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Digital discovery app puts Campbeltown on the map

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

Campbeltown's whisky distillery chiefs have welcomed a new digital guide that promotes the history and whisky heritage for which the town is world renowned.

As well as a whisky trail and information about the town's three remaining distilleries, the Discover Campbeltown app features walking and cycling guides, a family quiz and scavenger hunt for all ages, as well as a trail map linked to a geographic information system that includes all locations.

The cycling and walking trails included in the app, which is optimised for phone and tablet devices and is available for download now from app stores, complement the existing walking tours available in the summer.

The app has been developed and produced by Argyll and Bute Council with support from local people and community groups, funded by

Smarter Choices Smarter Places. It is part of the legacy of the town centre regeneration programme (2007-2020) that has seen more than £10 million invested in town centre buildings, safeguarding homes and businesses and attracting new investment to the town.

Ranald Watson, director of sales and marketing at J and

'Many people know about the whisky history but now we can also share Campbeltown's rich heritage'

A Mitchell and Co, told the Courier: 'The new Discover Campbeltown app is a brilliant tool for anyone visiting the area and a tremendous amount of work has gone into it, both on the design front and on the content.

'It will be perfect for helping

visitors get to know the area and make the most of their stay and, for that matter, there will be plenty of information on there that locals will enjoy discovering too. That's particularly true of the whisky trail section: Campbeltown's whisky history is pretty well-documented but to have such a comprehensive guide to both the old distilleries and the present day whisky companies at your fingertips is unprecedented.

'Whisky tourism is a real growth area for the three strands of our business - Springbank, Glengyle and Cadenhead's - so the depth of information in that app will only help to bring more people here to explore that side of things.

'Importantly, it will also encourage some of our whisky visitors to spend longer in the area during their visit, resulting in extra business for hotels and other accommodation providers, bars and restaurants

Continued on page two

Calls for urgency after latest landslide at Rest



Argyll and Bute councillors and politicians have called for urgent action after the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful was closed again this week following another landslide.

Around 5,000 tonnes of mud and rock fell

down the slopes of Beinn Narnain between Sunday night and Monday morning forcing the closure of both the A83 and Old Military Road diversion route.

Full story: page three.

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Step forward for Gateway to Gigha project after £600k grant

A sustainable travel project aiming to improve walking and cycling access to the Isle of Gigha is one step closer to fruition thanks to a grant of almost £600,000 from the Scottish Government.

The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust (IGHT), which is behind the Gateway to Gigha project, has been awarded more than £593,000 from Transport Scotland's Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Fund.

The project, to which the IGHT is also contributing, has been awarded a further £228,100 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The cash will help to deliver the construction and upgrading of paths spanning 8km – almost five miles – across the island. New bikes and e-bikes will be available to hire next to the ferry slip to reduce the need for cars.

It is hoped that this will encourage and promote the sustainable use and protection of



The Gateway to Gigha project will improve walking and cycle routes on Gigha.

Gigha's landscape and assets.

The funding will also help pay for a newly-created 'island ranger' position which will project manage the Gateway to Gigha initiative.

Jane Millar, IGHT business development manager, said: 'With thanks to the support from the European Regional Development Fund and the

Scottish Government, Gigha will become more accessible.'

The project was one of 10 schemes to share £9.46 million of funding through the Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Fund, which has benefited from £7.21 million provided through the European Regional Development Fund.

The IGHT has also revealed that it has partnered with Argyll College University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) to deliver a new opportunity for a Horticulture Modern Apprentice at the island's famous Achamore Gardens.

Following many years of decline, Achamore is now at the start of a major, multi-year restoration project, which will both respect the heritage and vision of Sir James Horlick's original garden whilst reflecting the changing face of gardening in the 21st century with new features that will add to the visitor experience.

Apprentices were a key part of Achamore's workforce historically, with one of the longest serving head gardeners starting out as the garden apprentice before working his way up the ladder.

The deadline for applications is Friday September 25 – for more information, visit www.gigha.org.uk

Housing association's U-turn over communal seating

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) has reversed its decision to force tenants at Meadowburn Place in Campbeltown to remove outdoor seating they purchased for a communal area.

The residents were left 'gobsmacked' and 'devastated' when they were asked to remove the wooden seating table and rattan corner suite they clubbed together to buy after ACHA said it restricted other residents from using the area and could 'cause a disturbance' if gatherings took place.

George Harrison, one of the residents who chipped in, told the Courier that the seating created a 'resurgence in neighbourly spirit and a sense of close community which was lacking before lockdown' and provided a safe space for all neighbours, especially those who were elderly and on their own, to chat to each other during the pandemic.

In a bid to have the decision reversed, Mr Harrison contacted Councillor John Armour for advice and made a formal complaint to the housing association.

In response to Mr Harrison's complaint, ACHA said an investigation had been carried out seeking the views of all residents in one section of Meadowburn Place, which is owned by ACHA and several private owners, and added: 'We received responses back from 22 residents and, of these, 16 were in favour of the seating area remaining and six were against it remaining due to disturbance.'

'We understand from that consultation that many residents felt strongly that the seating area had been good for the community and was very beneficial.'

'Based on this information collected, I can advise that ACHA has no issue with the seating area remaining in place.'

'We would ask that owners using the area consider the disturbance late night use of the area can create for others.'

'We suggest that the area is not used beyond 10pm at night to prevent noise complaints and any risk of disturbance.'

POLICE FILES

Phone box damaged

A pane of glass on the public telephone box at the junction of Hillside Road and Millknowe Road, Campbeltown, was smashed between 9am on Friday September 4 and 10am on Sunday September 6.

Speeding motorist

A 37-year-old man has been charged after he was stopped for allegedly exceeding the speed limit on the A83, near Glenbarr, at about 10.50am on Friday September 11.

Drugs possession

A 21-year-old man was charged after he was found in possession of cocaine when he was searched by police at about 1.30am on Sunday September 13 at Millknowe, Campbeltown.

Vehicle damaged

Police are appealing for witnesses after the passenger door of a white BMW 116 car was dented and scratched between 7pm on Thursday September 10 and 8.45am on Friday September 11, in Church Way, Port Ellen, Islay.

Bike stolen

Police are appealing for witnesses after a yellow folding bicycle was stolen from beside a field at Ardnave Road, Gruinart, Islay, at about 11.30am on Friday September 11.

Police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information on the above or any incident to phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Digital app puts Campbeltown on the map

Continued from page one and the local economy in general.'

Iain McAlister, Glen Scotia Distillery manager and master distiller, said: 'The Discover Campbeltown app is a super concept, James Lafferty and his team did so much to bring this to fruition and realisation, which will undoubtedly assist both visitors and customers to all local businesses and indeed the wider community to truly understand the true involvement the whisky industry held in this town.'

'This is both functional and accessible on an easily accessible modern platform. Hopefully this, in conjunction with the recent publications by Angus Martin, the renowned local historian, will generate an even greater national appreciation of Campbeltown and its whisky.'

Councillor Alastair Redman, policy lead for economic growth, said: 'Discover Campbeltown is a fantastic addition to ongoing regeneration works for the town. Volunteers do an amazing job promoting

Campbeltown and we wanted to harness that local knowledge of hidden buildings, the people who made the town and, of course, its famous whisky history.'

'Many people know about the whisky history but now we can also share Campbeltown's rich heritage and stunning walking and cycling routes. Whether you live in the town or are visiting Argyll and Bute, I would encourage people to download the app and find out more about what Campbeltown has to offer.'

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Calls for urgency after another devastating landslide at Rest

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

Just six days after it reopened, the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful was closed again on Monday following another 'significant' landslide.

Less than six weeks after the road was closed at the same location because of a landslide, around 5,000 tonnes of material landed on the A83, with some boulders and material reaching the Old Military Road (OMR) diversion route.

Trunk road operator BEAR Scotland had closed both roads overnight in anticipation of heavy rainfall on Sunday afternoon.

With both the A83 and OMR shut, traffic was diverted on to the A82 via Crianlarich and also the Western Ferries Clyde crossing before the OMR was reopened under convoy on Tuesday morning.

Eddie Ross, BEAR Scotland's North West representative said: 'Around 75mm of rain

fell in a few hours in the early hours of Sunday which triggered another significant landslide at the same location as the event on Tuesday August 4.

'Much of this was caught in the temporary debris fence and debris pits, however, as the landslide event continued throughout Sunday those measures were overtopped onto the A83 with some reaching the OMR.

'As ever, we thank the local community for their patience while we deal with this unprecedented situation.'

Councillor Aileen Morton, Argyll and Bute Council leader, said: 'The Scottish Government has committed to finding a permanent solution to this ongoing issue, but what is needed now is a date for that permanent solution to start.'

'There is huge disappointment and anger locally that the area has yet again been let down by the lack of progress. This weekend's landslide has re-

sulted in further disruption for many residents and businesses but this has been going for over a decade now.

'Holding a public consultation is one thing but we need a timetable for construction from Scottish Government and detailed plans for when we can all expect to have a fully operational and safe trunk road for Argyll and Bute.'

Argyll First councillor Donald Kelly said: 'If the Scottish Government is genuinely committed to a permanent solution it should be fast-tracked and implemented as a matter of urgency. As I have said before, if this was happening on the M8 it would have been addressed years ago.'

'Maybe the only way to force the government's hand would be for a landslide to permanently block the A83. I would again encourage all elected members, businesses and the wider community to lobby the Scottish Government. It might be wearing to do so

but we must continue to keep the pressure on and make our voices heard.'

Councillor John Armour said: 'The decision has been made to have a permanent solution and while we rightly get very frustrated every time there is a landslide and the road is closed, and we would all like to see the solution in place right now, that is obviously not possible but it is going in the right direction at last.'

Councillor Rory Colville said: 'Whilst a technical solution may be possible at this one point on the A83 the cost of providing safe passage will still not give any guarantee that further road closures will not continue until all the other road safety issues on the A83 are addressed. Three out of the top 10 trunk roads in Scotland with the worst safety records are in Argyll, the A83 being one. For that reason I hope serious consideration to finding an alternative route will be considered.'

Distillery in the pink with Co-op gin deal

A Kintyre distillery is 'toasting' a deal with the Co-op which sees its pink gin now available at up to 50 stores across Scotland.

Beinn an Tuirc Distillers, based in Carradale, has a supply deal which sees its Kintyre Pink Gin available at Co-op stores for Scottish Food and Drink Fortnight which runs until September 20.

The business employs six people and created its first bottle of spirit in 2017.

It uses an on-site hydro-electric scheme to power all the distillations to produce sustainable spirits.

Niall Macalister Hall, director, said: 'We are delighted to be working with Co-op. The listing comes at an important time to support our business - the additional awareness, reach and availability from being stocked in our local Co-op and in communities across the country is a huge boost. We are confident that our unique gin will be enjoyed



Niall Macalister Hall of Beinn an Tuirc Distillers.

by Co-op customers.' Kevin Buchan, Co-op local sourcing buying manager, Scotland, said: 'We are delighted to be working closely with local distillers, Co-op is all about connecting communities, making a difference and creating value locally, and our work to celebrate and support local suppliers and showcase our great Scottish food and drink is a cornerstone of this approach.'

Advertisorial

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Council puts plans in place to deal with winter hazards

Winter treatment and pre-treatment of route priorities for Argyll and Bute have been approved by councillors.

Members of Argyll and Bute Council's environment, development and infrastructure committee approved the area's 2020-2021 Winter Service Policy on Thursday September 10.

Winter stand-by arrangements operate from Friday October 30 until Friday April 16 2021. The programme is similar to previous years with the inclusion of additional guidelines for using vehicles safely, to protect against Covid-19 infection.

When cold weather hits, the council pre-treats 52 per cent of the road network, which is more than most other local authorities.

There are 31 front-line vehicles ready for action, and two spare in case of breakdown.

There are another six vehicles, as well as tractors and 'V'



ploughs, that can be sent out if necessary.

More than 11,000 tonnes of salt will be stockpiled to keep Argyll's 750 miles of priority routes clear.

This takes careful planning by a team of people who analyse local weather forecast data so they know by the end of each day what they need

to do to make sure the roads are treated appropriately the following morning.

Councillor Robin Currie, policy lead for housing, roads and infrastructure services, said: 'Each year, we thank our roads workers who come to work on the icy roads, in the dark, to make sure the rest of us can get to our daily com-

mitments as safely as possible. More than ever this year, we will value the front-line service they provide.

'Please look out for vulnerable neighbours when conditions underfoot are poor.

'Throughout winter, we work closely with colleagues in Police Scotland and promote any relevant travel advice through our own council Facebook and Twitter channels. Please pay close attention to travel advice during poor weather conditions and stay safe.'

For more information on the council's adverse weather plans, visit its website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has a useful fact sheet on being prepared for winter driving on its website. However, in very bad weather, advice is to avoid driving completely unless journeys are absolutely necessary.

Dual purpose vehicles to fight flood and snow

Now businesses are back at work, procurement is underway for two multi-purpose vehicles that can clear out drainage channels during wet weather, and act as back-up for breakdowns or in extreme snowy weather in the winter.

As there are already two such vehicles in Argyll and Bute Council's fleet, the two new vehicles, once purchased, will mean there will be one in each of the local authority's four areas.

A programme of channel cleaning can then be set up and delivered over the year, mitigating weather-related damage and climate change.

An additional two drivers will be recruited, for up to two years, to focus on gully cleaning and drainage work.

Funds for the vehicles were allocated in the budget earlier in the year, members of the environment, development and infrastructure committee were reminded



Councillor Robin Currie.

on Thursday September 10. However, during lockdown it was difficult to progress procurement as many of the suppliers had effectively closed.

Councillor Robin Currie, policy lead for housing, roads and infrastructure services, said: 'The flexibility of these vehicles provides value for money for the council as well as the functionality we need. Being able to fit either gully cleaning or snow clearing equipment onto a single chassis means we can use them all year round.'

'Our overall aim is to do all we can to keep Argyll and Bute open for business despite the extreme weather we now experience – whether rain or snow.'

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ALIenergy aims to help families affected by fuel poverty

Local energy charity ALIenergy has started a new, two year project, working with Home Energy Scotland, funded by the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme – www.energyredress.org.uk. Argyll Energy Advice Service delivers a home energy advice service to households across all of Argyll & Bute. Assistance is available for anyone suffering from fuel poverty with special focus on off-gas households, which are often particularly badly affected by fuel poverty due to reliance on more expensive heating types such as electric heating with punitive restrictive meter tariffs. Households will be supported to access alternative suppliers, meters, or tariffs, implement energy saving measures and behaviours, access schemes and reduce bills using a mix of telephone advice, home visits (as soon as COVID-19 restrictions allow), and drop-in events.

Argyll has one of the highest levels of fuel poverty in Europe, due to poor housing, high energy prices, lack of mains gas, low wages, vulnerable demographics, bad weather and exposure. Fuel poverty



affects 1 in 3 households across Argyll. The Argyll area is the second largest local authority in Scotland, covering 9% of Scotland, and is particularly challenging: 96% of the area and 45% of its population is classed as 'remote rural', tending to fall through policy gaps, and poorly represented in standard household indicators. Many households are isolated or inaccessible and 17% are on 23 inhabited islands. ALIenergy's Affordable Warmth Advisors are available to help households struggling to meet the cost of heating their home comfortably. Recent cases have seen householders receiving boiler replacements

free of charge and hundreds of pounds saved from switching electricity tariffs.

Fuel poverty kills six people in Scotland every day of winter and increased levels of fuel poverty will result in more deaths. In an area like Argyll which is heavily dependent on tourism, hospitality and seasonal work, it's very likely the knock-on effects of lockdown will see an increased number of households with less income this winter.

"ALIenergy handled every step of the process on my behalf, without them I wouldn't have received my new boiler, secondary glazing and fridge." Mrs B, Oban.

Advertisorial

Register fishing vessels by end of 2020 to export catch

Fishing boat owners are being urged to register their vessels as food businesses, and have them inspected by Argyll and Bute Council, before December 31 so they can continue to export to the EU post-Brexit.

If vessel owners fail to meet this requirement, they will not be permitted to export their catch, either directly or indirectly, to the EU from January 1 2021.

Urgent

This has become urgent because, of the 200 fishing vessels in Argyll and Bute, less than half have registered as food businesses.

Once registered as a food business, environmental health officers will make arrangements to have vessels inspected.

Following the inspection, vessels will be issued with an export health certificate.

This certificate confirms that the export meets the health



Fishing boats at Campbeltown's Old Quay.

requirements of the designated country. In addition, fish processors and factories will require their suppliers to

comply with EU legislation. Food Standards Scotland has already issued a letter to all fishing vessel owners in

Scotland highlighting the required action.

Argyll and Bute councillor David Kinniburgh, policy lead for planning services, said: 'Argyll and Bute is famed for the quality of its sea food. It is one of its leading exports and plays an import role in our economy. It is absolutely vital that our fishing fleet prepares for the changes we face as we leave the EU.'

'Our environmental health officers are working with Food Standards Scotland, industry experts and the Scottish Government to support our fishermen through this transition. Please contact them as soon as possible. The process is free and it will enable you to continue to access European markets.'

For more information, and to register for inspection, email envhealthwest@argyll-bute.gov.uk typing 'fishing vessels inspection' into the subject line.

MSP urges people to download Covid-19 proximity tracing app

Michael Russell MSP is urging people in Argyll and Bute to download the new Protect Scotland app in a bid to help slow the spread of coronavirus and support the easing of lockdown restrictions.

The app can be downloaded onto phones and will automatically alert users if they have come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

No personal identifiable information will be entered on the app and the Scottish Government has assured that it will not monitor the location of individuals as the app uses Bluetooth technology, and not GPS, to identify contacts.

Mr Russell said: 'The Scottish Government has now launched the Protect Scotland proximity tracing app, to help stop the spread of the Covid-19 virus and complement the person-to-person approach of Test and Protect.'

'The app - which takes less than a minute to download -



Michael Russell MSP.

will allow us to alert people at risk far more quickly, so that we can all take steps to reduce the risk of infecting others.'

'Scotland's official contact tracing app will help us all to protect ourselves, our family, our friends and our community by enabling faster contact tracing.'

'The more people who have the app, the more it can help to slow the spread of coronavirus.'

'That's why I'm urging people in Argyll and Bute to download the app, and let's all protect Scotland.'



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A new way to discover Campbeltown

We all love Campbeltown for our own reasons, many of us simply because it is the place we call home, having been born and raised here.

Even if we haven't given it much thought, our love for the area probably comes from a combination of our stunning scenery, varied wildlife and rich cultural heritage.

Many people around the world love Campbeltown because of its strong affiliation with whisky, having been described at one time as the whisky capital of the world and still recognised as one of the distinct whisky distilling regions with three thriving distilleries.

Whatever your reason for loving Campbeltown, it is fantastic to share the things our town has to offer with residents and visitors through the exciting new Discover Campbeltown app.

A lot of time and effort has gone into making the app a success and we can't wait to see people out and about using it.

What a pity the app's launch coincided with another landslide closing the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful.

As lovely as Campbeltown is, it is a long journey from most places at the best of times, never mind when detours are involved. We need to see some real urgency put into finding a permanent solution for the Rest and Be Thankful to ensure the survival of Argyll towns like Campbeltown.

GET INVOLVED
email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Water off without warning

I write this letter in condemnation of Scottish Water.

At approximately 10am one day the week before last, the water supply went off in Carradale without warning. When we tried to ring Scottish Water, we were advised to go to Twitter, Facebook or the company's website.

An alternative number was said so quickly that there was no chance of writing it down, unless we listened to the whole message again.

Many of us do not have computers, so what then?

Carradale village predominantly consists of residents of retirement age. In my household we have four adults, one is 91 and suffers with advanced dementia, Parkinson's disease and diabetes.

In our vicinity we have several people requiring carers, some up to four times a day – how were they going to get a hot drink with no access to water?

Would the bosses in the offices go without a hot drink for eight to 10 hours?

I rest my case.

Bill Bidmead, Carradale.

Need for more benches and bins around Kintyre

During a visit to the Isle of Islay recently I realised how many benches and bins are available there, not only in villages but also dotted about the more remote countryside in lay-bys and such like.

Furthermore, many of these benches and picnic tables had their own bins right beside them.

As the new normal means people would often rather take-away food and sit outside to eat it, the number of benches and bins on Islay is great for this purpose, and I realised that we are lacking both in many areas of Campbeltown and Kintyre.

Not only would it allow for more social distancing but it would mean more people could support food take-away businesses – which must be struggling at the moment – and dispose of their litter appropriately.

Is this something the council or perhaps community councils could look into?

Name and address supplied.

Scottish fiscal deficit overstated

Once again the GERS figures (Government Expenditure and Revenue Scotland) have been released. It estimates the revenue raised in Scotland and the goods and services provided for the benefit of Scotland.

Just how accurate are these figures?

It should be noted that Scottish GDP is not determinable with any accuracy because much of the data required to calculate it such as taxes, imports, exports, investment, savings and more besides, is simply not reliably available for Scotland and is instead based on estimates provided from London.

Scottish VAT is declared on the whole of UK VAT returns: no-one knows how much is due for Scotland. GERS compares tax paid in Scotland with spend for Scotland. That means the following are ignored: Scottish income taxed outside Scotland such as rents, interest, profits, royalties and maybe more, all of which can be significant; tax paid on providing the benefits for people in Scotland when that spend occurred outside Scotland; tax paid on the multiplier benefit in the spend outside Scotland nonetheless charged to Scotland.

It allocates £3.4 billion for Scotland's share of military spending as part of the UK. Compare this with Ireland which, in October 2019, announced that its defence budget for 2020 would just exceed €1 billion.

We are also allocated the following, over which we have no say:

- £4.5 billion to service Westminster debt
- £1.8 billion for UK 'service costs'
- £966 million for 'international services'

The result is a system designed to overstate the Scottish fiscal deficit.

GERS tells us nothing about how an independent Scotland would fare or even run its affairs.

It does, however, tell us how Westminster-linked organisations would like us to be seen.

Elaine Mackenzie, Tarbert.

Horrified by latest social media craze

Animal welfare charity Blue Cross is horrified about the latest social media craze where pet owners are sharing videos and images of themselves getting up close to their pet and surprising them when they are asleep or removing their food when eating.

Using hashtags like '#invadeyourdogspersonalspace' and '#invadeyourpetspace' there have been over half a million views of these posts so far.

Examples we've seen include making loud noises next to sleeping pets to film how they react, getting into a pet's bed when they are sleeping and waking them suddenly when face-to-face.

While we are sure the intent is innocent fun, it is vital pet owners understand that this is a potentially dangerous activity and extremely traumatic and stressful for most pets who may go on to develop serious behaviour problems.

Claire Stallard, animal behaviourist, Blue Cross.

Beware of Test and Protect scams

Age Scotland is warning older people to look out for Test and Protect scams, after reports of despicable fraudsters conning older people into paying for tests or handing over their financial information.

Nicola Sturgeon warned on Tuesday in her daily briefing that cold callers have attempted to cash in on the crisis by telling people they need to pay for a Covid-19 test. She said they have been posing as contact tracers and trying to persuade people to divulge their bank details or other personal information on the phone.

Age Scotland is warning everyone to be aware and learn how to protect themselves and older relatives. We have already worked with the Scottish Government to help ensure the contact tracing scheme is safe and secure and reduce the risk of scams.

It's absolutely disgusting that anyone would try to use the Test and Protect scheme to ex-

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plot people and con them out of their money. Unfortunately, there will always be heartless scammers who prey on the most vulnerable in our society.

Not only are older people more at risk of serious illness from coronavirus and extremely anxious about it, but they are disproportionately likely to be targeted by fraudsters and fall victim to this type of crime. It's all too easy for someone to let their defences down and be talked into paying for a test or divulging financial information.

We're grateful that the Scottish Government has taken on board our feedback in making the Test and Protect scheme as safe and secure as possible, with an option to call back if people suspect they are being scammed. We would urge everyone to be aware of how it works, and warn any older relatives to look out for scams.

Genuine contact tracers will never ask for payment or any financial or confidential details.

If you have any concerns, you can always hang up and call back on the official number - 0800 030 8012 - ideally from another phone or after waiting to make sure the line is clear.

Brian Sloan, chief executive, Age Scotland.

CONTACTUS

email us at editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
telephone 01586 554646

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



This week's photograph was sent in by Marilyn Shedden and shows a single sunflower amidst a mass of poppies at Glencraigs Farm.

Marilyn took the photograph using a Nikon D7100 camera on a visit to the farm's wildflower meadow which people were welcome to walk around during August in return for a small donation. The £300 raised was donated to Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide.

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

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The Editor welcomes letters and emails for publication, however we reserves the right to shorten, amend or refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although details can be withheld from publication. Phone numbers, if available, should be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

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 emailing: editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk; telephoning the 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 timely and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the issue.



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FROM OUR FILES

TEN YEARS AGO

Friday September 17, 2010

Rest and Be Thankful blighted by yet another landslide

A landslide on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful briefly disrupted traffic earlier this week.

The road was closed for just over an hour on Monday evening as workers from Scotland TranServ worked to clear around 150 tonnes of mud from the carriageway, following the slip at 5.20pm.

A single carriageway contraflow system was put in operation, with the road fully re-opening at 4.30pm on Tuesday. Monday's landslide took place between the Dunoon road end and Butterbridge.

A spokeswoman for Transport Scotland explained: 'The slide occurred 500 metres away from the road and followed the path of the stream down to the road where it blocked the road culvert causing the stream to overtop the road, dropping loose material across the road and caused some damage to the road embankment. This is not considered serious.'

The A83 has been hit by a number of landslides in recent years.

Parents raise funds for playground

Parents of the children at Campbeltown Nursery raised funds for the playground to be revamped,



In 2010: Children playing in the revamped garden at Campbeltown Nursery.

with a picnic bench made by Neil McLennan.

The Employability team made the children's benches, bird tables and planters.

The team also painted the garden fence and brightened up the overall appearance to make it a better place for children to play.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday September 22, 1995

Calls for arms dump inspection

There have been fresh calls for a full inspection

of the weapons dump in Beaufort's Dyke in the Irish Channel after it was revealed it is almost seven times bigger than previously admitted.

The dump in the Irish Channel is suspected of being the source of munitions washed up in Ireland, Galloway and south-west Argyll in recent years.

Labour's defence spokesman, South Shields MP Dr David Clark, has promised a Labour government would order regular monitoring of the site if it wins the next General Election.

He told the Courier he would also be writing to recently appointed Defence Minister Mr Michael Portillo calling for immediate testing of the site.

Until recently the Ministry of Defence had said that around 120,000 tons of shells, rockets, bombs and other munitions had been dumped in the 1,500ft deep sea trench between Stranraer and Larne.

But in a letter to the Irish Sea Forum, an environmental watchdog, it admitted that its records were incomplete and the figure could be closer to one million tons.

Youngsters prove their metal

A team of Campbeltown teenagers proved their metal when they tried out an army assault course for charity recently.

Martin Bisset, David Raeside, Stuart Thomson and Stuart Wagstaff from the Highland Parish Boys Club, calling themselves Bon Jovi, completed an assault course set up at Lochgilphead Front Green on September 9 quicker than any other team.

Each year the Mid Argyll Friends of ARMS – the multiple sclerosis charity – gets an army assault course set up in Lochgilphead to raise funds.

It is estimated this year's fun day raised around £5,000.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Friday September 17, 1970

Canadians on air exercise

Personnel of No 404 Squadron of the Canadian Armed Forces, stationed in Nova Scotia, arrived at RAF Machrihanish on Friday and Saturday for a major NATO wartime exercise called Northern Wedding.

The operation – to last two weeks – will involve day and night patrols over the Atlantic by the squadron's 'Canadair' Argus aircraft.

The aircraft carries a crew of 15 and can stay airborne for 12 hours.

Fish factories back in production

Campbeltown's four fish factories are back in production.

The Campbeltown fishing fleet, with the exception of four boats, is at present supplying them with scallops.

On Tuesday four Tarbert vessels, the Caledonia, Fair Dawn, Girl Maureen and Silver Fern landed catches of scallops at Campbeltown.

Only half-a-dozen Irish prawn trawlers remain at Campbeltown and catches are reported to be light.

The Carradale ring-net boat the Harvest Queen, has deserted the herring fishing temporarily to fish for scallops.

Afocal factory has closed

The Afocal optical factory in Campbeltown closed down earlier this week. The entire staff of 13 – subject in previous months to reductions in size – was given a week's notice last Friday.

Mr Gordon Kean, a director of the firm, said that the equipment in the factory would not be moved.

He said: 'There's always a possibility of the factory re-opening – this is why the factory is being left with all the equipment intact.'

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday September 11, 1920

US flag presented to school

An American lady and gentleman who have been visiting Islay for the purpose of seeing the grave of their son, who was one of the victims of the Tuscania disaster, have presented an American flag to Port Ellen Public School 'as a light acknowledgement of their appreciation of the kind offices that have been exercised towards them and the care given to the mortal remains of their dear son'.

In concluding a letter sent to the head master of the school the visitors say: 'The splendid people of Islay promptly ministered to the needs of the American soldiers who survived that disaster, and their hands reverently laid our dead away in their graves.'

'Their kindly spirit had given us much comfort even before we came here. And now that we have come and become acquainted with the conditions and people, we are confirmed in our original intention to leave the body of our son in the soil of Islay.'

Victoria Hall sale

Remember the jumble sale in the Victoria Hall tomorrow afternoon in aid of the funds of the Cottage Hospital.

The hospital is recognised as perhaps the most useful local public institution we possess, and suffering like most institutions of its kind from the fact that the voluntary subscriptions by which it used to be supported have not increased in the same ration as the cost of upkeep, this effort has become necessary in order to keep the purse sufficiently filled.



In 1920: How times have changed – advertisements in 1920 seeking a 'respectable woman' and a 'smart youth'.



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Proceeds from 'boyhood memories' booklet donated to charity

Longrow and Town Centre

I was born in 1925 and until I was 18 lived in Longrow. This suited me as I thought Longrow was the centre of the world – well, my world!

Probably the largest shop at that time was John Huie and Co Ltd, stockists of ironmongery, electrical goods, agricultural parts, china, glass and toys etc.

Behind the shop was a large garage, employing about seven or eight mechanics, and it stretched right down to Kinloch Road where they had pumps dispensing both petrol and diesel.

Our flat, where I was brought up, was directly above Huie's shop, so I spent many hours in the garage getting to know the mechanics and watching them service the cars. Huie's

also had several lorries with a delivery service to Glasgow and a small 20-seater bus for private hire.

The next close down the street led to Campbeltown Sawmill where my old pal Jackie and I would sit and watch the men at work – from a very safe distance.

Jackie lived at the right hand side of this close, first above John Kerr, the baker, and then above Neil McArthur, the baker. The Courier Office retail shop was at the left hand side of the close, (where Donald Barr, the optician, is situated now).

The Courier was printed in a converted house directly above the retail shop. One of the printers, Bobby Albin, was a friend of our family and we would occasionally go in there

DOWN MEMORY LANE

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to watch the Courier being printed.

Leaving the sawmill close and turning left, took us down to the Diamond Vault – nothing to do with a 'girl's best

friend'. There are a number of theories about the origin of the name, but I never gave it a thought when I was young – I just enjoyed going there.

First stop was at the black-

smith's and we spent ages there; the horses were always so patient and so was the blacksmith, who never seemed to mind us watching him. Coming out of the smiddy, we would go into the kipping store and would watch Charlie Reppke preparing his products.

Boys used to sing:
*'Reppke's kippers are the best,
In the belly, they digest.
In the closet, they go west.
Reppke's kippers are the best.'*
I have no idea who wrote this lyric.

See next week's Courier for the second half of the booklet's first chapter.



Duncan Brown's daughter Marjorie and granddaughter Gail, right, present a cheque for £930 to Macmillan Nurse Maggie Wilkieson.

The family of the late Duncan Brown were delighted to present a cheque for £930 to Maggie Wilkieson, Macmillan Nurse at Campbeltown Hospital, in his memory.

The money was raised from the sales of his Boyhood Memories of the Wee Toon booklet and electronic version – in which Duncan reminisces about shops, industries and shares numerous anecdotes from his childhood – as well as generous donations from family, friends, and members of the public.

Duncan's family gratefully thanked everyone who contributed to this sum as it was his wish to have it donated to Macmillan Nurses in Campbeltown in appreciation of the wonderful work they do.

The booklet was printed and published just a couple of weeks before Duncan – who was highly regarded locally and well-known as the owner of a popular toy shop – died on August 11, aged 95.

Duncan's family has given the Courier permission to serialise the booklet on its Down Memory Lane pages over the next few weeks, so those who missed out on buying a copy can share in Duncan's memories and so it is preserved for future generations.

This week, we share the first half of the booklet's first chapter, titled Longrow and Town Centre.

The book's introduction reads: 'I have written my memories in the best way I can for a man of advancing years. I have not changed the names of local characters because to do so would detract from the pleasures of having known these memorable people.

'I do, however, wish to state that no malice is intended as I'd hate to offend any of their relatives who might live in the town today. Suffice to say, without them in the picture, my memories would not be so rich or so joyful.'

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Mileage drops by 90 per cent as council staff work from home

Mileage clocked up by Argyll and Bute Council staff in the course of their work has fallen by around 90 per cent during the Covid-19 pandemic, a report has revealed.

The document also reveals most of the authority's staff are keen to continue with home working despite some returning to office-based work.

The report on the council's climate change-related activity was considered by its climate change environmental action group at its Skype meeting on Monday September 7.

An update on the council's waste services shows recycling from April to June was down

nearly 14 per cent on the same period in 2019.

Recycling uplifts were suspended, and household waste and recycling centres closed, for much of that period because of the number of staff who were shielding or self-isolating.

Non-essential travel

The report, by executive director Douglas Hendry, states: 'Business mileage by council staff has significantly reduced by around 90 per cent due to suspension of non-essential travel and homeworking or digital meetings.'

'This situation has eased in recent weeks with site visits

now sanctioned again and a limited amount of staff returning to office working.

'The vast majority of staff still work at home and most are still keen to continue with this arrangement, at least in part.

'However, [there are] new sources of mileage from activities like the community food project, delivering food parcels and additional vehicles to ensure social distancing is complied with for refuse collections.

'Carbon emissions from council business miles makes up around three per cent of [the council's] total carbon footprint.

'The economic growth team applied for Spaces for People funding to help provide alternatives to the car and enable more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

'They received £315,000 and have consulted with the public and now intend to implement a series of schemes for some of the main towns.

'The team also secured funding as part of the £315,000 for 15 cycle repair stations.'



The council recently took delivery of hybrid fuel vehicles.

Funding in place to alleviate timber transport pressures

Argyll and Bute has secured £1.227m from the Scottish Timber Transport Scheme (STTS), to be used for upgrading roads used for timber extraction.

This was reported to members of the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee at a meeting on Thursday September 10.

Over the years, funding from the STTS has made a significant contribution to maintaining the condition of the council's road network.

This funding complements the significant long-term, capital investment made by the council for roads surfacing and reconstruction over the last few years.

The committee also heard that the capital works for roads reconstruction and footway schemes for 2020/21 have been revised as a result of delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

There will be no surface dressing work carried



Councillor Robin Currie.

out this year. This work is normally done over the summer months when the warmer temperatures soften the underlying road material allowing the chips to become bedded in with the action of passing traffic.

Instead the revised programme will include a mix of traditional resurfacing, surface dressing preparatory works and in situ recycling, which involves breaking up the old road surface and adding other materials so that the road can be re-laid.

This method is particularly suitable for roadworks on islands as it requires transport-

ing fewer materials and so is less reliant on ferries, is more environmentally friendly and provides best value.

The surface dressing programme will carry forward into the next financial year.

Councillor Robin Currie, policy lead for housing, roads and infrastructure services, said: 'During the Covid-19 pandemic we had to change the way we worked and it wasn't possible to focus on the large-scale road programmes we'd originally planned.'

'We are now in the position to start work again, and despite the lateness in the year, can still deliver a substantial amount of the planned work.'

'The additional funding from the STTS is a welcome addition to our investment in roads capital works, which in recent years has made an overall improvement in our network.'

Visit Argyll and Bute's website to follow the progress of its capital roads programme.

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Could 'glass imploder' solve Argyll's recycling problems?

Calls have been made for Argyll and Bute's glass recycling problems to be solved – by shrinking bottles into small pieces of glass.

Councillor Roddy McCuish has highlighted the use of a 'glass imploder' which is used on the island of Coll, saying it could save the authority money.

Clarity has also been sought on whether waste could be used to generate energy in Argyll and Bute as part of the council's waste management strategy.

The discussion took place at the meeting of the authority's environment, development and infrastructure committee.

Councillor Jean Moffat, who represents the Isle of Bute ward, said: 'We have a horrendous problem on the island with glass bottles and trying to get them all cleared away.'

'I still have bottles in the house that I cannot take to a glass bank and I haven't got space for them.'

'Many European countries have these great big units that you throw your bottles into at supermarkets. Is there

anything coming forward on that?'

Jim Smith, the council's roads and amenity services manager, directed Councillor Moffat to a report which stated that the Scottish Government's Deposit Return Scheme for single use containers had been delayed until July '22.

Councillor McCuish then said: 'On the island of Coll, they have something called a 'glass imploder' in which you put bottles of all colours and they come out as smaller balls of glass.'

Saving

'We should see what they are doing there. It could be a saving for the council if community groups can get them on smaller islands.'

Committee chair Councillor Robin Currie responded: 'That sounds very interesting – I think we will follow that one up.'

Prior to that discussion, Councillor McCuish had asked regarding the waste management strategy: 'We have had discussions on this many times – are you lobbying the Scottish Government for

any sort of dispensation?'

'Given the number of islands we have, are we looking at setting up our own waste recycling plant in Argyll?'

'Perhaps we could also import waste? In Sweden, one of the most environmentally friendly countries in the world, they use incinerators widely to

power their towns and cities.'

Mr Smith replied: 'These are two really good points. In terms of seeing any form of derogation, that is not the approach we are taking.'

'Our approach is to seek a fully-funded solution and any additional costs will be met. That would be our preference.'

'It would take a significant tonnage of material to make incinerators financially viable. It is not something that should be ruled out just now necessarily, but those plants cost £200 million for full blown energy.'

'What we are likely to see going forward is waste transfer, where partially processed

material goes off site to an energy facility.'

'It is most likely to be for electricity generation outside Argyll and Bute rather than in it.'

'There is the potential for a joint approach and we have discussions ongoing with neighbouring authorities.'

£15 million funding to save Scotland's cultural venues

Galleries, theatres, comedy clubs, nightclubs and festivals across Argyll and Bute have less than a week to apply for a share of £15 million of funding from the Scottish Government.

The pot of money called the Culture Organisations and Venues Recovery Fund aims to provide emergency support to organisations unable to trade due to the coronavirus restrictions.

Applicants can seek funding of between £10,000 and £150,000, and grants of up to £250,000 are available on exception.

The aim is to protect jobs and support those organisations threatened by insolvency.

Fiona Hyslop MSP, the Scottish Government's culture secretary, said: 'It's been an extremely difficult time for the culture sector this year.'

'We've done everything we can to alleviate some of the immediate challenges but we know many businesses will continue to struggle until they can fully reopen.'

The fund is looking for applications from organisations 'critical to the cultural life of Scotland' and whose existence is threatened by the restrictions.

Eligible organisations include galleries, commercial theatres, performing arts spac-



Fiona Hyslop MSP.

es, festivals, comedy clubs and nightclubs, along with music and dance companies.

Iain Munro, chief executive officer, said: 'The challenges presented to the culture and creative sector by the Covid-19 pandemic are only too real and are not going to go away quickly or easily.'

'That's why this additional emergency funding from the Scottish Government is so welcome.'

'Our top priority is the delivery of these funds to the sector as quickly as possible.'

The online application portal went live at noon yesterday (Thursday), and the deadline for applications is a week later, on Thursday September 24 at noon.

Applications will be assessed throughout September and October with decisions made in November.

For more information, visit creativescotland.com

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CORONAVIRUS
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SAVE LIVES





Two of the arrangements created at Campbeltown Flower Club's recent meeting.

Flower club blooms once more

Campbeltown Flower Club took a small step towards normality last week by holding a meeting in Kirk Street Hall for the first time in months.

In order to adhere to government guidelines, members were well spaced and took all the necessary Covid precautions.

A spokesperson said: 'We enjoyed being together and doing flowers again after such a long time.'

It is intended that the club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

Air ambulance charity calls for patients' stories

The spotlight shone on the UK's 39 helicopter air ambulances last week as the nation marked Air Ambulance Week.

On average, a charity-funded air ambulance takes to the skies somewhere in the UK every 10 minutes – flying potentially life-saving care to the scene of serious illness or injury.

In Scotland, the country's only charity-funded air ambulance service – Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA) – has been providing vital emergency pre-hospital care since 2013.

Its helicopters, based at Perth and Aberdeen, have responded to thousands of life-threatening emergencies in every corner of Scotland and its many islands, treating patients at the scene and rapidly airlifting them to hospital care.

SCAA is now reaching out to the patients whose lives the charity has saved or improved



and the many families whose lives have been impacted by the work of the dedicated crews.

The charity's chief executive, David Craig, explained: 'Each and every patient is special to SCAA and their welfare is important to us.'

'No-one tells of the work we do as powerfully and emotively

as our patients. Their often harrowing yet uplifting personal experiences are a testament to the daily life-saving efforts, professionalism and commitment of our crews as they battle to overcome distance, time constraints, challenging weather, difficult terrain and life-threatening injury and

illness. These stories are what inspire the people of Scotland to get behind SCAA and fund our flights – their donations are vital to keeping our service in the air and patient stories are key in highlighting why there is that need.'

The theme of this year's UK-wide Air Ambulance Week

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance is a regular visitor to Campbeltown.

was 'because every second counts...' highlighting the critical impact that the speed of an air ambulance can have on a patient's chances of survival.

In the past year, the service has flown to more serious incidents than ever before and flown more hours to reach those most in need.

'The demands on SCAA's service never go away,' stressed David, adding: 'and the charity's need of funds – particularly in these difficult times – never lessens.'

Anyone helped by SCAA in the past who would be willing to consider sharing their story can, as a first step and with no obligation, contact media@scaa.org.uk or telephone SCAA PR on 07778 779888 in confidence.

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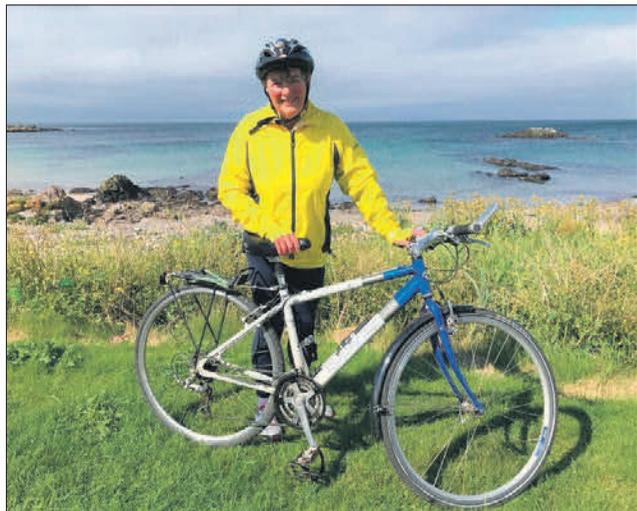
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Valerie Nimmo is using pedal power to raise funds for Cancer Research UK.

Valerie and David get on their bikes for charity

Two Kintyre cyclists are well on their way to achieving their individual goals of cycling a certain distance during September in a bid to raise funds for their chosen charities.

Valerie Nimmo is aiming to complete 300 miles to raise money for Cancer Research UK, while David Armour endeavours to complete 250 miles in aid of Diabetes UK.

Valerie, who is a member of the Cancer Research UK Kintyre committee, said: 'Since we have been unable to fundraise through coffee mornings this year, I decided to participate in the Cycle 300 for Cancer Research UK which means I have to cycle 300 miles in September.'

'I will be pedalling harder than ever because I want to raise money for life-saving research and help bring forward the day when all cancers are cured.'

Anyone who would like to sponsor Valerie, who is on track to achieve her target, can do so by donating money to any member of the Kintyre committee or by visiting <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/valeries-cycle-300-fundraising-page-4>

David is also well on his way to reaching his 250-mile goal, having already cycled more than 200 miles as he takes part in the UK-wide cycle ride to support people affected by diabetes.

David said: 'There are 4.8 million people living with diabetes in the UK, the complications of which lead to more than 500 premature deaths every week. So, I'm riding towards a healthier me, and a better future for people living with diabetes.'

Visit cycle.diabetes.org.uk/fundraising/david-armour2020 to sponsor David and follow his progress.



David Armour is getting on his bike in aid of Diabetes UK.

Happy lockdown birthday, Sienna!

Monday's change to law – limiting the number of people allowed to meet in Scotland to a maximum of six, from no more than two households – amid a rise in coronavirus cases has meant some changes to plans for those celebrating birthdays.

Sienna MacMillan, from Campbeltown, will be celebrating her eighth birthday on Monday, September 21.

Despite the rule change, Sienna is very excited about her special day and hopes to be able to see her family and friends over the weekend and enjoy lots of party food.

Sienna MacMillan.



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Capital funding of up to £20,000 for farmers 'going green'

The Scottish Government launched a pilot grant scheme called the Sustainable Agriculture Capital Grant Scheme on Monday September 7.

The scheme offers capital grant funding of up to £20,000 for farmers and crofters to buy specific items of agricultural equipment to support them in the delivery of direct greenhouse gas reductions on Scottish farms and crofts.

This in turn will help Scotland deliver on its highly ambitious statutory climate change targets as well in the majority of cases delivering improvement in air and water quality or animal welfare. The grants are funded by the Scottish Government.

Full details on eligibility and

how to apply is available at <https://www.ruralpayments.org/>

AN OVERVIEW

The Sustainable Agriculture Capital Grant Scheme provides grant funding for farmers and crofters to purchase specific items of agricultural equipment.

This is a pilot grant scheme. The scheme opened for applications on Monday September 7 and closes to applications midnight Sunday October 11.

The main objectives/expected outcomes of the scheme is to:

- protect and improve the natural environment
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions from farming operations
- support sustainable farming

■ support sustainable land use

The capital items that can be applied for through the SACGS have been chosen for their effectiveness in reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well supporting sustainable farming, by improving land and livestock management.

The Sustainable Agriculture Capital Grant Scheme will offer grants based on standard costs. The use of standard costs will reduce the burden on farmers and crofters as they are not required to submit quotes with applications. This approach will provide a more straightforward application for farmers, crofters and SGRPID.

For more visit: <https://news.gov.scot/news/rural-role-in-green-recovery>

Around the markets

United Auctions, Dalmally, Saturday September 12: sold 8147 Lambs & Sheep of all classes. This sale included the Principal Dalmally Sale for Blackface Wedder lambs. The 6723 Blackface Wedder lambs averaged £53.05 (+£14.03) per head and 190.7 pence per kilo (+53.1p). All lambs (7325) averaged £53.53 (+£13.67) per head or 191.98 (+52.76p) pence per kilo.

The entry of Blackface Wedder Lambs attracted the largest attendance of buyers ever seen at this centre for this sale. Overall, an excellent selection of stock sold extremely well which resulted in a tremendous atmosphere at the centre whilst obeying all Covid19 restrictions.

Leading Prices per head

Lambs - BF - £76.00, Stonefield; £73.50, Achnaba; £72.00, Clachan; £66.50, Glenfalloch; £66.50, Craig; £66.00, Inernahyle; £66.00, Innisaig; £65.50, Millpark; £65.50, Saulmore; £64.50, Castles; £64.50, Glenfeochan; £64.50, Acharonich; £64.50, Scallasaig; £63.50, Dall; £63.00, Corrylorn; £62.50, Tullich Farmers; £62.50, Innisaig; £62.50, Tullochcan; £62.50, Fearnoch; £62.50, Lurignish; £62.00, Benmore; £61.50, Achnaba; £61.50, Duncroisk; £61.00, Bragleenmore; £61.00, Clachan. Suffix - £76.00, Glenbrook; £63.50, Balnahard. BeltX - £61.00, Dunans. TexX - £90.00, Dunans; £90.00, Stonefield; £81.00, Tullich Farmers; £79.50, £78.00, Stonefield; £76.00, Craig; £70.00, Ardachuple; £70.00, Drumclach. Chev - £74.00, 1 Savary; £71.00, Keppochan; £67.00, Auchreoch; £65.00, Kingairloch; £65.00, 1 Savary;

£60.00, Glenbrooke. Cross - £74.00, Dunans; £70.50, Glenbrooke; £66.00, Home Farm, Kilberry. Mule - £75.50, Stonefield; £74.00, Glenshellach.

Feeding Ewes - TexX - £76.00, £60.00, Silvercraigs. Chev - £62.00, 1 Savary; £56.50, Kingairloch. Cross - £51.00, Kingairloch. BF - £46.00, £38.50, Woodside Croft.

Leading Prices per Kilo

Lambs - BF - 219p, Ormsary Farmers; 217p, Littleport; 212p, Ormsary Farmers; 211p, Tullich Farmers; 209p, Duncroisk; 209p, Balnahard; 207p, Scallasaig; 205p, Creaganterve Beg; 204p, Machrins; 202p, Brackley; 201p, Bragleenmore; 200p, Littleport; 200p, Garrogie; 200p, Dunans; 200p, Dall; 200p, Drissaig; 200p, Glenbeg. Suffix - 215p, Balnahard. BeltX - 218p, Dunans. TexX - 232p, Ardachuple; 223p, 221p, Glenshellach; 220p, Home Farm; 218p, Silvercraigs; 216p, Stonefield; 214p, Brenchoille; 214p, Craig; 212p, Stonefield; 212p, Brenchoille; 210p, Evanachan. Chev - 245p, Glenbrooke; 225p, Brackley; 217p, 1 Savary; 211p, Brackley; 211p, 1 Savary. Cross - 258p, Evanachan; 234p, Brenchoille; 220p, Home Farm. Mule - 215p, Stonefield.

Oban - United Auctions, Oban, Tuesday September 8: sold 5130 Lambs & Feeding

Sheep which included the Premier Oban Sale of 2495 BF Wedder Lambs which averaged £48.80 (+£15.57). The overall average of the lambs was £52.91 which recorded a rise of £17.82 on the year. With a strong force of buyers in attendance, all classes sold well. Again, in the lamb sections, the majority were long keeping

types which met a spirited demand.

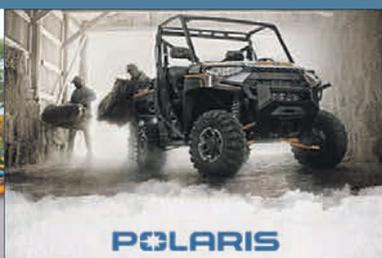
Leading prices

Lambs - BF - £65.00, Achalic; £64.00, Fiart; £61.50, Aird; £60.00, Mid; £58.50, Glengorm; £58.00, Achalic; £58.00, Scammadale; £57.50, Carnasserie; £56.00, Blarchascaig; £56.00, Creag-A-Mhadaidh; £55.00, Assapol; £55.00, Saulmore; £55.00, Gallanachmore; £55.00, Inshaig; £55.00, Achuaran; £55.00, RSPB Oransay; £54.50, Poltalloch; £54.50, Lamash; £54.00, Fiart. Suffix - £74.50, Killiechronan; £68.00, Kilbride Croft; £63.00, Homestead; £62.00, Killiechronan; £57.50, Kilbride Croft; £56.00, Strongorm; £56.00, Ardencaple. LleyX - £72.50, Kilpatrick Croft. TexX - £75.00, Kames Beag; £74.50, 9 Green, Barra; £72.50, Homestead; £72.00, Ardachy; £72.00, Barbreck; £71.00, Bailuacraich. ChevX - £73.50, Aird; £69.00, Balliemore; £67.50, Antuim; £67.50, 117 Craigston, Barra; £66.50, Blackmount; £64.50, 79 Borve, Barra; £64.00, £63.50, Aird; £62.50, The Steadings; £61.00, Barndromin; £61.00, Caddleton; £60.50, Blackmount; £60.00, Plocaig; £60.00, Strongorm; £60.00, 117 Craigston, Barra. Cross - £64.00, Killiechronan; £58.00, Gallanachmore; £57.50, Balliemore; £57.00, Aspin Lodge. Mule - £79.00, Dalrannoch; £70.00, Achuaran; £67.00, Stronacroibh; £67.00, Kames Beag; £66.00, Fiart.

Ewes - TexX - £59.00, Assapol. ChevX - £57.50, No 4 Aros. Cross - £60.00, Creagnich. Mule - £75.00, £57.00, Kames Beag; £51.00, The Ridges. BF - £50.00, Callachally; £46.00, Gallanachmore; £42.00, Kilbride; £40.00, Inion; £40.00, Shellachan.

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Kintyre Agricultural Society's annual sheep sale guidelines

Kintyre Agricultural Society (KAS), in conjunction with C&D Marts Longtown, will be holding its annual sheep sale on Saturday September 19, at 11am at Anderston Park.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, there are guidelines that must be adhered to.

The sale will take place outdoors with no additional visitors admitted other than staff, buyers and sellers. All sellers and buyers are asked to leave as soon as their business is done. There will be hand sanitising

stations on entry and exit to the sale and at various points around the sale ring. There will be no catering or toilet facilities. In line with guidance from The Institute of Auctioneers and Appraisers in Scotland, KAS is asking for the following rules to be adhered to:

Only one person per business attends the sale; no under 16s should attend; all buyers should pre-register with the secretary before the sale; 2m social distancing must be observed.

All those attending must provide contact details - name, address, phone number and email address - before entering the sale. These will be taken at the gate on entry to the sale but to keep things moving, KAS is asking people to hand them over to the gate stewards.

Vendors, where possible, should have ear numbers of all stock to hand to pass on to market staff on arrival. When delivering or collecting stock, wait in vehicles until directed otherwise by a steward.

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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
20/01470/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse, installation of septic tank and formation of access	Land South Of Greenhill, Torrissdale, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute
20/01321/PP	Erection of extension to existing substation, installation of diesel generator and associated works including replacement palisade fence and lighting	Electricity Sub Station, Port Ann, Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilhead, 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.

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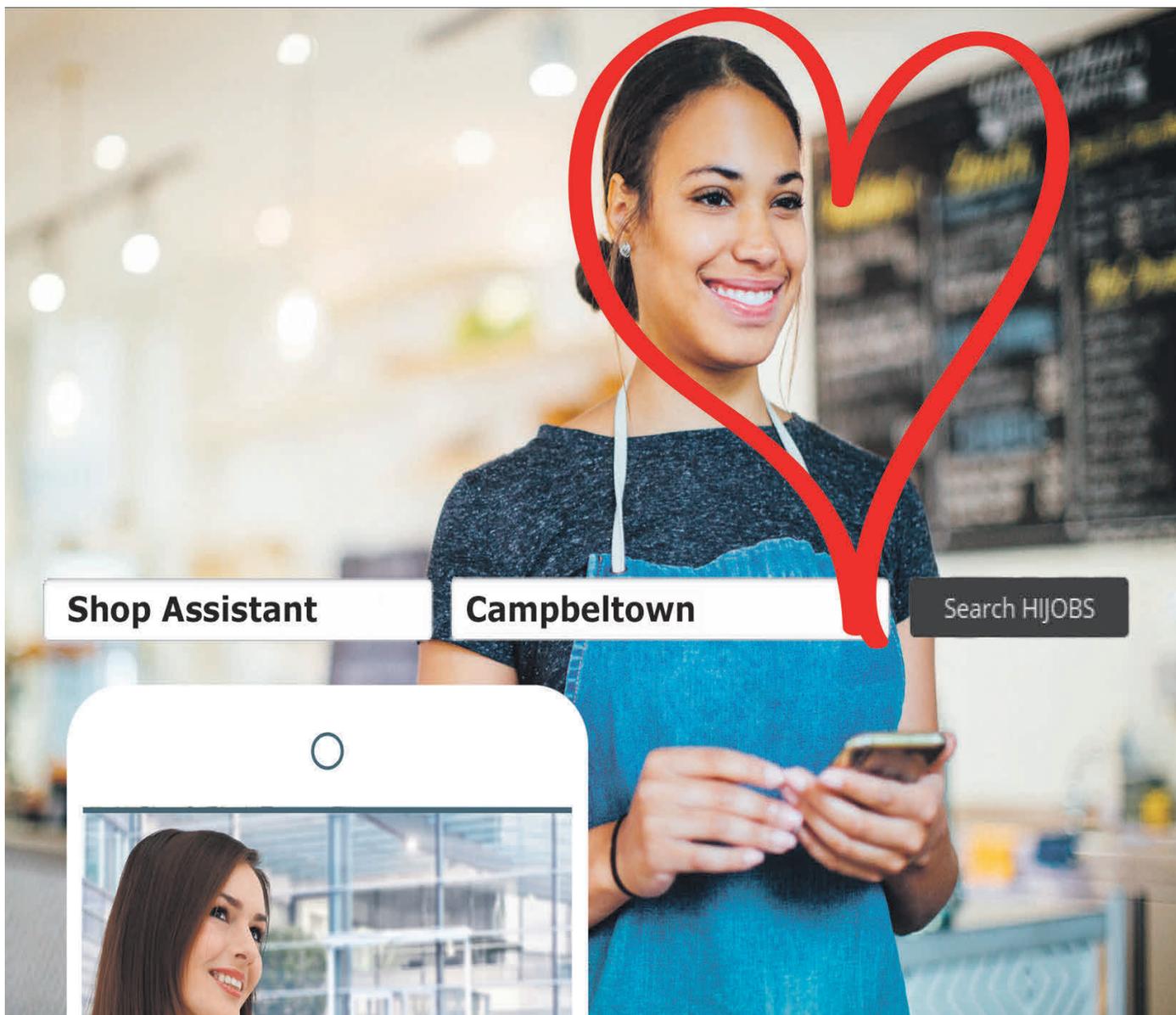
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birthday
Dad
love William
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COURIER ADVERTISER
PERSONAL NOTICES PERSONAL NOTICES

Thought for the Week with Marilyn Shedden

It was blowing an absolute hooley on the beach.

The sand was mimicking the waves as it rolled across the beach like a great tidal wave.

Our collies looked as if they were going to take off.

I didn't think that such a wind was forecast, so when we got home I checked the weather. This is what it said: 'Sunny intervals and a gentle breeze.'

I looked at the week ahead and was amused to read the varying descriptions of the wind. They ranged from 'gentle breeze' to 'fresh breeze' to 'moderate breeze' to 'strong breeze'.

There was no mention of 'wind'. When a really strong wind is forecast, the image is one of black clouds, and we refer to this as 'black wind'.

The wind plays an important part in our lives by the edge of the ocean.

When the beach is strewn with seaweed, we need an east wind to clear it. When the wind is in the north, as well as being chilly, visibility will be clearer.

When the wind is whirling all around us, we call it a 'scurgy wind'.

The wind played an important part in the birth of the church.

At Pentecost, the disciples experienced a strange wind blowing through the room they were in and they felt the presence of God come upon them as never before.

As many of our churches lie closed, and those that are open are constrained by many factors, should we pray for that Pentecostal wind to enliven us again?

Could the church emerge from this crisis stronger, more missional, more Kingdom centred?

Could the wind blow away the cobwebs of inertia and complacency and make us a church fit for purpose?

My prayer is for a scurgy wind for the church.

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

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



New managers at two Islay distilleries

In October, Mickey Heads, manager of Ardbeg Distillery on Islay, will retire after 13 years at the helm – leaving big boots (as well as casks) to fill.

Ardbeg has announced Mickey's successor – Colin Gordon – who is joining as distillery production manager, reporting to Pete Nelson, the distillery's operations director.

Colin brings a wealth of whisky industry experience from his eight years with Diageo, said Ardbeg.

His substantial knowledge of distillery production includes a stint as site operations manager at the Port Ellen Maltings, which provides barley to eight of the 10 Islay distilleries. More recently, Colin was based at Islay's Lagavulin Distillery, as distillery manager.

Colin joins on October 1 but Mickey Heads has agreed to continue as chairman of the Ardbeg committee, described as the 'worldwide army' of Ardbeg fans.

Pete Nelson, operations director, said: 'We're delighted Colin is joining to lead the team at the Ardbeg Distillery.'

'His knowledge will help take Ardbeg forward and shape the future of the distillery. We have lots of exciting new expressions in the pipeline and Colin will play a major role in crafting those.'

Mickey added: 'I've known Colin for a long time and I can't think of a more worthy successor. He's joining a brilliant team, who I know will welcome him warmly and make him feel at home.'

'As I continue as chair of the committee – and indeed, as just one of a legion of Ardbeg fans – I look forward to enjoying the fruits of his labours for years to come.'

Colin said: 'Ardbeg is an iconic name in whisky with an immense reputation. I'm absolutely delighted to be joining an experienced team producing such an exceptional dram.'

'Ardbeg has built a reputation for producing



Ardbeg Distillery manager Colin Gordon.

amazing whiskies with Mickey Heads at the helm. He is a huge name in the industry and will be a very hard act to follow. It's a privilege to be chosen to take over the reins from him.

'Islay has been our home for five years and to be given the honour of overseeing the running of Ardbeg is very special indeed.'

'I will do my very best to protect and enhance the reputation of the distillery and ensure it keeps producing the world class spirit of Ardbeg.'

Lagavulin Distillery has also announced its new manager – Pierrick Guillaume – is making the short journey from Caol Ila Distillery at the other side of the island, where he is currently manager, to run one of Scotch whisky's most revered distilleries.

The promotion marks the latest step in an



Lagavulin Distillery manager Pierrick Guillaume.

eight-year Diageo career for Pierrick that has already involved roles at Mortlach and Talisker distilleries.

Since moving to Islay to manage Caol Ila in 2017, Pierrick has built his reputation as a distiller and a passionate whisky brand ambassador, honing the skills he will take to one of the most prestigious distilling jobs in the world of whisky.

He said: 'It is a great honour to be asked to take on the role. Lagavulin is a whisky that is revered around the world and it's a great privilege to be joining the outstanding team that makes this exceptional Scotch whisky. I can't wait to get started.'

Pierrick's role at Caol Ila will be taken on by Samuel Hale, currently manager of Diageo's Port Ellen Maltings on Islay.

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GOLDEN WEDDING

GAY - BRODERICK - Ronnie and Pat celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary today. They were married on September 18, 1970 in Castlehill Church by the Reverend John R H Cormack.

DEATHS

SEMPLER - Suddenly but peacefully after a brave battle, on September 10, 2020 at the Beatson Hospital, Glasgow, Callum Sempler in his 62nd year, Caliglen, Southend, beloved son of Elizabeth and the late Richard, loving dad of Callum, Allan, Iain, Rebecca and Andrew, devoted grandad to Liam, Callum, Cara-Louise and Lexi-Jane, much loved brother, brother-in-law, father-in-law, uncle and a friend to many. Simply The Best. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines.

Callum's funeral will take place on Friday, September 18 at 1pm. The funeral cortege will leave Callum's office in Longrow, Campbeltown at 11:45am, travelling along Aqualibrium Avenue, round the Cross and up Main Street on the way to the family home. We will leave the family home in Southend at 1pm travelling through the village to Keil Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects may do so anywhere on our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

TELFER - John Hardie. Peacefully, at Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, John, beloved husband of Morag, loving dad of Ross and Linda, father-in-law of Mo and much loved brother of Alan and Ewan. Funeral service took place Thursday, September 17, at Cardross Crematorium.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

BLACKWOOD - The family of the late Jean Blackwood would like to thank everyone for the many cards and messages following their sad loss. Special thanks to Naomi and carers, who helped Jean maintain her independence, and all at Mid Argyll hospital for their kind care of Jean. Many thanks to Rev. David Carruthers and all at Donald MacDonald for such a fitting graveside service, and to all who paid their respects on Gigha.

IN MEMORIAM

MACKINNON/CAREY - In loving memory of our dear granny (Peggy), who passed away on September 20, 1994. Also our dear Auntie Patsy, who passed away September 9, 2014. Forever in our hearts and thoughts, Loved and missed always. - Love, Annamarie, Allan and Jake xxx.

MACKINNON

Treasured memories of Ian, a much loved husband, dad and papa who died September 19, 2019.

Loved and remembered every day. - Andrina, Sinclair and family.

SARGENT - Treasured memories of our mum, Senga, died September 18, 2014.

You are always in our thoughts, Your love is still our guide, And though we cannot touch your hand, We know you are by our side.

- Senga, Billy and family, and Roger, Heather and family.

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CHURCH NOTICES

ST KIERAN RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown 01586 552160 Rev Tony Wood stkieransrc.org

Public Mass will be celebrated on Wednesdays and Sundays at 10am.

Anyone wanting to attend a public Mass should register with Fr. Tony by telephone or email.

01586 552160 campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk Please give: Name, address, telephone no., and number from the household wishing to attend, and the date of the Mass.

Live streaming on Facebook will continue. (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 20th September 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 SCO09359

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 20th September
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Rodger Crooks

11.15am Sunday School
Wednesday 23rd September
12 noon

Prayer & Bible Study
Covid-19 Government guidelines apply to all meetings
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Sunday service resumes on Sunday 20th September, 11 am at SKDT Hall, Kirk Street
Covid-19 Government guidelines apply
Pastor Mark Jasper
01586 554 092
pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
SC043322



ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

Sunday 20th September 2020

"The joy of the Lord is your strength"
(Nehemiah 8:10)
There will be Services in Ardrishaig at 11:00am and

Achahoish at 12:30pm
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
SCO 13787
Fr Simon Mackenzie
01546 602315

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Resumption of Public Mass at St Margaret's: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10.30am Saturday: 6.30pm Sunday: 10am - St Margaret's; 12.30pm - All Saints, Inveraray.

Booking essential due to restricted capacity

To book, please contact Fr. Ronald by telephone or email. Name, address and contact details required for track and trace purposes. Masses from St Margaret's will continue to be Live Streamed via our YouTube channel. Full details on our website: www.lochgilpheadcatholic.com and our Facebook Page.

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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 20th September
Service at 10am
Rev Robert MacLeod
A very warm welcome awaits
Please wear face covering

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Sunday 20th September
Morning Worship 11.15 am Video message on Facebook
from Wednesday the 23rd September
Rev. W Crossan
All COVID 19 precautions apply

WEDDING



FINLAY - GALBRAITH

Allan & Lynn, Lochgilphead and Duncan & Fiona, Campbeltown are delighted to announce the 'Surprise Wedding' of Natasha & Daniel on Monday, September 14, 2020, at the Town Hall, Venice.

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



Our building is open for Sunday services and you would be welcome on Sunday, 20th September at 11am

to join with us in our praise and worship when John Ives from Southend will be conducting the service
MASKS are now required in churches, in line with current Scottish Government Covid 19 guidelines.
www.springbankchurch.org.uk

https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary
SC014646

WEST LOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES

Cumloddan, Inveraray and Lochgair

There will be a united service in Inveraray Church on **Sunday 20th September at 10.30am**

The service will be led by Tom Mackay
Everyone is very welcome
The church has been set out as per the Church of Scotland's instructions.
There will be elders on duty to help.



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David takes home Dunaverty's Kiel Trophy

Dunaverty Golf Club members are wondering when they will next have a decent day for their competitions after strong winds and heavy showers battered those competing for the Kiel Trophy last weekend.

The inclement weather posed no problems for David MacBrayne as he coasted to a classy 33 over the front nine which included four bogeys, one birdie and an eagle.

The inward half, into the teeth of the strong wind, saw him racking up four bogeys and four pars for a 38 which, added to his front nine, assured him of the victory with a nett of 61.

Close behind came Willie Ralston with an excellent nett 63 who, with a better inward half, managed to hold off Colin Hanbidge also on 63.

Donald McNeil, last man out, recorded the best scratch score of the day with a 70.

Mundell Memorial Open rained off

A full field of 60 competitors entered Tarbert Golf Club's James Mundell Memorial Open at Glenralloch last Saturday.

Unfortunately with around 30 players on the course, the green-keepers were left with no alternative but to abandon play as the greens had become unplayable due to the excessive rainfall.

The club would like to thank all competitors for their understanding and support.

Tomorrow (Saturday) members gather for the Breast Cancer Awareness fundraiser. The event will be played as a scramble and players should arrive for noon.

Pony club bounces back with beach rainbow ride

Argyll South Pony Club held its first post lockdown event at Machrihanish earlier this month, in glorious autumn sunshine.

Organised by Mairi Ralston, the rainbow ride on Sunday September 6 not only celebrated a return to equestrian activities for the club but also helped to raise money for the



Everybody got a rainbow rosette to celebrate the club's return to equestrian activities.

Mairi Semple Cancer Fund and Marie Curie.

The last Argyll South event was held in Tarbert in early March, with the very popular Skipness Daffodil Charity Ride, usually held at Easter, lost to the Covid restrictions at the time.

Revival

August saw some coaching in small groups being allowed but only in open fields. The Rhoim in Kintyre and Upper Largie near Kilmartin provided the two focal points of this particular Argyll equestrian bounce back revival and so it was decided to have them as starting points for two separate charity rides for members and friends both north and south of the club's catchment area.

Ten riders, ranging in age from four years old to pensioner-plus, assembled

at Machrihanish Airbase Community Company car park and rode through the dunes to Machrihanish beach where they thoroughly enjoyed the sand and surf at their own pace, from leisurely stroll to flat out gallop.

Stewards Sheila MacCallum, Julie Sloan and Tracy McArthur made sure the route and trailer parking were safe and Covid secure and when all the riders returned they received a colourful rainbow rosette as a memento of a truly memorable laughter and fun-filled day.

Argyll South Pony Club wishes to thank all those who made the great day possible.

The north ride will be next weekend and will be over forestry paths and tracks so the club really is going from surf to turf on its rainbow rides.



Everyone – no matter what age or size – had a marvellous time on the recent rainbow ride.

Bowls champions crowned at close of challenging season



From left: Kirsteen Anderson, Jean Miller, Shirley Bannatyne, Lorraine Brodie, Ryan McLachlan, Dugald Graham and David Brown.

Campbeltown Bowling Club's truncated season came to a climax last weekend when the Stronvaar green hosted the lockdown singles and pairs championship finals.

The singles on Saturday saw Archie Johnston defeat Ryan McLachlan to take the men's title and Shirley Bannatyne overcome Lorraine Brodie to take the ladies' title.

The pairs' finals were played on Sunday and David Brown and Ryan McLachlan defeated Dugald Graham and Hugh MacDonald in the

men's match, while Shirley Bannatyne and Kirsteen Anderson defeated Lorraine Brodie and Jean Miller in the ladies' competition.

Trial event

Earlier in the season the mixed pairs was held as a trial event and this was won by Neil McCormick and Alan McSporran, who defeated John McLean and Ryan McLachlan in the final.

The finals weekend was sponsored by Andrew Thompson Plastering and Decorating and the winners were presented

with commemorative bottles of 'lockdown' Kilkerran malt.

President David Brown, who has presided superbly over the most challenging year in the club's history, thanked all who had taken part and those who had given him so much support during the season.



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