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Lochgilphead fire station part of Covid testing trial



Among their acts of kindness, S6 pupils organised Christmas hampers for people in Tarbert, who were thrilled to receive them.

Pupils go the extra mile for Tarbert

In their important final year of secondary school, pupils at Tarbert Academy found the time to put others before themselves and lift the community in what was a difficult 2020 for many. Read the full story on page three.

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Lochgilphead fire station is one of two Covid-19 testing sites introduced as part of a trial to increase access in remote and rural areas.

The trial at Lochgilphead and Thurso fire stations started on Wednesday January 6 and will run to Friday January 29 in partnership with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), which will store samples ahead of courier collection.

Anyone who suspects they have Covid-19 symptoms can book a test slot at Lochgilphead fire station by calling NHS Highland, which will provide details of the booking and instructions.

The site will be available Monday to Friday between 9am and 12.30pm.

People driving to the fire station can take the test themselves and leave it for collection by a courier. Or test kits can be collected for others, to be

brought back for uplift by courier. Scottish Health Secretary Jeane Freeman said: 'With this trial, our aim is to give people with Covid-19 symptoms in these areas more consistent access to testing and to see whether this approach could be adopted across other remote and rural areas of Scotland if successful. I am grateful to the SFRS, Argyll and Bute Council, Highland Council and NHS Highland for their excellent partnership working in making this trial possible and for their ongoing support throughout the pandemic.'

Assistant Chief Officer Stuart Stevens, SFRS director of service delivery, stressed the fire station would retain its capability respond to emergencies, adding: 'It is imperative that everyone in Scotland, particularly within our more rural and remote communities, has access to consistent testing. We will continue to support the Scottish Government, our partners and communities

wherever possible through this challenging time.'

The announcement came as a new lockdown came into force on Tuesday January 4.

In a statement on Monday afternoon, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said the tougher restrictions were necessary to give vaccines a head start and win the race against Covid-19 and particularly a new, more easily transmissible, variant of the virus.

Staying at home is a legal requirement, with people only being allowed to leave home for essential purposes. Where possible, people must also work from home. Schools will remain shut until at least February 1.

Interaction between households will be limited, and no one is allowed to travel into or out of Scotland unless essential.

Testing at Lochgilphead fire station on Campbell Street can be arranged by calling NHS Highland on 01463 706015.

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A chilly welcome for 2021

Undeterred by frosty weather, a few hardy souls braved the chilly Loch Fyne waters at Ardrishaig on January 1 for a new year dook. Maintaining social distancing, the beautiful winter sunshine attracted a number of small groups to the beach ahead of the current lockdown restrictions.



POLICE FILES

Expired MOT

After a vehicle was stopped by police on the A83 near Furnace at 11.15am on Sunday December 27, checks revealed the vehicle allegedly had an expired MOT. The driver, a woman aged 68, is now the subject of a report to the procurator fiscal.

Drugs found

An 18-year-old man was searched by police at 6pm on Tuesday December 29 in Paterson Street, Lochgilphead, and found to be in possession of cannabis. He was charged and issued with a recordable police warning.

At 2.45am on Friday January 1 in MacDonald Terrace, Lochgilphead, a man, aged 25, was searched by police and found to be in possession of cannabis. The man was charged and issued with a recordable police warning.

Window smashed

Sometime between 9am and 1.15pm on Friday January 1, a window in a house at Creag Ghlas, Cairnbaan, was smashed. Police are investigating the incident.

Have your say on boundary changes

A consultation on proposals for changes to councillor numbers and ward boundaries in Argyll and Bute closes on Tuesday January 26.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland conducted a consultation last summer on its proposals with Argyll and Bute Council and is now conducting a 12-week public consultation which opened on November 4.

Under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the commission is required to conduct electoral reviews at intervals of eight to 12 years.

The proposals for Argyll and Bute recommend a change from the current 36 to 34 councillors, across 12 (currently 11) wards.

Under the commission's proposals, there would be island-only wards for Islay, Jura

and Colonsay; Mull, Iona, Coll and Tiree, while the existing Isle of Bute ward would have two councillors rather than three.

There would be no changes to the boundaries of four of the existing wards: Cowal; Dunoon; Isle of Bute and Lomond North.

Oban is placed within a single ward to avoid breaking community ties. There

is minimal change to the existing ward boundaries in Helensburgh, while reducing councillor numbers there from seven to six.

Ronnie Hinds, commission chairman, said: 'Since the consultation began on November 4, we have received a number of responses offering helpful suggestions.

'I'd encourage members of the public, community groups

and other local bodies to look at the proposals and submit their views, whether they support or oppose our proposals, before the deadline.'

The commission is seeking views before final recommendations are submitted to Scottish ministers.

For more information email lgbcscottishboundaries.gov.uk or visit the www.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk website.

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Work continues to build up the height of a protective barrier beside the old military road.
Photograph: BEAR Scotland.

Building the bund in Glen Croe

Work is continuing to build up a protective barrier, or bund, on the upper side of the old military road (OMR) through Glen Croe.

The OMR is used as a detour while the A83 trunk road and the hill above it is made safe following landslides near the

Rest and be Thankful in the second half of 2020.

New mitigation measures, including an in-channel debris barrier on the hillside above the A83 and the roadside bund adjacent to the OMR, are intended to increase resilience on the route. The company

responsible for trunk road maintenance, BEAR Scotland, has revealed that had these measures not been in place, the OMR would have been forced to close for safety reasons in forecast wet weather over Christmas, forcing traffic to use lengthy diversions.

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New Year Honours for Mid Argyll leaders and volunteers

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Two Mid Argyll women are among the people recognised in the 2021 Queen's New Year Honours list.

Anne Paterson, Argyll and Bute Council's chief education officer until her retirement last month, has been awarded an OBE for her services to education, while Catherine Paterson, founder of the Dochas Carers' Centre in Lochgilphead, will be honoured with an MBE for her services to healthcare and social care in Argyll and Bute.

Anne started her career as a teacher in Park Primary School in Oban and went on to work for nearly 39 years in education in Argyll and Bute.

She was Scottish Head Teacher of the Year in 2006 and, as head of Inveraray Primary School, led the creation of a centre for excellence for outdoor learning.



Anne said she was 'lost for words' when she heard the news, adding: 'I have worked with some amazing people who have gone above and beyond for the children and young people in the area.'

'It is quite a fantastic honour to have been selected and a really special way to mark my retirement.'

Co-founder of the Dochas

centre for carers almost 22 years ago, Catherine initially thought her nomination was a hoax and phoned London to check before accepting the news with delight.

She said: 'I was shocked to have been nominated, thinking that others must be more eligible to receive this honour.'

'However, I accept it gladly on behalf of all unpaid carers



Far left: Former teacher and Argyll and Bute chief education officer Anne Paterson will receive an OBE and said she was 'lost for words'.

Left: Founder of the Dochas Centre Catherine Paterson initially thought news of her MBE was a hoax.

Christine Campbell, a scientist at Oban's Scottish Association for Marine Science, is to be given an MBE for services to marine science.

Captain Barbara Campbell from Dunoon gets an MBE for her work with vulnerable people as master of the charity Jubilee Sailing Trust.

Postmaster Keith Rutherford is awarded a BEM for his services to Colonsay and neighbouring Oronsay.

Beverley Scoullar, chairwoman of the Lade Centre, gets a BEM for services to charity in Rothesay, while in Helensburgh Elizabeth Sarah Saunders, manager at Waverley Court care home, will get a BEM for services to social care in Scotland.

everywhere, the people who made Dochas happen, including my late husband and my family, and I thank the person who nominated me.'

Elsewhere in Argyll, receiving an OBE for services to rugby is former Scottish Rugby president Dee Bradbury from Oban.

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Tarbert pupils spread cheer in a tough year for everyone

The sixth year in Tarbert Academy went above and beyond to create happiness and memories in 2020 - in what was a tough year for many.

On top of applying to university, learning to drive and keeping on top of their school work they have led many projects which had a positive impact on both the school and community.

As Hallowe'en could not be celebrated as normal, the sixth year pupils transformed the whole secondary school into a 'spooktacular' space with primarily hand-made decorations.

Due to Covid-19, classrooms had to be well ventilated which meant the windows were open, and during winter it could be cold for many pupils and teachers. Wearing jackets meant the school uniform was hidden so, led by school captain Jamie Blair, house hoodies were designed and ordered in time for Christmas.

As the annual Christmas concert could not take place this year, the sixth year did not want to disappoint people so a virtual concert was



The hampers, prepared by S6 pupils with the help of Team Tarbert and the Co-op.

organised by vice captain Amber Blake, with the help of Tarbert Academy's gifted students. A video was compiled to showcase their many talents. Continuing with the Christmas fun, a lot of hard work and effort was put into decorating the school into a Winter Wonderland for everyone to enjoy, which included stables for all of Santa's reindeer.

Finally, to thank the community for its continuous support throughout the year the S6 pupils wanted to show their appreciation by making hampers for people who may have been celebrating Christmas on their own this year.

Working with volunteer

community support group Team Tarbert, they created hampers containing freshly baked goods as well as non-perishables and generous donations of soup, marmalade cakes and oatcakes from Tarbert Co-op.

Complying with social distancing, the sixth year pupils delivered these special hampers to people around the community.

Fiona McTaggart, Team Tarbert co-ordinator, said: 'We were delighted when the S6 pupils asked for our support with this fantastic project. This leadership class should be very proud of themselves for putting a smile on many faces.'

'In these difficult times, and especially when they are in such an important time of their last school year, to put others before themselves is just wonderful.'

'I've also spoken with several recipients and they were absolutely thrilled to receive their hampers with a little something from the ELC, primary and secondary children. Such a wonderful act of kindness.'

'Well done S6.'

ACHA chairman 'humbled by staff effort' in pandemic

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Staff at a social housing landlord have been praised for maintaining services to tenants despite the pandemic in 2020.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) is Scotland's eighth largest housing association and provides more than 5,000 affordable homes for rent, equivalent to more than 10 per cent of the population of Argyll and Bute.

Jim Milne MBE, the outgoing chairman, praised the workforce in the recently-published annual landlord report for 2019-20.

Mr Milne wrote: 'Every staff member from the chief executive Alastair MacGregor down has endeavoured to maintain as normal a service as possible given the restrictions placed

on them. I have been proud to have been your chairman during this period and been humbled by the efforts made by the staff, many 'over and above', to keep a safe roof over the heads of our tenants.'

He added: 'We will come through this crisis, but the way ACHA operates will probably be different and some changes will depend on medical advances over the next few months and possibly years. It would be wrong to speculate on the future at this moment in time.'

At ACHA's annual general meeting in September, Mr Milne bowed out from the chairmanship after five years in the role, handing over to Councillor Roddy McCuish.

ACHA chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'We are always pleased when we meet or exceed our targets but that doesn't mean we are



relaxing our efforts to provide the best service for our tenants and stakeholders.'

He said a major focus for the association was energy efficiency and tackling fuel poverty. Figures for 2019-20 show that £56.9 million passed

through ACHA during the financial year.

There was £26m of income, the bulk of which was £22.5m from rents, grants worth £2.7m and other income amounting to £800,000.

The report said: 'Over the

Councillor Donnie MacMillan BEM digs the first sod of a development by ACHA in Mid Argyll, with board members Roddy McCuish, Douglas Prophet and Councillor Jim Lynch, chief executive Alastair MacGregor and Kenny MacLeod, managing director of MacLeod Construction.

£3.4m was paid out on building new houses, there is £2m of other costs and we paid £1.9m of interest on loans we have borrowed.'

Nearly 90 per cent of tenants feel rents they pay are good value for money - higher than the Scottish national average.

The report said: 'We are working hard to improve the quality of your home and deliver excellent service for you. This year we managed to collect 98 per cent of all rent due.'

Some 2,856 households - equivalent to 54.97 per cent of tenants - had part of their rent paid by housing benefit or universal credit. The total of £10.1m received represents 46 per cent of the rent collected in the year, the report said.

ACHA has houses across 11 islands and in every major settlement, employing around 200 staff.

SCOTTISH FIELD

January issue



Exclusive
So that was
2020 feature

So that was 2020...

Interviews with top authors, actors & singers...
James Cosmo talks fishing & Father Christmas...
Stuart Hogg on horse riding... Father of fantasy fiction...
Wonderful world of owls... SF Quiz of the Year...
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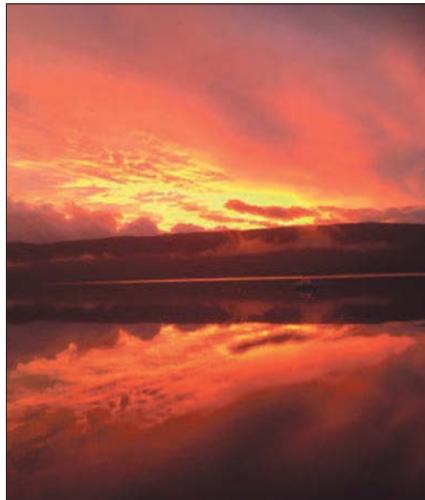
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Your pictures - a look back at 2020

In this edition we take a look back at a selection of the fantastic photographs from our readers featured in the Argyllshire Advertiser each week during 2020. After reviewing some images from January to June over Christmas, this week we remember readers' pictures from the second half of the year.

And look out for another featured reader's image on page nine of this week's edition.

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



November: Reader Chrissy Ryder was up early to capture this spectacular sunrise from Argyll Caravan Park, Inveraray, looking across Loch Fyne to St Catherines.

September: These sunflowers were photographed in Inverneil by Pamela Hamilton. She said: 'Two happy wee faces, grown from birdseed, getting the sun.'



December: A magical moonlit scene was featured in our first edition in December. Louise Macphail took this at Argyll Holidays' Drimsynie Holiday Village in Lochgoilhead. 'There was no filter in this photo, just an iPhone,' said Louise.



July: This pair of oystercatchers, left, were captured on camera by Aileen Gillies on July 10 at Ormsary shoreline.



October: This photograph was submitted by Duncan Cameron, who said: 'This was taken on October 2, looking from Ardrishaig over Johnny Law's shop rooftop. The image was taken by Lilly Cameron on her dad's phone.'

August: Gordon Stewart, Ardfern, sent this image of a stunning full rainbow over Loch Craignish lagoon, taken from Corranmor Farm on August 10.



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Do you see any familiar faces in this school photograph? If you recognise anyone, contact the Argyllshire Advertiser by emailing editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk with the details.

Do you recognise anyone in this school photograph?

A woman is appealing for information after finding an old school photograph while sorting through her late father's belongings.

Anne Duff thinks the image, which was among her dad Ian MacDonald's things, may

have been taken at Glenbarr Primary School. Although Anne's mother, Ina Park, was born in Glenbarr and later lived in Clachan with Ian, the photograph is not thought to contain any family members. Ian, who died in 2013, was

a renowned historian and genealogist which could explain how the photograph ended up in his possession but his family wonders if anyone can put names to the faces, confirm the location or date the photograph.

A creative blast from the past

An Argyll-based theatre company is sending cheer across the globe with innovative video messages from Scotland's past.

The Walking Theatre Company (TWTC) is a social enterprise based in Glendaruel, producing innovative outdoor theatre across Scotland and beyond.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, TWTC's full diary of performances was emptied, leaving its company of professional actors and creative practitioners without employment for the foreseeable future.

Like many creative companies, the pandemic forced TWTC to take its work online, exploring opportunities to connect with audiences during these uncertain times.

Searching for innovative ways to reconnect with audiences at home and abroad, TWTC creative director Sadie Dixon-Spain created the



Send your own message, perhaps from Prince Charles Edward Stuart himself.

'Clanagram', providing paid employment for actors and producing virtual keepsakes for audiences.

Clanagrams are personalised video greetings, sending friends and family near and far love and good cheer, as TWTC's team of professional actors bring to life a selection of Scotland's great names.

The perfect gift for those with Scottish heritage, Scots in exile or simply lovers of all

things Scottish, Clanagrams are a unique message from a Scottish hero, sent to them directly to celebrate a special occasion, or simply just to make them smile.

Visit www.clanagram.com to become a member of Bonnie Prince Charlie's army and receive a message from the Young Pretender himself, a recitation of poetry by the national bard or a tale from Scotland's most famous outlaw Rob Roy.

The arts have suffered immensely due to the Covid-19 pandemic and while tight restrictions, followed by the latest lockdown, continue to press pause on the live events industry, with the creation of digital performances and offerings such as Clanagrams TWTC aims to continue finding innovative ways of performing, bringing theatre back to audiences and offering creative professionals employment again.



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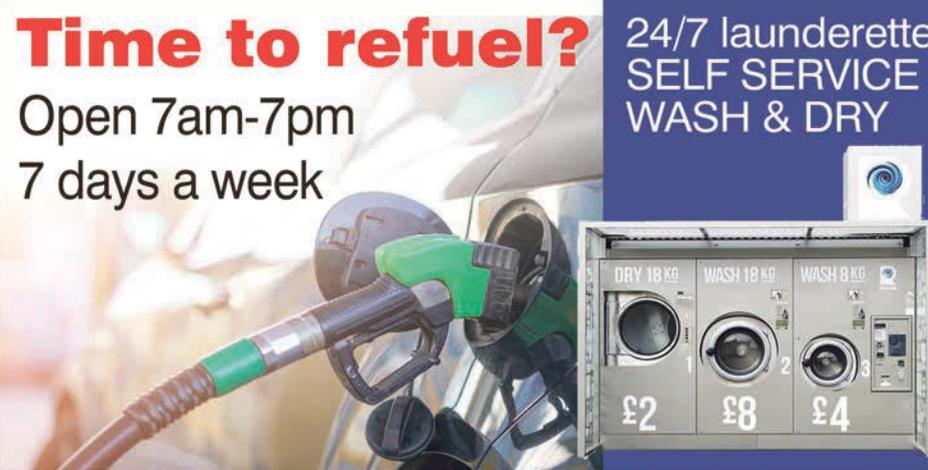
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Poignant symbol of hope and peace dedicated at Lochgilphead church

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

On World Day of Peace, January 1, St Margaret's Church in Lochgilphead held a special vigil at which Father Ronald Campbell blessed the metal sculpture of a crane – an addition to the parish's peace garden.

The death toll when the first atomic bomb was dropped on

the Japanese city of Hiroshima in August 1945 was put at 70,000. In the years which followed, that death toll rose by thousands as people succumbed to radiation sickness.

Among those who died was Sadako Sasaki, a pupil at Hiroshima's Noboricho Elementary School, who developed acute leukaemia 10 years after being exposed to the radiation.

While she was in hospital, she was inspired by the Japanese tradition that suggests if someone makes a thousand origami cranes, their wish will come true. Sadako's final days were spent folding paper cranes – hoping she would recover.

After her death, her friends swore to build a monument in her honour and their efforts led to the Children's Peace Monument. Today, children around the world send more than 10 tonnes of paper cranes to the monument – more than the combined weight of Little Boy and Fat Man, the bomb dropped on August 9 1945 on Nagasaki.

The paper cranes are recycled by Peace Minds Hiroshima and sent to children around the world with Sadako's story, raising awareness of the need for peace and nuclear abolition.

Blessing the crane sculpture, Father Ronald quoted from Pope Francis' World Day

of Peace statement: 'How many resources are spent on weaponry, especially nuclear weapons, that could be used for more significant priorities such as ensuring the safety of individuals, the promotion of peace and integral human development, the fight against poverty and the provision of health care.'

'Global problems like the present Covid-19 pandemic and climate change have only made these challenges all the more evident.'

'What a courageous decision it would be to establish a global fund with the money spent on weapons and other military expenditures instead used to permanently eliminate hunger and contribute to the development of the poorest countries.'

Father Ronald added: 'On January 22, the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons will enter into force. This is a milestone on the

Father Ronald Campbell blesses the poignant symbol of peace, born of the horrors of Hiroshima.



road to peace. The crane was gifted to St Margaret's peace garden by Pax Christi Scotland chairwoman Marian Pallister and crafted by Lochgilphead blacksmith Jack Campbell to remind us to continue to strive for peace and as Pope Francis

reminds us 'to esteem the value and dignity of every person, to act together in solidarity for the common good and to bring relief to those suffering from poverty, disease, slavery, armed conflicts and discrimination'.



Gathering, with social distancing, on World Day of Peace to witness the dedication.

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LETTERS

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Oh well, that's us under another lockdown

Even if it doesn't come as a huge shock, it's a thought.

But at the same time we've never really been able to behave as we did before coronavirus, even after the original lockdown was eased in May.

So, on the plus side, at least we've been over the course before.

For a number of businesses such as retail and tourism operations it is not great news, and that will be tough for many people. But we need to abide by the rules to ease the pain for everyone.

Protect the NHS, keep people healthy and avoid the grief of loss by sticking with it.

We did it the last time, so let's look after each other.

On the spirit of community, well done to the Tarbert senior pupils for their efforts during 2020.

Having the willingness to put others ahead of themselves is a great lesson to learn and they are a credit to the school.

Finally, congratulations to Anne Paterson and Catherine Paterson on their honours.

Both are worthy recipients and have contributed a great deal as leaders in their respective fields over many years.

Past achievements squandered by health board

Sir,
Your article on the disappearance of Argyll and Bute Hospital was excellent (Argyllshire Advertiser, December 18), written around Gillian Hogath's photographs and remarkably perceptive comments on the demolition of the hospital.

Among other things, she regrets an apparent lack of any historical accounts of the hospital and its social significance. Some do exist, however, and while not attempting to be a comprehensive history, there is a nicely illustrated booklet about the hospital and its past entitled 'Up The Brae', produced a few years ago by Brenda Bratt, Jess Grant and my former colleague Dr Grace Fergusson (MacLeod).

These photographs are a reminder of the loss of a significant social and economic element in the fabric of Mid Argyll, where for generations it would have been difficult to find a family without some connection to 'the A&B'. For those who worked there, myself included, any sadness, however, is much more about the loss of a self-sufficient and widely respected mental health service.

I was a late participant in the story of the A&B, being appointed physician superintendent in 1980, a post I held in addition to that of clinical director for mental health services for Argyll and Bute and West Dunbartonshire until 2004 and I feel a duty to the many splendid colleagues with whom I worked to comment on the loss



The now-disused Argyll and Bute Hospital.

of the service of which the A&B served as the nucleus.

During the course of 1989/1990, the hospital was awarded the accolade 'Best Mental Illness Hospital in Britain' as the result of a national competition launched by the King's Fund and sponsored by the Sunday Times. This was a recognition of the multi-disciplinary spirit and enthusiasm for innovation that characterised the service and the ethos of best clinical practice being led by academic excellence. The service went on to be recognised as a centre of excellence by many visiting accreditation bodies.

My reason for making these points has nothing to do with nostalgia.

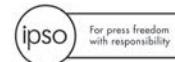
The past has no use in the present or the future except as a source for learning how best to proceed.

The ingredients for a good mental health

service are the same today as they were in 1989 and they have little to do with buildings or even location. Staff have to feel they 'belong' to something; there must be a collegiate spirit binding together the various disciplines; shared professional development and peer support and clear lines of accountability. It is frankly hard to see any such features in the current delivery of mental health care.

Someone once said 'psychiatry isn't sexy', meaning that in any competition for resources with other clinical specialities, psychiatry will always lose, so to get the best out of the NHS for people with psychiatric disorders, exceptional effort is required. The achievements and values of the past can act as a springboard for such effort, but here they seem to have been squandered by a distant and disinterested health board. It is all too easy to avoid investing in a service by

Press policy



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reorganising it into invisibility, but the people who pay the cost are those who deserve the best specialist professional help.

So I am certainly sad at the disappearance of the old A&B because it is symbolic of something having been lost that is much more important than stones and mortar.

Professor Angus Mackay OBE, FRCPsych, Ardrishaig.

Staying ahead online

Sir,

When we first went into lockdown, there were concerns over whether our networks would cope with a big increase in online traffic. But though customers' use of data more than doubled, our networks stood up to the demands.

I'm immensely proud of the role my colleagues have played in keeping the country connected during this crisis. From the engineers who keep our broadband and mobile networks connected, to the vital contact centre staff in Glasgow, Dundee, Greenock, Edinburgh and Thurso, helping people when they need it most.

I'm also proud of the role our people played in supporting the NHS in Scotland during the crisis, including working with the Scottish Government to quickly provide communications to the temporary hospitals.

The pandemic has shown the vital role digital technology and internet connectivity now plays in all our lives.

We know fast and reliable broadband and good mobile coverage is going to be essential for the post-Covid recovery.

We'll continue to work with governments and local authorities to make sure no areas are left behind.

Jane Wood,
BT Group Scotland Director,
Alexander Graham Bell House, Edinburgh.

YOUR PICTURES



Avril Lockhart from Cairnbaan took advantage of Loch a'Bharain being drained during canal upgrade work to take this photograph of old lock gates revealed by falling water levels.

Avril said the scene was 'spectacular in the January frost'.

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

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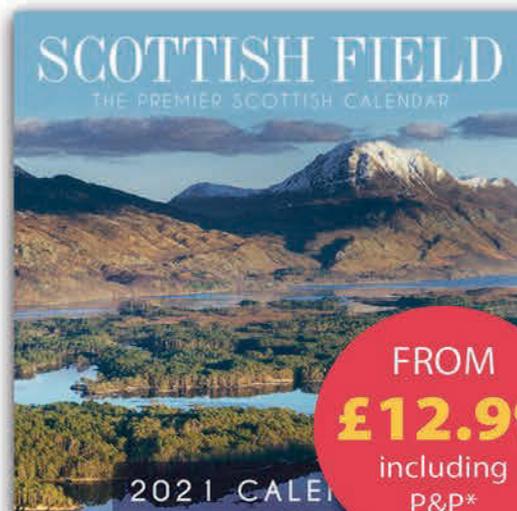
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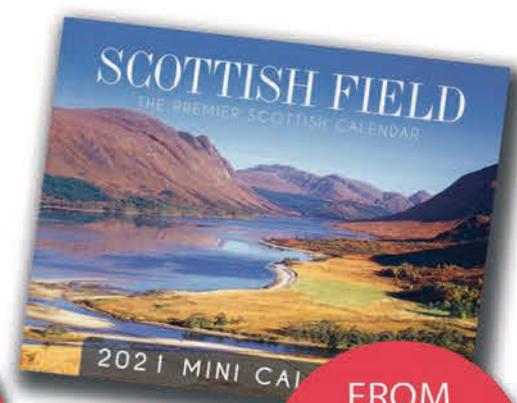
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Goodbye 2020 – and good riddance, none of us are going to miss you, unless we own shares in a company that makes online meetings apps.

So roll on 2021 as we all work on becoming Covid free and getting back to the good things in life.

It is time to get ready with a new look at life, with a New Year and a new you.

Losing weight and feeling great

Uh-oh! When the time comes to go back into the workplace do you have a wardrobe full of smart office clothes that might be a little too tight... maybe even a lot too tight?

If the lure of the biscuit tin and the sweetie jar have proved irresistible in 2020 as you worked from home, it is now time to get back on track.

We have only a few more months to go, hopefully, until the virus suppression lockdowns and vaccinations begin to take effect, so get cracking.

All the established slimming clubs have switched to online and if you enrol now you will be able to go to weigh-ins when allowed and step on those scales in front of all the other club members and feel so proud of yourself.

Even if you do not have weight to lose, how about making this the year that's all about eating better? Another thing we have learned during lockdown is how to enjoy cooking for ourselves and upping our culinary skills.

Food cooked from scratch tastes so much better than ready meals and doesn't have so many artificial flavour enhancers and no preservatives. There is something so satisfying and uplifting about home cooking.

Better still; why not start to buy more food from within our region? The last year gave local producers a great chance to shine and highlight their produce – be they grown, raised or made here in the West Highlands and islands.

You would be amazed at how many people have realised now what so many of us have known for so long – that locally-sourced eggs, be they chicken, duck or goose, taste way superior to supermarket ones.

In Oban, Fort William and Lochgilphead and in smaller villages and the islands you can find so many local artisan suppliers and farmers markets.

Get yourself in a good place

Life's current circumstances have shown us all the need for reliance; not just physical but emotional as well.

Let's be honest here – there cannot be one of us who has not gone right to the edge during these uncertain times. Some of us have been able to pull things back together far better than others.

There is no condemnation in this; perhaps one of the best things to come out of this disastrous Covid experience is that people will be more open and accepting about the need for good, positive mental health. We will be more aware of our own needs and those of our family, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

There is plenty of counselling available, on line and wherever possible, in person.

The Martyn's Monday Club for men and its spin-off clubs for women and young people in Oban are a shining example of the help that is available.

There are so many websites to visit, podcasts to listen to and even courses to enrol in.

Keeping positive is so important. Argyll College and West Highland College have many new courses available for you to expand your horizons, learn new skills and help you on your career path.

That does not mean sitting there like Pollyanna, or becoming an ostrich with your head in the sand and ignoring everything, in the hope it all goes away.

One of the best ways to keep yourself positive is to surround yourself with quality information.

We have said it before and will never tire of saying it again: always rely on good resources for your information like The Oban Times. Use government, Council and NHS websites, the BBC and STV and national and local press. We are owned by companies which all work within the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) guidelines – for real news.

Expert advice

Financial problems can be the one of the worst aspects of this crisis; as many people find themselves furloughed or their hours drastically cut back.

In an area such as ours there is a number of people who rely on the tourism and hospitality sectors for all of, or a major boost to, their incomes.

If you fall into this category, make sure you seek advice sooner rather than later, if you think you are might run into difficulty. Good financial planning is worth its weight in gold and you can still have appointments with advisors online.

Life goes on, online

Exercise and a good pub quiz is what the UK wants most from the internet!

YouTube's Culture and Trends team issued a report on 2020 and 'the trends and behaviour defining the evolution of digital culture in 2020'.

Kevin Allocca, who heads the team, said when the report was issued that 'this is an important moment to examine in the history of pop culture' because of the Covid pandemic.

Topping the UK chart was Joe Wicks who received an MBE in October. He has said his videos' success is one of his 'proudest achievements'.

Jay Flynn, a pub landlord from Lancashire, who hosted his own pub quizzes before lockdown has now found himself with a massive audience.

He began Jay's Virtual Pub Quiz on You Tube for a local audience and has found himself with nearly 150,000 joining in live on Thursday evenings.

And don't forget our own superstars of The Oban Times podcast, available each week. Make sure you listen to David Buchanan's retirement podcast – a classic!

Change your career, change your life



After a year full of uncertainty and change, it's time to take the reins and get your career back on the right track. Whether you're thinking about retraining, or changing your career path, you'll be able to get recognised qualifications with Argyll College UHI, all whilst studying right here in Argyll.

Starting late January, we have a range of part-time single unit courses available that can be completed before June from as little as £86. The courses are a great way to get a taster for one of our full-time courses, gain additional skills, or help you reskill in a new area. So, if you're ready for a pivot in 2021, this could be exactly what you need.

If the thought of returning to the office is enough to send you stir crazy, why not get outdoors and try one of our Horticulture units. A great way to gain new skills in the garden, these units are perfect for both beginners, and the green-fingered among us. Whether you're simply looking to get your garden in shape for Spring or want to turn your hobby into something more.

Computing is a rapidly growing sector of employment and now, more than ever, has become fundamental to the way we live,

work, and socialise. Gaining skills within this area can open up the world of technology and a vast array of exciting career opportunities. Our single unit courses cover topics such as Digital Forensics, Ethical Hacking and Computer Games Development and serve as a taster for our full-time HNC Computing course starting in September.

If you're new to the world of work, or returning after a break our Business, Admin and IT courses could be for you. Covering a range of topics from customer care, digital marketing, databases and personal enterprise skills, these courses will prepare you for the modern-day office environment and increase your employability.

For most people, it's only natural to change and what better time than now to try something new – especially as many of us have time to fill whilst remaining at home! So, if you love life in Argyll but think you have to move away to get the qualifications you need, think again. Find out how we can help you hit the ground running as the new year approaches.

Visit www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk to find out more.

JANUARY SHORT COURSES

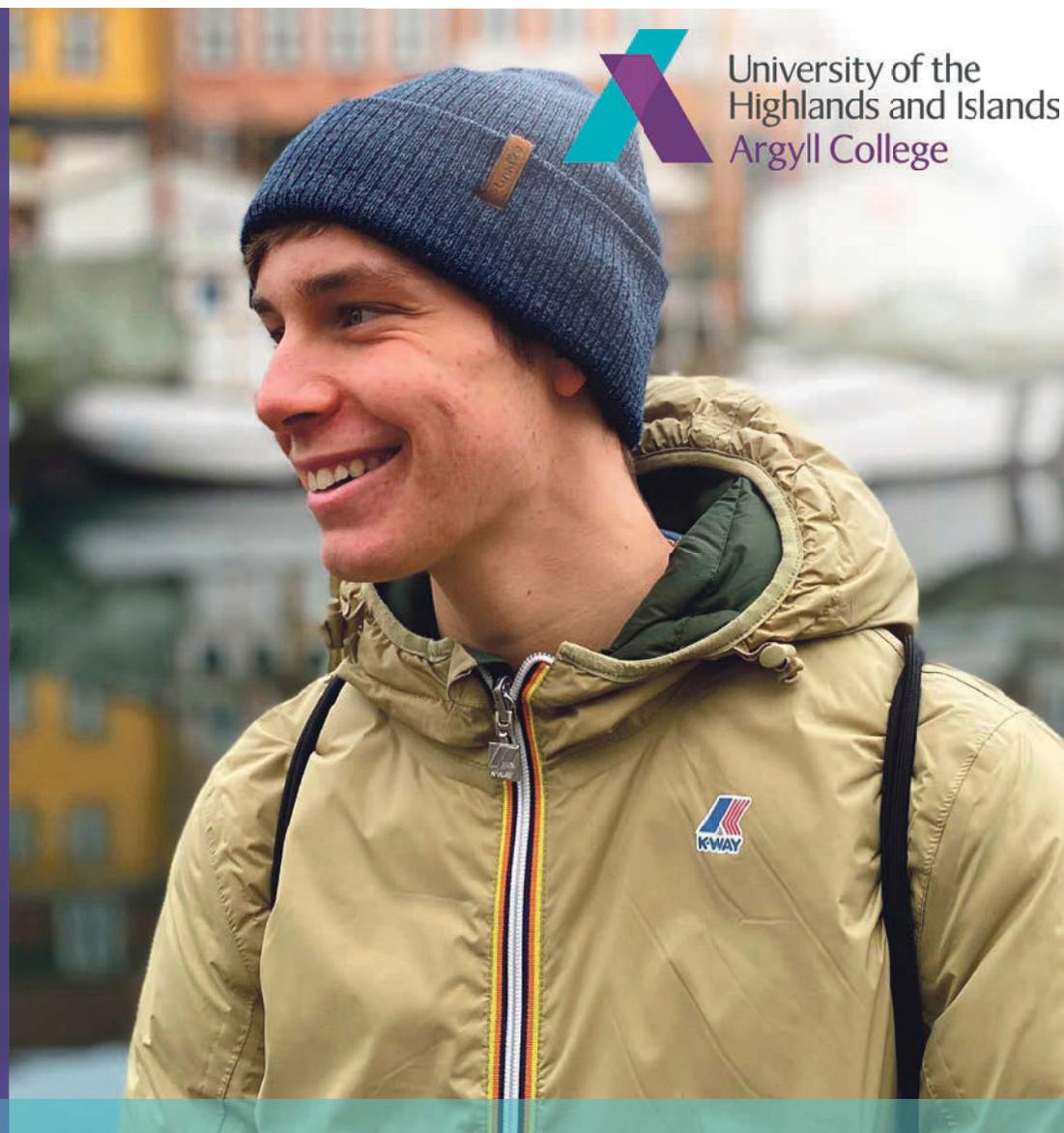
Considering a career change in the new year?
Or are you thinking about new opportunities?
It's **never too late** to start learning.

We have lots of shorter courses starting from January to help **build your skills**, including:

- Business Law: An Introduction
- Horticulture: Plant Recognition & Use
- Computing: Ethical Hacking
- Administrative Procedures
- Computer Games Development
- Plants & Habitats: Ecology & Conservation

... and **lots more** options on our website!

HEAD OVER TO ARGYLL.UHI.AC.UK





Make 2021 your year



At Slimming World, we understand the impact these past months have had on our health, our happiness and our weight. If you'd love to make a fresh start this new year, we're here to support you all the way to your dream weight.

Things have been a little different in 2020 but the range of support you get is still provided by Slimming World, call Gillian today on 07796 040803 to become a member.

You will enjoy an amazing package of support, including our generous, flexible eating plan, a tailored activity plan, and the motivation, understanding and care that's at the heart of Slimming World.

Make this the year you discover that Slimming World feeling for yourself – a fresh start that lasts a lifetime!

Individual dietary needs

Food Optimising caters for members with special dietary requirements or conditions affected by diet, including diabetes, Coeliac disease, lactose intolerance and IBS.

Consultants and members have access to a variety of health fact sheets to help incorporate their dietary needs into Food Optimising, for example, highlighting gluten and dairy free products.

What's your favourite Slimming World recipe?



Free2GO - 11 to 15 year olds

It's no secret that young people are eating less healthily, have a less active lifestyle and are suffering from weight-related problems like diabetes at a much earlier age.

To help young people in the very best way it can, Slimming World has launched Free2Go – a specially devised healthy eating plan, which focuses on the power of Free Food and Healthy Extras and encourages the step-by-step reduction of less healthy foods like burgers, chocolate and confectionary.

MEET THE TEAM



Gillian MacCorquodale
Consultant

Hi, I'm Gillian, I joined SW as a member in 2006 and lost 3 stone. I have been a consultant now for 10 years and absolutely love my job. SW Oban has over 300 members, many of whom who have achieved their targets and many more well on the way. SW Fort William, that started a couple of years ago, is a huge success and in high demand. We look forward to welcoming you into group and helping you achieve your goals.

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- Food Intolerances



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Around the markets

United Auctions Stirling, Sunday January 3, sold 4,374 prime sheep comprising of 3,716 prime hogs selling to an average of 231.36ppk and 658 ewes and rams.

Old season lambs (3,716) – West Park (BTex) £122.00; Luckenburn (BTex) £120.00; Berrydyke (BTex) £117.00; Easter Ochtermuthill (BTex) £116.00; The Green (Tex) £119.00; Westhall (Tex) £117.00; The Green (Tex) £116.00; Longfauld (Tex) £115.00; North Inchmichael (Suf) £115.00; Drumdownie (Suf) £113.50; Blythbank (Suf) £108.00; North Inchmichael (Chev) £112.00 and £110.50; Newhouse of Glamis (Chev) £105.50; Easter Craigduckie (Cross) £108.50; Wardhead (Mule) £105.00; Luckenburn, North Deanhead & Blythbank (Mule) £100.00; Gilston (Chev/Mule) £104.00; Whirrieston (BF) £102.00; Whirrieston and

Smithy Hillock (BF) £101.00; North Deanhad (BF) £100.00. Old season lambs ppk (3,716) – Easter Buckleyvie (BTex) 322.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (BTex) 276.00ppk; West Park (BTex) 270.00ppk and 268.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (Tex) 269.00ppk; Torrax (Tex) 261.00ppk; South Ballaird (Tex) 260.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (Chev) 245.00ppk; Hallhill (Chev) 241.00ppk; Loanhead of Duchally, Snawdon and Newton of Crathie (Chev) 240.00ppk; Claish (Cha) 239.00ppk; Easter Buckleyvie (Suf) 238.00ppk; Wardhead (Suf) 237.00ppk and 236.00ppk; Fullarton and Pittenkerrie (Suf) 237.00ppk; Gilsotn (Chev/Mule) 236.00ppk; Cretlevane (Mule) 233.00ppk; Dupplin Estate (Mule) 231.00ppk; Blythbank (Mule) 227.00ppk; Ardacheranmor and Bows (BF) 233.00ppk; Bows (BF) 232.00ppk; West

Bracklinn and Whirrieston (BF) 230.00ppk. Ewes (658) – Westhall (Tex) £138.00; Carrat (Tex) £120.00; Wester Cambushinie (TexX) £118.00; Over Finlarg (TexX) £110.00; Westhall (Suf) £126.00; Smith Hillock (SufX) £114.00; Fullfordlees (SufX) £107.00; Over Finlarg (BFL) £93.00; Cretlevane (BFL) £91.00; Calfward (Mule) £90.50; Carrat (Mule) £90.00; Blythbank (Mule) £88.00; Woodhead of Mailer (Mule) £86.00; Powblack (Hamp) £90.00; Craighall (Chev) £88.00; Over Finlarg (Chev) £72.50; Dustydrum (Chev) £82.00; Kinclaven (Chev/Mule) £85.50; Gledamph (BF) £71.50; Blythbank (BF) £67.50; Over Finlarg & Auchenrivoch (BF) £67.00. Tups – Cretlevane (Tex) £135.00; Fleurs (Tex) £128.00; Over Finlarg (Tex) £117.00; Over Finlarg (Lley) £109.00; Gledamph (BF) £94.00.

Cards stacked in industry's favour, says NFUS president

A new year, a new perspective, writes Andrew McCornick, president of NFUS Scotland, in his New Year message.

The new and untested trading environment would be different but with many of the same worries over potential tariffs and quotas, he said.

'There are and will be issues and NFUS will take them on and seek remedies.

'However, as I look to 2021, it is not about the cards we have been dealt on Brexit, trade deals, policy or weather.

'It is how we play our hand and I firmly believe that, as an industry, we have the cards stacked in our favour,' he added. With the world population growing, Scotland's 'multifunctional land' could meet growing demand.

'Let us have credibility for farmers by investing in bioeconomy, bioenergy, agro-forestry, precision farming and shorter food chains – support for which is within the Government's gift,' he said.

'In 2021, the black cloud of Covid-19 needs to be swept away, a process driven by the vaccines our scientists have developed and lessons learned on the things we should do better but also how we have adapted and adopted new methods for good.

'Agriculture also urgently needs delivery of an ambitious coherent policy delivering a sustainable profitable industry that addresses climate change, biodiversity and an increasing demand for nutritious high standard and welfare food. Procrastination has a price.

'Brexit will go by, like foot and mouth, the oil crisis and the great depression, but we need enough freedom and flexibility to be able to innovate and chose our own paths through it as well. We need to throw open our doors to the public and build trust on what we do and how we do it. There is huge potential from selling our story both on farm and in the food chain.'

He finished by adding: 'I wish everyone health, wealth and happiness for the coming year.'



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OPTION 1
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- 10 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x Joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2 feet swing gates

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

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- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2-foot swing gates






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

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- 10 x 3m (6 railed) cattle hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 1 x sliding gate



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Argyll and Bute Council
PLANNING
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
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.

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/02215/PP	Re-painting of shopfront from Black to Chiltern White and Mallard Green	6 Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6AH

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
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



74%
Local newspapers
in print and digital (74%) are more than
three times more trusted
for local news and information than
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Source: YouGov 2018

Argyll and Bute Council
EDUCATION SERVICE
EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 1980
CHOICE OF SCHOOL AND REGISTRATION
OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS -
SESSION 2021/2022

All children who reach the age of five years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for education during the week commencing 18 January 2021.

Usually children attend their local school however parents can make a request to place their child in any school under the management of the education authority. This is known as a placing request.

P1 registration, including placing requests for starting in August 2021, will take place online using the council's website. Details of the link will be published using social media and on the website. If you are unable to access the online registration form please call your local school week beginning 18 January 2021.

A list of all schools and documents relating to registration can be found on the council's website www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/placing-your-child-school, this includes:-

- Gaelic Medium Education
- Denominational Schools
- Non-denominational Schools.



Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Callum Simpson trading as Septic Tank Services Ltd of Camus Stack, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QL is applying to change an existing licence as follows:
To keep an extra 2 goods vehicles and 1 trailer at the operating centre at Site 15, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RR.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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RECRUITMENT

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We are looking for a qualified mechanic/plant fitter to join our team. This position is available for immediate start. Hours of work 8am - 5.30pm.
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Main Purpose of the Job
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1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other

codes.
2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any

dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will

be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result

of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is

chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.
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Thought for the Week

Can we miss the beauty of a journey when our eyes are too focused on the destination?

Our new Christmas movie this year was the Pixar film Soul. This animated fantasy revolves around a character named Joe. He is a part-time music teacher, with a passion for jazz, whose life has not gone the way he expected.

Long story short, he gets an opportunity to play with his dream band. After this amazing gig, we find his character outside the jazz club, downcast and not feeling any different.

His friend says: 'You're like a fish who's looking for the ocean only to discover that the water you're in is the ocean.'

He missed the joy of the day-to-day experiences, thinking the big dream would make everything better. What a lesson. We can chase the dream only to miss the journey.

Life in front of us is to be grasped and appreciated daily. As King Solomon said all those centuries ago: 'It is good for people to eat, drink and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them and to accept their lot in life.' Ecclesiastes 5:18.

2020 reminded us to appreciate the people and the things around us a lot more.

Dreaming and aspiring for better days is not wrong but let us not miss today while waiting for change.

Today - this day - is to be lived and enjoyed. Today - this day - is a day I can look up or I can look down. Today - this day - we have an opportunity to appreciate people and show love and kindness.

Whatever the destination, there is beauty on the way.

Reverend Chris Holden, The Fishermen's Mission.

KILBERRY



South Knapdale resident Agnes Wilkie sent this picture to the Advertiser, with the comment: 'Funny sights you see out on a cracking Ne'erday walk in Kilberry...' Anyone know the facts behind the sign, other than rogue marsupials roaming the region? Contact us on editor@argyllshire-advertiser.co.uk if you know the story.

KYLES OF BUTE

Lamont Bequest invitation

People with a PA21 postcode in Otter Ferry, Kilfinan, Portavadie, Ardlamont, Millhouse, Kames and Tighnabruich are invited to apply for funding from the Lamont Bequest Fund.

The original bequest was 'to be distributed to the poor of Kilfinan', but changes in society since its inception mean that Argyll and Bute Council's Bute and Cowal area committee has updated the bequest rules. Eligible individuals will receive £50, while families will get £100 and must be in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance, Income Support or Universal Credit. People who are employed/self-employed, must be in receipt of some amount of Universal Credit as well. Applications will be evaluated in March, June, September and December. The deadlines for receipt of applications are February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.

For more information and to apply online, visit the www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/forms/lamont-bequest webpage.

ARGYLL AND BUTE

Weather records kept at Benmore Botanic Garden in Cowal show that 2020 was the fourth wettest year on record, with total precipitation of 125.4 inches; 32 per cent (42 inches) greater than the long-term average. The wettest year on record is 1948 with a total of 3,365.0mm (132.5 inches). Ten months had precipitation greater than the long term average, while January, June, July, October and November were 'wet'. With 168 per cent more precipitation than average, February was the wettest on record and the second wettest month ever recorded at Benmore. By contrast, April was the fourth driest on record with total precipitation 74 per cent below the seasonal norm. January was mild, with an average maximum daily temperature 1.9°C above the norm and an average minimum daily temperature 2.2°C above the norm. Average temperatures during May and June were significantly above average. There were 31 air frosts - long-term average of 50 - with January, February, and November having significantly lower occurrence than the norm.

Temperatures

Highest maximum air temperature: 27.6°C on June 25
Lowest maximum air temperature: 2.5°C on December 24
Lowest minimum air temperature: -3.1°C on December 30
Highest minimum air temperature: 15.4°C on August 12
Highest minimum at grass level: 13.9°C on June 24 and August 7
Lowest minimum at grass level: -8.5°C on December 30

Frost

Air frost on: 31 days
Last air frost: May 15
First air frost: November 29
Between last and first air frost: 198 days
Ground frost on: 127 days
Last ground frost: May 28
First ground frost: August 29
Between last and first ground frost: 92 days

Precipitation

Total rainfall for year: 3,184.6mm (125.4 inches)
Greatest rainfall on one day: 81.5mm on August 4
Rain 0.2mm or more on: 273 days
Rain 1.0 mm or more on: 231 days
Rain 5.0mm or more on: 160 days
Trace (between 0.0mm and 0.1mm): 52 days
Total with measurable rain: 295 days

Other phenomena

Gale on: 17 days (full gale conditions rather than gusts or non-observable night events)
Hail on: 16 days
Snow/sleet on: 15 days
Thunder on: 2 days

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DEATHS

BAPTY - Suddenly at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 1, 2021, Neil Stuart Bapty, in his 71st year, Bayview, Low Askomil, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Helen Hamilton and a much loved father and grandfather.

CAMPBELL - Peacefully at home, Beinn Ghlas, Furnace on December 31, 2020, Alexander (Alex) Campbell in his 87th year. Beloved husband of the late Pearl MacCallum. Dearly loved and adored father of Hazel, Ronnie, Carol and Lorna. A much respected father-in-law of Ronnie, Mhairi, Douglas and Alastair. Devoted and proud Papa and Old Papa. Alex was a highly respected member of the local and surrounding communities, and a stalwart of Kilmory Shinty Club. A private family service was held in Cumlodden Parish Church, Furnace on Thursday, January 7, 2021, followed by Interment at Kilevin Cemetery, Crarae.

GREENWOOD - Peacefully at home, 2 School Park, Carradale, on January 1, 2021, Kenneth Greenwood (Ken) in his 78th year, dearly beloved husband of Molly, loving dad of Vicki, Yvette and Laura and a loving grandfather and great-grandfather.

WATSON - Peacefully at home, 24 Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, on January 5, 2021, with family by his side, Robert Watson (Bobby) in his 96th year, much loved brother of Nancy, Sandy and the late Margaret, Donnie and Billy and a dear and loved uncle. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Bobby's funeral will take place on Friday, January 8. The cortege will leave the home address, 24 Albyn Avenue, at 12 noon. We will travel down Millknowe, along Aqualibrium Avenue, around the Cross and up Main Street on our way to Keil Cemetery, Southend. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Bobby may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MCCOY - The family of the late Margaret and Ken McCoy would like to convey sincere thanks to family, friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, flowers and cards of condolence following the devastating loss of their parents. Heartfelt thanks to the Community Nurses who attended to Mum when she was still at home; to Drs Lazarus, Norrie, Toledo, Anderson, and to all the amazing and wonderful nurses who attended to our Mum and Dad during their

time in hospital. Sincere thanks to Kenneth Blair and his staff for their dignified professionalism; to Fr. Tony Woods, David McEwan and Bill Brannigan for delivering a beautifully personal service; to The Glen for a lovely tea, and finally, a huge thank you to everyone who joined us to pay their respects to Ken and Margaret on their final journey. They will both be sorely missed.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL - In loving memory of our precious son Kenneth. Loved and missed every day

Forever in our hearts
- Love Mum and Dad xx

MCCALLUM - Muriel January 7, 2018. It broke our hearts to lose you

But you did not go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home
- Lots of love, Richard and Sharon xxx

MCLEAN - Agnes. Promoted to Glory on January 6, 2008. Our dearest Nana - we love and miss you always.

- Senga, Sean and Millie and Maureen and family. Precious memories of our dear Mum - forever in our hearts, Rene and Flora. Also our beloved sister and a much-loved and missed auntie, Carolin McLean
- Promoted to Glory on January 6, 2018.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



...God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' Hebrews 13 V 5

Our building is currently closed but you are welcome to join our online Praise and Worship Zoom Service on Sunday, 10th January 2021 at 11am

To join us online send your email address to officespringbankchurch@gmail.com

for an invitation to Sunday's Zoom meeting www.springbankchurch.org.uk

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



South Kintyre Team Ministry

Due to the new regulations there will be no services held in the churches but an online service can be viewed on the South Kintyre Team Ministry page on YouTube.

Ministers
Revd Steve Fulcher
Revd Chris Fulcher
01586830504

www.kintyreparishes.org.uk

SALVATION ARMY



Our meetings in the hall are currently cancelled
Gospel message will be available via our FB page every Sunday

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 10th January

In line with the current Covid restrictions, there will be no services held in the church building for the rest of January.

Rev Rodger Crooks will record the service for this Sunday and it will be available on our website (see below) and on YouTube.

4.00pm Sunday School (by Zoom)
7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)

Wednesday 13th January

12 noon Prayer & Bible Study (by Zoom)
www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk

Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Church services and activities suspended until further notice

Please feel free to contact us

Pastor Mark Jasper
01586 554 092
pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
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SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in Mid-Argyll & Arran
The Eucharist will be streamed live each Sunday at 11am on Facebook
at [ChristChurchLochgilhead](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchLochgilhead) and on www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH

Lochgilhead

Suspension of Public Worship

Masses will continue to be Live Streamed via our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5MuOWIKEBfHQBQD37ui6yA>

Please check our Facebook page and parish website for weekly Mass times and latest information.

Fr. Ronald Campbell
01546 602380
lochgilhead@rcdai.org.uk
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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.northknappdale.org

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor, Kilmartin

Please note due to lockdown restrictions our church is closed until further notice. We will be back in action as soon as it is safe to do so. Until then stay safe.

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

Due to Covid 19 restrictions There will be no services in the church during January. Commencing 13th January there will be a message on Facebook each Wednesday and Sunday commencing Wed. 13th January Rev W Crossan

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Due to the COVID lock down restrictions the Tarbert and Skipness churches will remain closed until further notice

ST KIERAN'S RC CHURCH

Current restriction announced by the Scottish Government mean it is necessary to close places of worship. Therefore, Holy Mass will regrettably only be celebrated without people present and will be broadcast on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>) and Zoom (Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6593787274>), at 10am Friday-Wednesday. Anyone requiring pastoral care should contact Fr. Wood: 01586 552160 or campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk.

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

There will be No Services in Ardrishaig or Achahoish Churches until further notice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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MOKRUN 2021 will go ahead say organisers

Kintyre's single biggest sporting event is to make a comeback this year after being cancelled in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Mull of Kintyre 10K and Half-Marathon Run (MOKRUN) committee is hoping to hold the usual annual event in Campbeltown on Sunday May 30.

Gail Williams, race director, said: 'We hope that restrictions, which are currently in place due to the coronavirus pandemic, will be lifted by then and that the event can go ahead, albeit with new measures in place, intended to limit close contact between runners and to keep everyone safe.'

There will not be a registration tent at this year's event, with all race numbers being posted out instead and race information emailed to participants in advance.

The 106 places which were not deferred from 2020 will not be released, reducing the number of participants to assist with social distancing. Everyone who did not request a refund of their 2020 entry fee has a place in the 2021 race.

All other Covid-secure measures to be introduced will be explained in the race information email, issued closer to the time.

Gail added: 'Unfortunately, there will not be the usual post-race ceilidh in 2021, as we feel it is unlikely to be acceptable to hold an indoor event of that size in May.'

'However, this is a part of the traditional event weekend which we will bring back in future years.'

Entries for the junior race, to be held on Saturday May 29, will not be opened until closer to the time, when organisers

can be certain the event can go ahead. As much notice as possible will be given before race entry opening through the group's website www.mokrun.com and Facebook page (@mokrun).

In the event public gatherings of this size are still unable to be staged in May, the race will become a virtual event, where participants will be invited to complete a 10K or half-marathon distance in their home area between May 30 and June 13 and submit proof of their run. T-shirts and medals will be posted out to participants on completion.

Gail said: 'It is fully the committee's intention to host a live event but we acknowledge that if this is not possible a virtual race is the best alternative, after the cancellation of the 2020 event. We hope to see you in May 2021. Stay safe.'



MOKRUN race director Gail Williams approaching the finishing line in 2019's 10K race.



Lochgilphead Golf Club in the summer.

Golf club responds to Covid restrictions

Lochgilphead Golf Club has announced new playing arrangements in response to the latest 'lockdown' announced by the Scottish Government.

With effect from midnight on Monday January 4, the maximum number of golfers permitted to play per tee time has been two, with this rule in place until at least January 31.

With Alex MacAulay leading Ross Sinclair by two points, the club has also taken the decision to postpone the gents' winter league competition until at least the end of January due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown.



Competitors in the 2018 10K race make their way along Dalaruan Street and High Street.



Runners make their way along Westport Beach during the 2017 MOKRUN half-marathon. Organisers hope to stage the event this year after it was cancelled in 2020.

CONTACT US

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