bessie Barriskell, formerly of Lochgilphead, Argyll, passed away in her home of Sarasota, Florida on October 3, 2020. She was 88. She was a lifelong member of the All Saints Episcopal Church in Millington, New Jersey and a member of the St. Andrews Society. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Charles A. Titus, and is survived by her sister Margot Barriskell, her son Jeffrey A. Titus, her daughter Gillian T. Ardini and she had two grandchildren Jeffrey C. Titus and Kristen T. Zitani.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MACARTHUR - Donnie, Caroline and Helen would like to thank relatives and friends for all their lovely messages, flowers and phone calls following the loss of Anne. We have been so touched by the kindness and support shown by everyone and all the fond memories of Anne/mum that friends have shared with us. We would also like to thank the medical staff, the dedicated Campbeltown community nursing team and all the carers

who assisted with mum's care at home. Thank you also to Elizabeth Ball for conducting a beautiful service at Clachan cemetery. We are also immensely grateful to Stan Lupton for his sensitive and professional handling of all the funeral arrangements. Thank you so much to everyone who turned out in Clachan village on the day to pay their respects and say goodbye to Anne.

McMILLAN - The McMillan family would like to thank neighbours friends and relatives for the lovely flowers, cards, baking and messages of sympathy on the passing of Granda Erch (Archie). Special thanks to doctors and nurses of both Campbeltown and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals also ambulance staff for their dedicated care of Archie over the past few years. Thanks to Rev William Crossan for a comforting and uplifting church service and sincere thanks to the many that lined the route to cemetery. Also many thanks to staff at Argyll Hotel for their sterling work at such short notice. Last but by no means least to Kenneth Blair and staff for their kindness and compassion which helped us through this difficult time.

IN MEMORIAM

COLE - Cally (née Mitchell). Remembering with love and happy memories. - Your loving family, home and away.

MACINNES - In loving memory of Margaret who passed away October 26, 2017, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Always in our thoughts - Neil, David, Alan and families at home and abroad.

McGOWN - Treasured memories of Cathie (McLean) died October 23, 2019. Beloved wife of the late John. Forever in our thoughts. Son Wallace and niece Mhairi & family

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise Psalm 96:4
Our building is open for Sunday services and you would be welcome on Sunday, 25th October at 11am

to join with us in our praise and worship service when Rod Sharp, from North Carolina, USA will be Zooming in to deliver the message.

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

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

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown 01586 552160
Rev Tony Wood
Sunday Holy Mass at 10.00am, please book a place, 01586 552160, campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk
Daily Mass streamed via Facebook and Zoom, see www.stkieransrc.org for details.
(SC002876)

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



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

SALVATION ARMY



Sunday 25th October
Worship service 3pm
Covid 19 measures in place
If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046
Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown
free church of scotland
Sunday 25th October
11.15am Worship Service Rev Rodger Crooks
11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 28th October
12 noon Prayer & Bible Study
Covid-19 Government guidelines apply
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday Service, 11 am at SKDT Hall, Kirk Street
Covid-19 Government guidelines apply
Pastor Mark Jasper 01586 554 092
pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322



ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES
Sunday Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and Achahoish at 12:30pm
Harvest Thanksgiving "We ought to support people like these that we may be fellow workers for the truth" (3John v8)
Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches.
Wednesdays from 12:45pm to 1:15pm in Ardrishaig Church "A Time for Reflecting"

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH in Mid-Argyll & Arran
Christ Church, Lochgilphead Sunday 11am Holy Eucharist SC0 13787
Fr Simon Mackenzie 01546 602315

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 25th October
Dr J L Morrison OBE Skipness
Matthew Ramsay Tarbert
Due to the current increased COVID restrictions we will not be Holding services on **Sunday 25th October**
Video message on Facebook each Wednesday
Rev. W Crossan
Tarbert Charity No: SC002622
Skipness - Charity No: SC004280

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH Lochgilphead

Holy Mass: Sunday 10am
All Saints, Inveraray Holy Mass: Sunday 12.30pm
Booking essential due to restricted capacity - Email or telephone to book
Weekday Mass details available on website or by email/telephone
All Masses at St Margaret's are Live Streamed via our YouTube channel. Link available at our website: www.lochgilpheadcatholic.com and Facebook Page.
Fr. Ronald Campbell 01546 602380
lochgilphead@rcdai.org.uk
(SC0002876)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

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

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor, Kilmartin
Sunday 25th October
Harvest Thanksgiving Service at 10am
Mr Jim Malcolm
A very warm welcome awaits
Please wear face covering

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Due to the current increased COVID restrictions we will not be Holding services on **Sunday 25th October**
Video message on Facebook each Wednesday
Rev. W Crossan

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Back injury ends Bob's championship challenge

There was no happy homecoming for Oban's Bob MacIntyre at St Andrews last weekend when injury forced him to withdraw from the Scottish Championship after only one round.

Following his disappointing score of 78 on Thursday, his management company issued a statement explaining his withdrawal: 'Unfortunately Robert MacIntyre has had to withdraw from the AXA Scottish Championship due to a niggling injury to his hip/back which has been causing him discomfort for the last couple of weeks.

'Due to current Covid restrictions, European Tour physios can only give each player 15 minutes of treatment per day, meaning Bob has had to withdraw to receive more intense treatment to enable a return to full fitness and be ready to play in the Cyprus Open at Aphrodite Resort, Paphos, from October 29 to November 1.'

The Oban star's withdrawal is a further blow to his chances of qualifying for the season ending Tour Championship in December.

With only the top 60 qualifying, he currently sits in 68th spot and only has two tournaments between now and then to make up the necessary ground. He will be hoping the physio team works wonders to ensure he can tee it up at the end of October and set himself up for a grandstand finish to the season.

Mid Argyll sailing ace in the Euro medals

Mid Argyll sailor Lorenzo Chiavarini has achieved a podium finish at the 2020 European Laser Championships.

The 26-year-old, originally from Bellanoch on the Crinan Canal, won bronze in the Laser senior men's final to complete a British clean sweep of the medals.

The event, held in Gdansk, Poland, between October 6 and 13, saw Elliot Hanson win gold, ahead of team-mates Michael Beckett and Lorenzo Chiavarini in second and third places respectively - the first time Great Britain has filled the podium.

Still on the road to recovery after a back injury, Lorenzo - last year's winner of the event - said: 'I am so happy with this result. It was already a positive result for me to get to sail in this competition after seven months out the boat due to injury. Thanks to everyone who helped me individually giving their time and friendship to get me back to the sport, Sailingfast for providing me with a very fast sail and always supporting me and Nick Thompson for a great week of friendship and support on and off the water.

'The cherry on the cake was



Lorenzo Chiavarini.

standing on the podium with my friends whom I have been competing against since I first started sailing. Such great emotions for all of us.'



Lorenzo in action on the water.



Lewis MacPhee of Oban Celtic tussles for the ball with Inveraray's David MacAllister in yellow. Photograph: Kevin McGlynn.

Shinty stirs into life under pandemic rules

Inveraray's shinty players knocked off some of the lockdown rust at a friendly match in Oban last weekend.

Along with other non-professional contact sport, the shinty season ended back in March when the coronavirus lockdown began and has yet to re-start.

With the future still unclear for the sport, along with the rest of society, shinty clubs have been preparing in accordance with coronavirus precautions.

In a friendly versus Oban Celtic at Mossfield, Inveraray ran out 4-2 winners.

Red Star travel to take on Oban Saints

Newly-reinstated Covid restrictions mean Red Star's SAFL campaign has been delayed again so the team will travel to take on Oban Saints in a friendly on Saturday.

The game will be played either on the grass at Glencruitten or the 3G pitch at Oban High School, depending on the weather.

Kick-off is 1.30pm and will be refereed by Jimmy Litster.

The match will be played under the strict Scottish FA match day protocols with no changing rooms, no showers and, unfortunately, no spectators.



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