

## CHILDCARE CHOICES 2021

Pages 12 - 13: Your guide to early learning and childcare options near you



# Covid vaccination roll-out gathers pace across Argyll

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Preparations are under way to expand a Covid-19 vaccination programme across Argyll.

NHS Highland announced this week that priority groups in Argyll and Bute – including care home residents and staff, health and social care staff working directly with Covid or suspected Covid patients, GPs and vaccinators – have already received a vaccination in line with national guidance.

Joanna Macdonald, chief officer of Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership thanked staff, including GPs and their teams, for their 'hard work and commitment in ensuring that we are moving forward with the vaccinations as quickly as we can'.

She continued: 'We are currently working our way through the priority groups as per the national guidance and I am delighted to say our vaccination teams have already visited all care homes in Argyll and Bute, which is really good news. We are now also starting to vaccinate people aged 80 and over

and your GP will be in touch when it's your turn to be seen.'

In Mid Argyll, Lochgilphead Medical Centre provided an update on Tuesday January 19 via social media, posting: 'From the end of January supplies of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine will be arriving regularly. The vaccine will be administered in accordance with national guidance on the priority groups, starting with the over 80s, and will be delivered through

**'The distribution of vaccines is based on population density...'**

the GP surgery. Patients will be contacted directly and given an appointment time to attend.

'As vaccine supply continues, the priority groups will be called up in order. Please try to avoid calling the surgery for more information, we will contact you direct.

'To date [we have] been receiving the BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine in relatively small amounts and this

has been given to some care home patients and front line workers.'

The statement continued that the medical centre 'has no control over the number of vaccines allocated to our area or when these will arrive.

'Throughout Scotland the distribution of vaccines has been based on population density, which explains the perceived delay of supplies to our area.'

Joanna Macdonald concluded: 'I would remind the public of the importance of continuing to follow national guidance on social distancing, self-isolation and mixing indoors and that they should stay at home and only leave the house for essential purposes.'

### Funding boost for Lochgilphead

A £500,000 project to improve road crossings, pedestrian and disabled access and improve cycle facilities is about to start in Lochgilphead.

Turn to page five for the full story.



### Tarbert to the fore in seafood protest

Seafood businesses from across the UK took their protest over Brexit causing a bureaucratic nightmare and long delays for exporters to the heart of government in Westminster. Prominent in the campaign to highlight the serious problems experienced by the seafood industry have been Allan Miller, originally from Tarbert, who now runs Aberdeen-based AM Shellfish Ltd, and Jamie McMillan of Tarbert-based Lochfyne Langoustines, who gained wide exposure with his social media posts focusing on the hardship faced by his industry. For full story, turn to page three.

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# Search continues for Mid Argyll post offices

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Lochgilphead and Inveraray appear no closer to getting a new post office than they have been since the first half of 2020.

Inveraray Post Office had been hosted in the town's Londis shop for a number of years, but closed in April 2020 with the departure of the postmaster, as Londis was replaced by The Topsy Laird.

In June, the sudden passing of Lochgilphead postmaster Findlay Campbell shocked and saddened the community.

The town was left with no post office, and that shows little sign of changing in the near future.

As a temporary measure,

Tarbert Post Office has visited Inveraray and Lochgilphead with a mobile service, as well as providing outreach for Ardrishaig.

Speaking to the Argyllshire Advertiser, a Post Office spokesperson said this week that no 'permanent solution' had yet been found for either town, despite the vacancies being advertised online for months.

The spokesperson added: 'We want to thank the postmaster for Tarbert for providing the mobile post office service in the interim to help maintain service in Lochgilphead and Inveraray.'

The ongoing pandemic is clearly a factor in the failure to identify a host business for these branches – the Post



Lochgilphead has been without a post office since June 2020.

Office said in the autumn that 'the effects of coronavirus on retail businesses and the UK high street remains a challenging environment in

which to operate' – but the company has been the subject to criticism for its approach.

In October a Mid Argyll businessman said he had

approached the Post Office offering to open up a shop in Inveraray hosting a post office branch.

The company, he claims, responded by seeking £17,000 in set-up costs.

The Post Office responded that it had 'received some interest for Inveraray', but a spokesperson added that 'we cannot commit to funding the set-up costs for every branch'.

Argyll and Bute MSP Michael Russell said: 'There has been a difficulty in recruitment across the constituency and the Post Office needs to do more to encourage applications.'

If anyone is interested in these and other Post Office vacancies, visit [www.run-apostoffice.co.uk](http://www.run-apostoffice.co.uk) for more information.

## POLICE FILES

### Controlled drugs

A 34-year-old woman was searched by police and charged with possession of a small amount of controlled drugs at about 6pm on Monday January 11 on Lochnell Street, Lochgilphead. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

### Kilmartin sheep attack

Between 1.15pm and 1.25pm on Wednesday January 13, in a field north of Kilmartin, an incident of sheep worrying allegedly occurred. Police are investigating and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them on 101 or anonymously via 0800 555 111.

### Children not wearing seatbelts

At around 4.20pm on Friday January 15 on Oban Road, Lochgilphead, a man aged 48 was reported for allegedly driving a vehicle while using a mobile phone and with two children not wearing seatbelts. The man was charged and a report sent to the procurator fiscal.

### Road traffic offences

On Saturday January 16, a 47-year-old woman was reported for allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol, with no insurance and no permission from the owner between 7pm and 10pm, on the B840, Dalmally. She was arrested and charged with having no insurance and taking the vehicle without the consent.

# New barrier completed through Glen Croe

Installation of a protective bund next to the old military road at the Rest and be Thankful has been completed, writes Colin Cameron.

The 175m long, 6.6m high bund will act as a barrier to protect users of the old road through Glen Croe, the detour to the landslip-prone A83 trunk road.

It was formed using a modular system favoured by the military, with individual units stacked to create a defensive wall across the foot of a channel carved by two large landslips in 2020.

The bund provides greater

confidence in being able to safely keep the old military road detour open during inclement weather conditions, which increase the potential instability of the slopes above the A83.

Transport Secretary Michael Matheson said he was pleased the bund was completed, making the diversion more reliable: 'This is important progress towards improving the resilience of the old military road and I would like to put on record my thanks to the teams involved for all of their efforts. Alongside these measures Transport Scotland continues

to explore future works for the hillside to bolster the resilience of this key corridor route.'

Eddie Ross of trunk road management firm BEAR Scotland said: 'This work, together with the successful installation of the in-channel barrier above the A83, completed before Christmas, means we're continuing to strengthen the landslip resilience in the area following two large landslips in 2020.'

He added the hillside was continuously monitored and weather in the area, and progress would continue with further mitigation work.



The completed bund on the old military road through Glen Croe.

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Exclusive Newsletter



# Seafood Brexit protesters descend on Westminster

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Tarbert men are front and centre of a fight to keep seafood businesses afloat in what has been described as the post-Brexit 'carnage' of red tape.

The 'disastrous' bureaucracy faced by Scotland's seafood exporters was driven right to the heart of the UK

Government on Monday. In a protest at delays which have added unwanted hours to the process of getting fresh produce to customers in the EU, a convoy of 21 lorries arrived at Parliament Square – just yards from 10 Downing Street.

Firms from Scotland, Wales and England joined the motorcade, which included a lorry from Islay Crab Exports Ltd of Port Ellen.

Organiser Allan Miller, originally of Tarbert, now runs Aberdeen-based shellfish supply company AM Shellfish Ltd. The convoy of lorries – some bearing slogans condemning the 'Brexit carnage' and 'Incompetent Government Destroying Shellfish industry' – were 'clapped' by bystanders, said Mr Miller, who said Brexit had been 'devastating' for the sector.

Seafood firms are now faced with loading up 24 hours earlier in order to jump the hoops needed to get produce to the continent. He explained that the delays risked the reputation of Scotland's seafood – particularly if drivers faced further obstacles with ferry delays.

Mr Miller said the whole process of exporting needed to be urgently 'streamlined' as companies are 'haemorrhaging money left, right and centre' and facing losses 'week after week'.

He said: 'The paperwork and customs is all time we do not have. There is no sell-by date



Jamie McMillan – 'We are fighting for survival'.

with the produce – it's either alive or dead. It is more staff hours required and more driver hours.'

Also prominent in the campaign to get the point across to government has been Jamie McMillan of Tarbert-based Lochfyne Langoustines, who posted the latest in a series of hard-hitting Twitter videos last week saying that his industry had been 'made a fool of' by the Westminster government. 'It's an absolute disgrace what we've had to go through,' he added.

Addressing the prime min-



Allan Miller of AM Shellfish Ltd, said the protest attracted 'phenomenal' media interest.

ister, he continued: 'We are fighting for survival. Get it sorted, and get it sorted now.'

Responding to news that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson had announced a £23 million

fund to help the seafood sector, Mr Miller said while the money would help, it was not the point of the protest. 'We're looking for fixes to the problems,' he said.



Twenty-one lorries answered the call from former Tarbert shellfish businessman Allan Miller.

## Online views wanted on Tarbert wind farm

Scottish Power Renewables is forging ahead with plans for a renewable energy scheme on hills at the foot of Loch Fyne, writes Colin Cameron.

An online 'public information event' on the 14-turbine scheme closes today, Friday January 22, at 5pm.

The 200-metre high towers would be in forested land on the hills above the Kilbrannan Sound and Loch Fyne, around

2.5 km north of Skipness and 6 km south of Tarbert.

The Earraghail Renewable Energy Development (RED) would also include ground-mounted solar panels and a 20 MW 'energy storage facility'. The 14 turbines could generate up to 84 MW, with the solar panels increasing this to 89 MW.

The energy storage, says Scottish Power Renewables,

could be used to 'smooth out variances between available resource and electricity demand' and to help stabilise the local electricity network.

Scottish Ministers are responsible for approving applications for schemes above 50 MW, and if it receives consent work is likely to start around 2024. The construction would take approximately 20 months. The company claims jobs

would be created both during construction and after completion – and also highlights payments to groups from its existing nearby windfarms at Cruach Mhor, Clachan Flats and Beinn an Tuirc have so far been more than £1.8m.

The online public information event is on the Scottish Power Renewables website; searching onshore wind projects.

## Free transport from Mid Argyll charity

Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers (MATV) says it will support the community during the latest lockdown by offering free transport for necessary purposes.

The charity is continuing to safely provide its usual medical appointment services to elderly and disabled people, but in these circumstances is

offering free travel for the collection of medication/prescriptions, shopping and shopping pick-ups and to take people in Mid Argyll to their Covid-19 vaccination appointments.

Co-ordinator Catherine Kennedy said: 'We want to help as many people as we can during this pandemic.'

Call Catherine on 01546 603564.



## The Dochas Carer Centre Supporting Unpaid Carers

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

We provide a service to unpaid adult carers across Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles (MAKI). We have three teams: **Support outreach worker team, Qualified counselling team, Volunteer befriending team**

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

**Please visit our website – [www.dochasfund.org.uk](http://www.dochasfund.org.uk) and Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/dochascarecentre](http://www.facebook.com/dochascarecentre) which will be updated regularly with information and advice.**

**We are available 10-4pm Monday to Friday. Contact number for the centre 01546 600 022. Email – [enquiries@dochasfund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dochasfund.org.uk) Contact numbers for the outreach/support team Mid Argyll: 07464 308 418 • Kintyre: 0753 503 6953 • Islay/Jura: 0791 201 5393**

### The Volunteer Befriending Team

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

### Dochas Counselling Team

The dedicated Counselling Team are currently offering online and telephone counselling to unpaid carers and their families, those who have been bereaved or those living with a long term or terminal condition. During the Covid-19 crisis, the Team have also set up a telephone support service for anyone feeling anxious or struggling during lockdown.

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



### Mid Argyll Youth Development Services

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

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

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

Online support is also available on [www.cool2talk.org](http://www.cool2talk.org).

Contact 07788900049 or [fiona@mayds.org.uk](mailto:fiona@mayds.org.uk) [lynn@mayds.org.uk](mailto:lynn@mayds.org.uk)



Baxter, right, with his uncle and best pal Harvey.

## Appeal for help to find black Lab Baxter

The distraught owners of a black Labrador lost on the Kyles of Bute have appealed to people around Argyll for help in finding him.

Three-year-old Baxter went missing on the Kyles of Bute golf course at Kames, near Tighnabraich, while on a walk on January 11 with owners Alex and Alison MacLennan and the couple's other black Lab, Harvey, aged nine and Baxter's uncle.

Alex said: "The support from the village has been incredible and everyone is

bewildered at the situation. Baxter has always been very good at returning to us when he hears the dog whistle, so it was very unusual when he didn't appear. It is at times like this when you realise what a massive role dogs play within the family," added Alex.

"We all miss him very much. We are so thankful for everyone's support so far and hopefully we will have Baxter back with us soon."

Contact pleasehelpfind-baxter@gmail.com or phone 07927 010362.

# Argyll phone boxes facing BT axe secure a reprieve

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Phone boxes across Argyll could have a temporary reprieve after councillors were advised to object to plans for their removal.

Communications giant BT wants to remove 67 phone boxes in locations throughout Argyll and Bute.

But in a report to the council's planning, protective services and licensing committee, which met on Wednesday January 20, council officers noted agreement had been reached for the removal of only 10 of the phone boxes on BT's list.

Four of the 10 agreed for removal are in Lochgilphead and two are in Rothesay.

The others are in Ardrishaig, Bridge of Orchy, Dalmally and Taynuilt.

Community councils in

several areas have lodged objections to BT's proposals.

Council officials have been unable to contact community councils in the affected areas. In the circumstances the committee should object to the proposed removal, according to officials.

Two phone boxes, at Kingarth on Bute and Bridgend on Islay, are set to be 'adopted', meaning the community will be responsible for their maintenance.

Many are listed as having zero average calls per month, with the highest number being eight - for a box in Lochgilphead set to be axed.

Council executive director Kirsty Flanagan said in her report that the original BT consultation was due to finish at the end of 2020, but pandemic restrictions meant many community councils were unable to meet.

Council officers liaised with



This adopted phone box has been used as a food hub during the coronavirus pandemic.

BT and the consultation was extended until January 2021.

Ms Flanagan added: "Given that a number of community

councils could not be contacted within the period of the consultation, it is suggested that in order to allow comments to be received from these communities, the council objects to any that have not received a response.

"This approach will mean that BT will include those phone boxes that have received objections in the next round of consultation processes.

"The consultation process is relatively simple. They are asking communities if they wish to agree/object to the removal of the box, or if the wish is to adopt the telephone box for an alternative use.

"There have been a number of communities across the area that have already been through the adoption process and have used these to house defibrillators, small libraries, cake shops or general public information hubs."

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# New project set to lift Lochgilphead



Work starts on January 24 on a major scheme to make walking and cycling in Lochgilphead safer and more attractive.

The £500,000 project will include improvements to Colchester Square and Argyll Street and aims to support lo-

**Colchester Square and part of Argyll Street will close for the project.** 51\_a04Lochgilphead01

cal businesses by encouraging more people to visit the town centre.

Footways will be widened and resurfaced using locally-sourced Achnaba greenstone.

Other improvements include improved road crossings; new cycle parking in the town centre; more space for pedestrians and improved surfaces for anyone with mobility challenges, wheelchair users and prams.

The project is fully funded by The Scottish Government's Cycling, Walking and Safer

Routes Fund, HITRANS and Transport Scotland's Spaces for People fund, managed by Sustrans. Argyll and Bute Council will manage the scheme.

The council confirmed this type of construction and outdoor work is permitted under the Scottish Government's current coronavirus restrictions.

Councillor Alastair Redman, policy lead for business, regeneration and commercial development, said: 'We are delighted to have secured external funding to help improve pedestrian

and cycle facilities in the town centre of Lochgilphead. It is vital we build for a better future, especially following the impact of the pandemic on our local economy.'

Vehicle access to Colchester Square and the lower part of Argyll Street will close from January 24 until early April.

Access will be maintained to properties and businesses at all times and every effort will be made to minimise disruption. Allowances will be made for delivery vehicles to commercial premises.

## Pandemic stalls 'critical' Skipness road repairs

Delays to restoring a section of collapsed road near Skipness have been caused by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, says Argyll and Bute Council.

It has been more than a year since a stretch of the B8001 close to the Claonaig ferry terminal collapsed and the concern among local residents now is that the village could be left cut off by road.

One local man told the Advertiser that Argyll and Bute Council had carried out 'little more than cosmetic repairs' since

the original subsidence, adding that more failure has occurred since then.

He continued: 'The situation is now critical, as isolation of the village would have very serious consequences with no access for emergency vehicles, fuel supplies, agricultural deliveries, public and private transport, doctor and carer visits, and ferry traffic.'

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'We have been working hard to find a design solution to stabilise

the B8001, which has been affected by landslips, and money was made available in the 2020-21 Roads Capital Programme to come up with the options and progress the scheme.'

'Unfortunately Covid-19 delayed the start of the project. When issues with the road became apparent, we realigned the road and we monitor it regularly to make sure we keep it open for the community. We did additional safeguarding realignment work at end of 2020.'



The section of collapsed road near the Claonaig ferry terminal.



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Above: 'And then, O what a glorious sight, Warm-reekin, rich!' – Kenny Stark addresses the haggis at the 2019 Inveraray Burns supper.

Left: guests and entertainers at Inveraray Burns Club's celebrations in 2020 – back when people could socialise.

### To a Louse

Written on seeing one on a lady's bonnet at church, Robert Burns, 1786

<p><i>Ha! whaur ye gaun, ye crowlin ferlie? Your impudence protects you sairly; I canna say but ye strunt rarely, Owre gauze and lace; Tho', faith! I fear ye dine but sparely On sic a place. Ye ugly, creepin, blastit wonner, Detested, shunn'd by saunt an' sinner, How daur ye set your fit upon her- Sae fine a lady? Gae somewhere else and seek your dinner On some poor body. Swi! in some beggar's haffet squattle; There ye may creep, and sprawl, and sprattle, Wi' ither kindred, jumping cattle, In shoals and nations; Whaur horn nor bane ne'er daur unsettle Your thick plantations. Now haud you there, ye're out o' sight, Below the fatt'rels, snug and tight; Na, faith ye yet! ye'll no be right, Till ye've got on it- The verra tapmost, tow'rin height</i></p>	<p><i>O' Miss' bonnet. My sooth! right bauld ye set your nose out, As plump an' grey as ony groset: O for some rank, mercurial rozet, Or fell, red smeddum, I'd gie you sic a hearty dose o't, Wad dress your droddum. I wad na been surpris'd to spy You on an auld wife's flainen toy; Or aiblins some bit dubbie boy, On's wyliecoat; But Miss' fine Lunardi! fye! How daur ye do't? O Jeany, dinna toss your head, An' set your beauties a' abroad! Ye little ken what cursed speed The blastie's makin: Thae winks an' finger-ends, I dread, Are notice takin. O wad some Power the giftie gie us To see oursels as ithers see us! It wad frae mony a blunder free us, An' foolish notion: What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us, An' ev'n devotion!</i></p>
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# Burns goes Zoom

A Burns supper like never before is being organised by Inveraray Burns Club.

Marking the 225th anniversary of the death of Robert Burns, the Inveraray club is going online for its annual celebration.

Around the world, the Covid-19 pandemic has forced fans of Scotland's 18th-century national bard to celebrate his life

and work away from one another, but together in spirit through the 21st century wonder of Zoom.

Inveraray Burns Club is holding a Burns celebration from 7pm on Monday January 25 with piping, traditional music and song and recitations of some of the bard's famous compositions.

And the haggis will, of course, be addressed.

Everyone is welcome to join in. Register your interest by email with [pamelaspalding@outlook.com](mailto:pamelaspalding@outlook.com) and she will send you details of how get involved.

All you need is a feed of haggis, neeps, tatties and a dram.

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# There's light at the end of the tunnel... but, for now, embrace lockdown life

Once again the UK is living under tough but necessary restrictions as we battle COVID-19. Vaccines offer us hope and a way out but, until then, we must all play our part in together beating the virus. We look at the many ways we can continue to stay at home and enjoy life

AS COVID-19 tightens its grip, lockdown restrictions have again been put in place, and are likely to remain for some time to come.

Schools to shops, work to pubs, restaurants, cinemas and gyms – all aspects of our lives are affected amid the UK Government and Devolved Administrations' clear, clarion calls to stay at home.

Those on the NHS frontline continue to bear the brunt of the pandemic while other key workers are keeping operating essential services such as supermarkets, pharmacies, waste collection and deliveries.

We can all play our part on the path to freedom. All we have to do is obey the rules.

Life in lockdown is undoubtedly different. But, embrace it, and it can offer new opportunities.

Take up a hobby, learn a skill, exercise, read, bake, take up a craft and complete jobs around the

## Mental wellbeing

**There are things we can all do to look after our mental wellbeing at this time.**

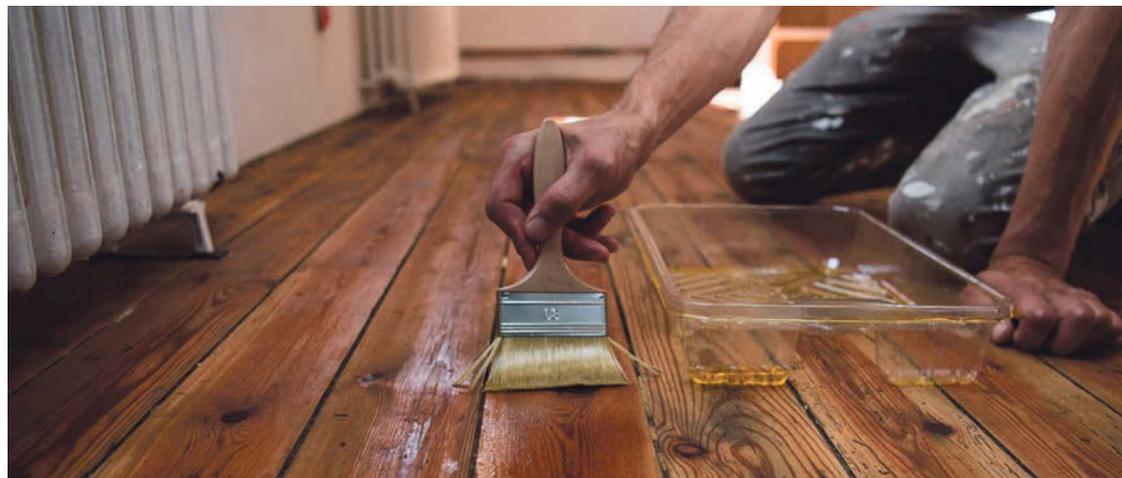
**The Clear Your Head website has some great tips to help you feel calmer, create a routine, keep active, look after yourself and support each other. ■ Visit [clearyourhead.scot](https://clearyourhead.scot)**

**For more information go to [gov.scot/coronavirus](https://gov.scot/coronavirus)**

house you have been putting off. New technologies allow us to keep in touch with family and friends as well as connecting on virtual pub quizzes and classes.

There is light at the end of the tunnel with rules regularly reviewed and the vaccination programme being rolled out apace.

But for now we are in this together, all having a vital part to play.



**LOTS TO DO:** Home improvements and more reading are just two things that can help you get through lockdown.



## More exercise, DIY and daily routine have helped couple cope

Husband and wife Tim and Angela Hoe (right) have embraced life in lockdown.

The Yorkshire couple has exercised more, completed DIY jobs around the house and garden and become well-read.

"Like everyone else, our world has completely changed," said Angela. "Work has stopped, usual places we

visited closed, and we are not allowed to visit friends and family.

"All our shopping is supermarket click-and-collect or from our local independents and farm shop."

They have two adult children. Daughter Charlotte lives with her



partner nearby while son Lewis lives with his wife Lucy and two children Harry, aged six, and Lily, 18 months, in Bournemouth. Angela has not seen them or her parents, who also live in Yorkshire, for ten months. The couple love to exercise

and have continued to do so within updated rules.

"With gyms closing, it was a case of keeping ourselves fit with running, biking and YouTube yoga and fitness classes online. Reading and crosswords have also filled our days," confirmed Angela.

"The mobile library has provided a fantastic service allowing us to choose and order books online and

collect locally. Danielle Steel has been a particular favourite for me while my husband has continued with his love of Dickens, Steinbeck and Hemingway." Despite not visiting family, they have kept in touch. "FaceTime calling has become a regular occurrence with calls to our grandchildren and listening to our grandson read stories from his school book."

# Stay @

It is essential that you stay at home and follow the rules. Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

All together >

## LETTERS

Write to us: send your letters to [editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk](mailto:editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk)  
or The Editor, 44 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead PA31 8NB

## Vaccine relief

Just one year ago few on these shores paid much attention to an unknown virus in China which was starting to kill people.

We know all about it now. Many have lost their lives, the economy is suffering; likewise the mental health of the nation. But thanks to a huge international research effort, we now have vaccinations to offer hope.

Though it is a wee bit concerning to hear that vaccine supply is based on population density rather than demographics or availability of healthcare services, it is great to see that things are finally moving on the vaccination front in Argyll.

More power to the elbow of those delivering it on our behalf.

## Shocking treatment

Some might call them teething troubles, but the problems faced by seafood exporters were entirely predictable. The manner of their treatment by the UK government is shocking. They give every appearance of caring not a jot.

And as for Rees-Mogg's crack about fish being happier because they're British – he should be forced to apologise, then encouraged to spend a fortnight on a Tarbert boat in winter. That'd knock the corners off him.

## Fishing industry deserves better than Brexit served

Sir,  
Remember the closing stages of the Brexit negotiations?

Boris Johnson pretended he was holding out to get the best deal for fishermen. In the end he agreed a deal that the Scottish Fishermen's Federation described as 'desperately poor' and 'the worst of both worlds'.

Fishermen are restricted to catching fewer fish in most key species. Lorries carrying stocks that have been caught were left to sit at Larkhall, unable to penetrate the new fog of bureaucracy. Scottish fishermen are forced to land the fish they can catch in Denmark, which is grim news for Scottish fish processors.

Instead of trying to fix the problem, Tory Minister Jacob Rees-Mogg says the fish are happier to be British. Of course they are – the fishermen aren't catching them.

The Tories must sort out this mess they have created. Our fishermen and fish processing workers deserve better than silly remarks about happy fish.

Councillor Alan Reid, Cowal ward.

## Governments should work together for fishermen

Sir,  
To avoid fishermen being adversely impacted by export delays, Scottish Conservative leader Douglas Ross has called on the UK Government

to bring forward compensation to the affected fishermen and deliver it immediately.

The SNP government must also accept responsibility and deal with ongoing issues involving their agency, Food Standards Scotland, which is holding up exports within Scotland.

Both governments must work together to deliver for Scottish fishermen.

We in the Scottish Conservatives will back Scotland's fishing communities all the way.

Councillor Alastair Redman, Kintyre and the Islands ward.

## Help to feed rescued foxes and cubs with puppy food

Sir,  
The Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) is appealing to animal lovers in Scotland to donate much-needed food to its National Wildlife Rescue Centre in Fishcross, Alloa.

Scotland's animal welfare charity had its busiest ever year in 2019 with more than 11,000 wildlife casualties admitted.

The pandemic caused a significant drop in the number of animals arriving at the wildlife hospital. More than 7,000 wild animals were brought to the centre in 2020.

As we are entering fox cub season, we are appealing for Pedigree puppy food and puppy milk.

Last year, we cared for 76 foxes, of which 39 were cubs. It can be a struggle to keep up with so many hungry mouths to feed.

We expect to be even busier with admissions

this year so we need help from members of the public.

If anyone can help with food for these young mammals, we would appreciate anything that people can spare.

Puppy meat can be bought from the wildlife centre's Amazon wishlist <http://amzn.to/39xkU3e>.

Steven Gray Scottish SPCA National Wildlife Rescue Centre manager.

## Plan a healthy new you beyond resolutions

Sir,  
New Year resolutions can be a good starting point for making longer term health and lifestyle improvements, but most people do not stick to them.

Reasons for quitting include a lack of time, a lack of support from other people and feeling daunted by unrealistic targets.

Often goals are unachievable because they are too difficult or they do not allow enough time for you to make gradual changes.

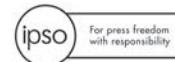
There is nothing wrong with aiming high and being ambitious, but it is important your goal is not too difficult or time-consuming as this could leave you feeling daunted.

Ask yourself the following questions: Is the goal too ambitious? Is the timeframe realistic? What specific changes do I need to make? Can I fit my new healthy behaviour around my other commitments?

Breaking large goals down into smaller goals can make them feel more achievable and less

## Press policy

At The Argyllshire Advertiser, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk); telephoning the chief reporter on 01546 602345 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk). IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints about the editorial content. We will abide by its decision.



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daunting. For example, if you are aiming to lose weight, the NHS recommends you aim to lose around 1 to 2lbs (0.5 to 1kg) a week.

You should be able to achieve this by cutting down your calorie intake by about 500 to 600 calories each day. It might take longer than planned to lose the weight, but you are more likely to stick to it and not give up.

Plan how you will achieve your goal and what changes you will make to ensure you stick to it.

There are online resources available to help you plan your healthy activities, such as the NHS couch to 5km programme or the NHS programmes for stopping smoking, cutting down alcohol and losing weight.

Try to be patient and don't expect the results from just one or two weeks of dieting to show on the weighing scales, as it may take longer.

A good way to get motivated is to involve other people. If you know someone who has a similar goal to yours, try to involve them as a 'buddy' to provide mutual support. They may even be able to push you a little bit harder, helping you to achieve your goals sooner. Look for groups on social media which share your goal.

If you miss a fitness session or have an alcoholic drink, cigarette or bar of chocolate, try not to feel guilty. Think about what might have triggered the deviation from your goal and try to avoid it in future. Forgive yourself and aim to get back to achieving your goal as soon as possible. On average, it takes between 21 and 28 days for something to become a long-term habit.

Make goals that you want to be able to stick to long term, such as improving your overall fitness, stopping smoking or maintaining your weight.

If you can make it through these first few weeks, you will notice things become much easier.

**Dr Helen Flaherty, head of health promotion and education, Heart Research UK.**

## YOUR PICTURES



Lochgilphead reader Liz McLean took this photograph of low winter sunshine through the misty forest as the sun broke through at Achnabreck on Tuesday January 12. Mirrin the cairn terrier was having the time of her life on her walk.

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

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**A&B** Transforming  
**HSCP** Together  
Argyll & Bute Health & Social Care Partnership

Across Argyll and Bute Stop Smoking Advisors delivering the Quit Your Way Stop Smoking services are there to help you have a healthy start to 2021. An important role for this team is encouraging people to never start smoking as well as helping those who do to "quit their way" as part of the team's effort to work towards the Scottish Government's aim of a tobacco free generation by 2034.

**QUIT YOUR WAY**  
with our support

The Argyll and Bute team take great pride in helping people make life changing steps to give up smoking for good. Becoming Smoke Free has immediate health benefits such as a lower heart rate, improved carbon monoxide levels and a better sense of taste and smell. Within weeks improvements can be experienced in coughing, breathing and lung function. For those who have asthma, after stopping smoking for a few weeks the severity of asthma attacks reduce. Within a year, stopping smoking can result in improvements for people with mild to moderate Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and reduce the risk of coronary heart disease by 50%!

Making that first appointment with an Advisor can feel like a really big step so all clients will be welcomed, supported and listened to – everyone's journey is different so Advisors will provide a bespoke stop smoking programme for every individual client. Advisors will explain that the NHS Quit Your Way Stop Smoking Service is free, supportive, non-judgemental and is generally provided over a 12- week programme. Regular

contact is made throughout this duration to review each individual's progress and any challenges that arise. Advisors work with clients to find out what their goals are, what motivates them and how to successfully help them stop for good. Advisors also talk through the medications available, discuss what would work best for the client and arrange for these to be prescribed.



Being smoke free will also improve the health of family and friends exposed to second hand smoke. Savings of several thousands of pounds each year can be made, allowing your wallet to be much healthier too!

The team are aware many smokers are worrying about Covid-19 and the risk of more severe symptoms which is why it's an important time to get this message out.

If you are thinking about stopping smoking, would like more information or would like to speak to someone about your smoking habits the team would encourage you to get in touch.

Evidence shows that you are four times more likely to stop smoking when supported by a Stop Smoking Advisor so don't delay that quit any longer, the team are here for you to start 2021 smoke free!



### Contact Us | Smoke Free Highland

If you'd like to stop smoking, please complete the form, and your local advisor will get in touch with you.

<https://www.smokefreehighland.scot.nhs.uk/contact/>

If you would like to talk to someone directly, contact our local advisor Jill Denton on 07707868351

NHS Highland Number on

**08457 573 077**

Mon-Fri 9-5pm

Email: [nsh.absmokefreeservices@nhs.scot](mailto:nsh.absmokefreeservices@nhs.scot)



# AI robot Curly beats elite competition

The sport of curling is well known in Scotland, where records of it date back to the early 16th century.

Indeed, when an old pond in Dunblane was drained, two ancient curling stones were uncovered, one dated 1511, the other 1551.

In those days the game, somewhat similar to bowling on ice, consisted of two competing teams sliding flat rocks on

## Science matters

DOROTHY H CRAWFORD



frozen rivers or ponds aiming at a target. So in a suitably icy winter, the game was accessible to everyone and became a popular competitive sport. From its beginnings in Scotland,

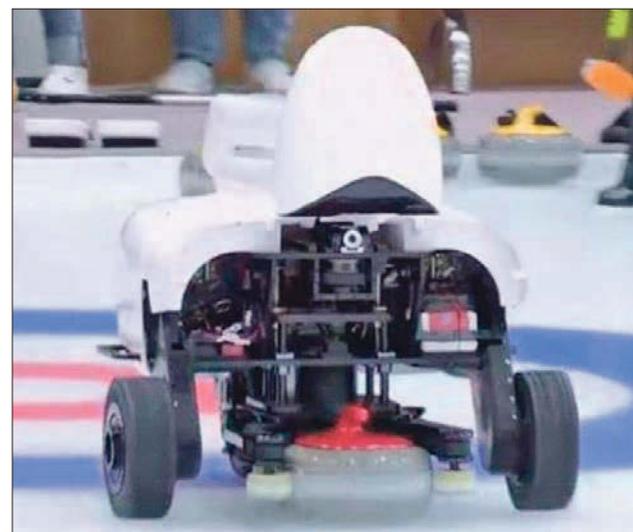
curling took hold in northern Europe, then followed the Scottish diaspora as far afield as Canada and New Zealand. Today curling has evolved from a casual outdoor village

game to a fiercely competitive international team sport that became a medal sport in the winter Olympic games in 1998.

Now curling matches are conducted indoors on a curling sheet covered with pebbled ice.

But despite this standardisation, the game includes many variables that alter the properties of the ice surface, such as temperature, humidity and previous stone trajectories, each of which changes as the game proceeds. Players employ sophisticated strategies to outwit their opponents while causing the stone to follow a curved path or curl - hence the name of the game. Also, two sweepers with brooms are employed to reduce ice friction ahead of a moving stone so influencing its path.

Clearly curling has many inbuilt uncertainties and this has attracted the attention of artificial intelligence (AI) scientists to use the game 'as a testbed for demonstrating the interaction between an AI system and a highly non-stationary real-world scenario'. \*



Curly in action on the ice.

Robots have already beaten top professionals at games like chess and poker, but could they master the much more unpredictable game of curling with its dynamically changing environment?

To take on the challenge, scientists built a robot which they named Curly, which can perform adaptive actions in

response to the continuous environmental change exemplified by curling.

And yes, Curly won three of four official matches against expert human teams. I don't, however, expect to see him in an Olympic team any time soon!

\* Won et al, Sci Robot 5, eabb9764 (2020).



Curling in 1909 on an ice-covered upper Loch Fyne at Ardinglas Bay, Cairndow. Photo: Here We Are.

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Around 1 in 3 people have no Covid-19 symptoms  
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It is now highly likely that someone near you has it.

Stay home, only go out if it is essential.  
Do not meet anyone outside your extended household,  
except for exercise.

Find out more at [gov.scot/coronavirus](https://gov.scot/coronavirus)

**STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

# CHILDCARE CHOICES 2021

## Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit

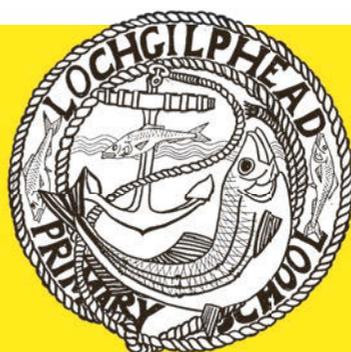
Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit provides a happy, caring and stimulating environment. We benefit from custom built facilities that provide extensive opportunities for both indoor and outdoor play.

All staff are qualified and very experienced in the delivery of the early years' curriculum, providing children with well-planned and exciting experiences. Children regularly visit Kilmory Woods for Forest School activities enabling them to learn about the environment and develop a range of skills.

The Pre-5 Unit has close links with Primary 1 thus



offering an enhanced transition process into Primary education. Please get in touch if you would like further information. enquiries-lochgilphead@argyll-bute.gov.uk 01546 602747



**Lochgilphead Primary School Pre-5 Unit**

**Please get in touch if you would like further information.**

Email: enquiries-lochgilphead@argyll-bute.gov.uk

or

Please Telephone: **01546 602747**



Children born between March 1, 2018 and February 28, 2019 are eligible for funded early learning and childcare from August 2021 until June 2022, depending on the date of their third birthday.

**Now is the time to be thinking about registering your child's place**

## Dalintober ELC

Dalintober ELC is situated within Dalintober Primary School, Campbeltown, and caters for pre-school children from aged three to five years.

Hours are from 8.45am – 2.45pm Monday to Friday with flexible patterns now available. At Dalintober, we provide a happy, rich and safe environment, meeting the needs of every child within our care.

Our experienced and qualified practitioners provide enriching learning experiences within our setting and we also make extensive use of outdoor learning opportunities and community

partnerships. Our base within Dalintober PS guarantees an extended transition into school life and the reassurance that the school staff team know your children well in preparation for moving 'forward together' for future learning. Mrs Sarah Jane Martin Email – sarah.martin@argyll-bute.gov.uk



## Campbeltown Nursery Centre

### REGISTRATION WEEK

Children turning 3 between 1 March 2021 and 28th February 2022 are invited to register for 1140 hours FREE Early Learning and Childcare at Campbeltown Nursery Centre.

Between our two settings, Campbeltown Nursery Centre offer the following Term-Time and Full Year attendance options.



DAYS	TIMES	PATTERN
Monday to Friday	8:45am -2:45pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	9am-3pm	Term-Time
Monday to Friday	8:30am – 1:30pm	Full Year
Monday to Friday	12noon-5pm	Full Year
Any 3 Days	8:45am-5:15pm	Full Year

Children attending all patterns will be offered a FREE, 2 course lunch on a daily basis.

Online registration only this year due to COVID-19.

Please register via: [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/registering-your-child-nursery](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/registering-your-child-nursery) Anytime between Monday 25th January and Friday 29th January.

If you require any support or further information, please contact: enquiries-campbeltownnursery@argyll-bute.gov.uk

For an informal chat please contact Miss Fiona Armour, Head of Centre at either CNC, Ralston Road on 552397 or Aqualibrium ELC, Kinloch Road, 559057.



**Dalintober ELC**  
Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown  
PA28 6HG

Please contact Mrs S Martin on **01586 552053**

## Kilmartin Early Learning and Childcare



Kilmartin ELC has a strong outdoor learning ethos which we know is beneficial to everyone's wellbeing. We are very fortunate to have a variety of play and learning environments on our school grounds, as well as historic sites and beautiful woodland areas on our doorstep, all of which provide exciting opportunities to explore, play and learn outside.

At Kilmartin ELC:

- We provide a happy, caring and nurturing environment where the

children feel safe and secure and can thrive.

- We provide high quality play and learning experiences, promoting creativity and giving children the opportunities to be imaginative and independent thinkers.
- We provide stimulating indoor and outdoor environments to encourage a positive attitude to learning.

- We explore our wider outdoor area and promote exciting and meaningful outdoor learning experiences
- We promote positive behaviour and encourage children to understand each other's feelings. Children learn to care for and respect themselves and those around them, to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others



### Kilmartin Primary School ELC

Our opening hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: 9am to 3pm

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

Tel: 01546 510293

Head Teacher: Mrs Namaste Bevan

## Drumlemble Early Learning Centre

At Drumlemble Early Learning Centre we believe that children learn best in a safe and stimulating environment.

We are a self-contained unit within Drumlemble Primary School, with excellent indoor and outdoor play facilities. The setting was fully refurbished in 2019 and offers 1140 hours of funded care. We have a fully enclosed outdoor area for the exclusive use of the ELC. Children can use construction materials, the mud kitchen, water and sand, tend to their own fruit, vegetables and plants and observe wildlife in our lovely rural location.

Our staff are experienced and nurturing, and encourage the children to explore and be creative.

Photographs of our setting can be seen on the Drumlemble Primary and ELC Facebook page and on our school website <http://www.drumlemble.argyll-bute.sch.uk/> If you would like further information please contact Mr. Long on 01586 810240 or email [enquiries-drumlemble@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries-drumlemble@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



## Badden Farm Nursery



As can be seen from our lovely photographs, Badden Farm Nursery are strong advocates for all outdoor activities. The nursery is now a 50/50 indoor/outdoor nursery offering the children the full Forest Schools outdoor experience within our lovely wooded areas where the children love to explore.

Research clearly and consistently identifies outdoor play as vital to emotional, physical and mental health and well-being, and crucial to all aspects of childhood learning and development, and this is the reason we continue to establish outdoor play as the critical catalyst for healthy childhood development to offer all our children. During the first lockdown we created another planting area on our extensive grounds with a large greenhouse for the children's use. The children adored coming back to bring on their vegetables and flowers and were delighted to use some of their own produce for their snacks.

Fully commissioned for ELC education our trained and highly professional staff team have created a warm, welcoming and safe environment for the children to enjoy stimulating learning experiences through their play. The nursery also has 4 lovely donkeys on site which are hugely popular with children and parents alike. We also have chickens and one of the activities the ELC room enjoys every year is having an incubator in their playroom and watching the

hen eggs hatch out. With close ties to a local farm, in Spring we support the farm by rearing orphaned lambs and calves, which the children are fully involved with from petting to feeding them, a hugely rewarding experience for all. We pride ourselves on having excellent relationships with our parents and grandparents, and we are always delighted with the support our families offer us with all our events and endeavours. We would normally be delighted to welcome families to visit and see for themselves our very unique setting, sadly with the present restrictions this is not possible, but please call us if you have any questions about our service, we would be delighted to help. Please call Jean on 01546 600072 Or email [baddenfarm@btconnect.com](mailto:baddenfarm@btconnect.com)

## MAKI Pups Outdoor Nursery

MAKI Pups is Mid Argyll's first fully outdoor nursery. We have three fantastic spaces at Kilmory Walled Garden. Each area offers children different opportunities to explore, learn and play creatively. Our Potting Sheds are a cosy hub of activity, our lawn offers space to stretch out and our woodland is where our imagination can run wild! Our fantastic team of experienced practitioners

bring with them a wealth of skills and talents in a wide range of areas that will offer children variety, stimulation, and support. The many and varied benefits of outdoor learning have been highlighted in recent months. There has never been a better time to step into outdoor learning. We would love to welcome your child to MAKI Pups, for more information please contact our

Nursery Manager, Erin Kennedy by email [erin@act-now.org.uk](mailto:erin@act-now.org.uk) or call 07741582560.



MAKI Pups Outdoor Nursery is one of the projects run by Argyll and the Isles Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT)

We are situated in Kilmory Walled Gardens in Lochgilphead.

We offer fully funded and blended ELC Placements and Private Wraparound care. We are open Monday to Thursday.

For more information about Mid Argyll's first fully outdoor nursery and the Early Learning and Childcare packages we offer then please contact our Nursery Manager Erin Kennedy:

email: [erin@act-now.org.uk](mailto:erin@act-now.org.uk)

telephone: 07741582560

website: [www.act-now.org.uk](http://www.act-now.org.uk)



### BADDEN FARM NURSERY

Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8SF

#### PARENTS!

Phone calls only please

Registration week - Monday 25th -

Friday 29th Jan 2021

**GOVERNMENT FUNDED ELC PLACES AVAILABLE**

All very welcome

Please contact Jean/Jennifer on

**01546 600 072**

## Thought for the Week

## The end of the night

In July we saw relaxing of coronavirus restrictions, included those imposed on churches. Was it the light at the end of the tunnel?

With hindsight, no, but I'm anticipating an end to the pandemic – coming out of the gloom. There have been many episodes in life when I've lived in the hope of emerging through the other side of the dark night. I thank God for the hope he gives me. But how do we know when the darkness of night has ended?

In a rabbinical school, a very old rabbi posed a clever question to his young students: 'When can it be said that night truly ends and the day begins? When is that moment when from darkness there comes light, when it can really be said the gloom has passed and brightness is here?'

The first student, still a bit immature, replied: 'Well, it's when it says so on the internet.'

The rabbi smiled and told him: 'That's not what I mean.'

The next student said: 'It's when you can distinguish sheep from goats, because in the dark they look very similar, but when light appears they can be told apart.'

The rabbi told him it was a wiser answer, but not the one.

The third student said: 'When you can tell the fig tree and palm tree apart.'

This interested the rabbi but, no, this wasn't it. The rabbi asked if there were any other ideas, but there weren't. So he told them the answer: 'It is when you look at another person and do not see a stranger but a brother or sister; this is when know the night has ended and the day begins.'

Father Tony Wood, Saint Kieran's  
Catholic Church, Campbeltown.



Oban lifeboat responds to its first call-out of 2021, which turned out to be a false alarm.

## ARGYLL ISLANDS

## Young people's voices on islands to be heard

A new network has been launched to give a platform for young people across Scotland's islands, including Islay, Mull and Arran.

Children and young people from all 96 of Scotland's inhabited islands will be able to have their say and make their voices heard on issues in their communities through the new Young Islanders' Network.

The network, organised through Youth Scotland, will also offer young people the opportunity to build confidence, develop key skills such as leadership and organisation and to develop new relationships and friendships with others.

Issues such as the depopulation of islands will be discussed and, crucially, the network will give young islanders the chance to raise the issues that most matter to them.

Islands Minister Paul Wheelhouse said: 'I encourage all children and young people living on



our islands to get involved, if they can and I say to them if you take the time to make your voice heard, the government and I will take the time to listen to you.'

Youth Scotland chief executive Ian McLaughlan, added: 'We are proud of our reach, membership and participation within the island communities. The Young Islanders' Network Challenge is another fantastic opportunity to not only be inclusive of young people living there, but to put them front and centre of a project for and about them.'

'Thanks to our partnership with the Scottish Government and our island communities, we can work together to deliver short-term and lasting impact.'

## OBAN

## Lifeboat's first call-out of 2021 is false alarm

Oban lifeboat's first call-out of the year turned out to be a faulty distress message.

The crew got a shout for help just after 12.30pm on Sunday January 17 after reports of a Digital Selective Calling (DSC) alert on board a vessel north of the Corran Narrows in Loch Linnhe.

DSC is one way boats and ships can call for help at sea.

When activated, the system transmits a distress message using the VHF radio carried on board, sending out information including the vessel's position.

The lifeboat volunteer crew assembled and launched on Sunday, but as they made their way out of Oban Bay it was established that all was well on board the vessel and the alert was a false alarm with good intent.

Oban lifeboat stood down, returning to her berth shortly after.

To find out more, visit the Youth Scotland website. Groups involved in the network will be from Shetland; Orkney; Lewis and Harris; Uist and Barra; Skye; Mull; Islay; and Arran.

Anyone aged five-25, who lives on a Scottish island, can take part. Under-13s must take part with a school or youth group, and those aged 13 and over can take part with a group or as an individual.

## MID ARGYLL

A massive boom just before 11pm on Friday January 15 was reportedly heard from North Lorn to Mid Argyll.

A bright flash was spotted in North Lorn and Tobermory and reports of hearing the bang came from Lochgilphead and Inveraray.

Accounts included a huge flash and one said it turned the sky green. Theories from the baffled public have included thunder, freak lightning, an earth tremor or a meteor.

According to the British Geological Survey's data of reported earthquakes around the British Isles in the last 50 days, there was no seismic activity at that time.

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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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**Around the markets**

**Caledonian Marts Ltd, Monday January 18:** sold 689 Store Hoggets and Feeding Ewes at their first store sheep sale of 2021.

All classes of Hoggets made record averages and sold to a top of £107 for a pen of Texel Hoggets from A & J McNicol, Pendreich, Bridge of Allan.

**Leading Prices**

Store Lambs per Head: Char £105 Pendreich, Texel £104 Wester Tillyrie, Beltex X £104 Whitecross, Cont £103 Balcachie, Suffolk £103 Balcachie, Texel X £100 Whitecross, Suffolk X £99 Pendreich, Mule £98 Wester Tillyrie, Cheviot £89 Walton, BF £84 Doune of Glendouglass  
Ewes per Head: Herdwick £60 Craigton.

**United Auctions, Stirling, Thursday January 14:** sold 6631 prime sheep comprising of 5374 prime hoggs selling to an average of 255.79ppk & 1257 ewes and rams.

Old Season Lambs (5374) – Doune Farms (BTex) £157.00; Harviesmailing (BTex) £156.00;

Luckenburn & Doune Farms (BTex) £154.00; Auchenrivoch (Tex) £143.00; Hallhill (Tex) £139.00; Auchenflower (Tex) £138.00; North Dorlaithers (Mill Blue) £139.00, £136.00 & £134.50; North Dorlaithers (Suf) £130.00; Elmscleugh (Suf) £128.50; West Carse (Suf) £127.00; West Balgothrie (Chev) £125.50; Gilston (Chev) £123.00; Wardhead (Chev) £119.50; Merkins (BF) £123.00; Dyke (BF) £116.50; Elmscleugh (BF) £114.50; Wardhead (Mule) £117.00; Pitcairn (Mule) £116.00; Coates, Coulshill & Elmscleugh (Mule) £115.00.

Old Season Lambs (5374) – Harviesmailing (BTex) 359.00ppk; Luckenburn (BTex) 354.00ppk; Wardhead & Doune Farms (BTex) 349.00ppk; Easter Greenhill (Tex) 321.00ppk; Nether Kidston (Tex) 314.00ppk; Tay & Torridon (Tex) 314.00ppk; Airtnoch (Chev) 281.00ppk; Hallhill (Chev) 279.00ppk; Stacks (Chev) 271.00ppk; West Park (Suf) 271.00ppk; Merryhill, Wormiston & Wardhead (Suf) 265.00ppk; North Dorlaithers (Mill Blue) 259.00ppk &

250.00ppk; Penston (BF) 257.00ppk; Tay & Torridon (BF) 254.00ppk; Midhouse & Springfield (BF) 252.00ppk; West Balgothrie (Mule) 256.00ppk; Drumtee (Mule) 254.00ppk; Coulshill & Coxhill (Mule) 251.00ppk.

Ewes (1257) – East Brackenridge (Tex) £190.00; South Flanders & East Brackenridge (Tex) £168.00; East Brackenridge (Tex) £165.00; West Carse (Tex) £162.00; Lochran (TexX) £160.00; South Flanders (TexX) £156.00 & £154.00; Over Finlurg (TexX) £150.00 x2; South Flanders (Cont) £149.00; Nether Pratis (Cont) £147.00; Dyke (Cont) £144.00; Lochend (BTex) £140.00; Fintalich (Suf) £129.00; Little Raith (Suf) £124.00; Lochend & Wester Kepdowrie (SufX) £118.00; Redheugh (SufX) £115.00; Wester Moffat (SufX) £113.00; South Flanders (Mule) £120.00; Fintalich (Mule) £109.00; East Brackenridge (Mule) £103.00; Pitcairn (Mule) £100.00; Craighall (BFL) £104.00; Craighall (Chev) £98.00 x2; Invermilton (Chev) £88.00; Kinaldy (Chev) £85.00; Elmscleugh (BF) £90.00 & £85.00; Pitcairn & East Brackenridge (BF) £78.00; Coulshill (BF)

£76.50; Mains of Tig & Wester Moffat (BF) £75.00.  
Tups – Whitehouse (Cha) £126.00; Kilmory (Tex) £120.00; Lossit (Tex) £118.00; West Carse (BFL) £114.00; West Lundie (BTex) £99.00; Lower Killernie (BTex) 93.00; Little Raith (Suf) £98.00; White House (Zwa) £96.00; Littleport (BF) £86.00; Kilmory (BF) £83.00; Achnaba (BF) £79.00.

**Dingwall & Highland Marts, Thursday January 14:** sold 2,968 sheep of all classes.

Lambs (1,854) averaged £74.73 and sold to £130 for a Texel cross from Midbadgrinan, Culbokkie.

Ewes (578) averaged £86.12 and sold to £161 for a pair of Texels from Woodend, Killearnan.

Ewes in Lamb (54) sold to £166 for a pen of Texel crosses in lamb to Beltex from Kirkhill, Farm, Alves.

Rams (434) averaged £99.16 and sold to £172 for a Texel from 2 Ardmores, Edderton.

Feeding sheep (48) sold to £103 for a Texel cross wedder from Greenlands Farm, Arabella.

Other leading prices per head: Lambs: TexX – East Croft Roy, Newtonmore, £129

& £123, Glentruim Farms, Newtonmore, £115, Woodend, £113; Mule – East Croft Roy, £122 & £103, Glentruim Farms, £113, Achnabat, Torness, £107; Chev – 1 Mellon Charles, Aultbea, £115, South Balkeith, Tain, £115 & £107, Keoldale Sheep Stock Club, Lairg, £105, Dundreggan Croft, Glenmoriston, £105; BF – Gorthleck Mains, Inverness, £105, ½ of 1 Clachan, Staffin, £95; Cross – Tomchrasky, Glenmoriston, £105 & £100, 15/16 Achvraill, Rogart, £91; Dorset – Greenlands Farm, £103; CharX – 4 Tomich Beaully, £101; Suff – Lochbuie, Newtonmore, £101; BeltX – Jackdaw Cottage, Wester Templand, £99 & £93; SuffX – Broynach, Thurso, £96, Kirkhill Farm, £96, 4 Tomich, £95;

Ewes: TexX – Pitkerrie, Fearn, £140 & £125, Woodend, £137, Craigroy, Dallas, £130, Little Kildrummie, Nairn, £121, Leanach Farm, Inverness, £117; Tex – Pitkerrie, £134; BeltX – Upperton, Glenurquhart, £138, Rosebrae Farm, Elgin, £123; Chev – South Balkeith, £135, Bogallan, North Kessock, £115, Upperton, £100, Dunain Farms, Inverness, £97; SuffX – Little Kildrummie, £134, Craigroy, £120, 9 Loaneckheim,

Kiltarlity, £118; CHM – Pitkerrie, £123, Dunain Farms, £113; Cross – Rosebrae Farm, £120; Mule – Craigroy, £115, Pithogarty, Tain, £107, Little Kildrummie, £105; BF – Blackford Farm, Croy, £88, 19 Torgormack, Beaully, £80.

Ewes in Lamb: Mule – Kirkhill Farm, £152; TexX – Kirkhill Farm, £150; Rous – Kirkhill Farm, £148, SuffX – Kirkhill Farm, £136.

Rams: BFL – Blackford Farm, Croy, £168 & £124; Suff – Inverinate Estate, Kyle of Lochalsh, £155, Pitmain Farms, Kingussie, £121; Belt – Invercharron, Ardgay, £151; Chev –

2 Ardmores, £150, South Balkeith, £145, Corriebhein Farms, Portree, £140, 68 Foindle, Lairg, £135, Inverinate Estate, £131; Tex – Mid Calder, Thurso, £133, Corriebhein Farms, £133, Rowanlea, Kirkhill, £131, Balintore Farms, Fearn, £125; BF – 1 Camusluinie, Kyle of Lochalsh, £127, Clune & Corrybrough Estate, Tomatin, £127.

Feeding Sheep: Tex gmr – Leanach Farm, £100; CharX wdr – Dunain Mains, £100; Cross wdr – Tomchrasky, £91; Chev wdr – Bundaloch Sheep Stock Club, Dornie, £83; BF wdr – Bundaloch Sheep Stock Club, £75.



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# PUBLIC NOTICES

## ARGYLL & BUTE COUNCIL

### EDUCATION SERVICE REGISTRATION FOR EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE (ELC) SESSION 2021/2022

Children who reach the age of three years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for ELC during the week commencing 25 January 2021.

ELC registration, starting from 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 the Early Years Helpline on 01369 708503 week beginning 25 January 2021.

A list of all Early Learning and Childcare settings can be found on the council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/content/childcare-and-pre-school-education](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/content/childcare-and-pre-school-education) and documents relating to registration at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/registering-your-child-nursery](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/registering-your-child-nursery)



## Argyll and Bute Council

### PLANNING

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](http://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](mailto:planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk) or tel. 01546 605518.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/02145/PP	Refurbishment works to existing courtyard store, including removal of existing collapsed roof, replacement and repairs to roof, replacement extract duct and terminal and installation of door (retrospective)	Store At 10 Cross Street, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6HU

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

Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



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adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

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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.

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### KINTYRE PIPE BAND ASSOCIATION NOTICE

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 16 February 2021 at 7pm.  
This will be a virtual meeting using  
Zoom Platform.

New members welcome.

For log in particulars, please  
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Closing date for the applications is 5th February 2021



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BIRTH



**APPLETON** - Andrew and Roslyn are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Sophie Mary, born January 14, 2021. A wee sister for Katie, second grandchild for Mary and the late Ron McGuinness and fourth grandchild for Derek and the late Isobel Appleton. Both families are over the moon.

ENGAGEMENT

**MILLAR - MCALISTER** - Archie and Tracy Millar are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Rhona to Stewart, eldest son of Adrian and Wendy McAlister, Dungannon, Northern Ireland.

DEATHS

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully with her family by her side, on January 18, 2021, Janet "Jenny" Campbell B.E.M. (née Mitchell) in her 91st year, of Badden Farm, Lochgilphead. Beloved wife of the late Duncan Campbell. Adored mother of Iain and Craig, much respected mother-in-law of Jennifer and Isla. Dearly loved granny of Robert, Jack and James. Dear step-granny to Caroline, Jennifer, Andrew and Laura and great-step granny to Fergus. Cherished sister of Hugh, Alasdair and the late Neil and Duncan. A dear sister-in-law, aunt and cousin to all the family. A good and loyal friend to many. A private funeral service will be held at Achabreac Cemetery on Monday, January 25, 2021. For those wishing to pay their respects, the funeral cortege will leave from Lochgilphead Parish Church at 11.30am, travelling along Bishopton Road en-route to Achabreac Cemetery. Please adhere to social distancing regulations.

**CLARK** - Suddenly at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 17, 2021, Archibald Clark (Archie) in his 86th year, Drumore Villa West and formerly of Kildalloig Farm, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of the late Mary Thomson Coffield, much loved dad of Bobby, Jane and Caroline, loving granda of Aimee, Molly, Adam, Katy and Murray and great-granda of Sophia and Skylar. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Archie's funeral will take place on Friday, January 22. The cortege will leave the family home at 1.00pm, after a short prayer. We will head down Millknowe, along Aqualibrium Avenue and past the Cross on the way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Archie may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

**HAMILTON** - Isobel (Clachan and Edinburgh). Isobel passed away peacefully on January 8, 2021 at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Much loved sister to Sandy and Douglas, sister-in-law to Shona and Jane, loving aunt to Iain, Grant and Eilidh, great-aunt to Ruairidh and Marr. Due to the ongoing restrictions a private family service will take place at Warriston Crematorium, Edinburgh on January 25 at 11am The family expects to hold a memorial service at a later date.

**HAMILTON** - Peacefully at his home, Leac Na Ban, Tayvallich, on January 14, 2021, Neil Alexander Hamilton, Alex, in his 76th year. Co-founder of the Studio Barn, Argyll and Pollex Props. Dearly loved husband of Pauline (Polly) and much loved father of Katharine (Kate), Angus, and Alasdair. A dear friend and acquaintance to many. A private funeral service was held at Cardross Crematorium on Thursday, January 21, 2021. Sadly missed.

**POPPELTON** - Peacefully at home, Glencreggan, Glenbarr, on January 12, 2021, Kay Poppleton née Davidson in her 70th year, dearly beloved wife of David Poppleton and a much loved mother, mother-in-law, nana and auntie.

**MACDONALD** - Peacefully at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow, on January 14, 2021, Donald Paterson MacDonald, in his 76th year, Drumoyenmore Farm, Isle of Gigha, dearly beloved son of the late Peter and Hannah MacDonald and a loving brother, uncle and great-uncle.

**MACDOUGALL** - On December 24, 2020, suddenly at home, John Arnott MacDougall (Scooby) beloved partner of Morag, much loved son of Eric and the late Lynwen MacDougall, dear brother of Sharon and a dearly loved uncle of Bethany, Kai and Jamie. A private funeral service, owing to current restrictions, will take place at Carrick Cemetery, on Saturday, January 23. For those wishing to pay their respects, the cortege will leave Rorkes Drift in School Road at 10.30am, make its way to the fishing quay and travel back along Harbour Street on route to the cemetery.

**MACDOUGALL** - On December 25, 2020, tragically at his home, Peter Alexander MacDougall, aged 51 years, beloved husband of Anna and much loved dad of Dylan, Ronja and Hamish, dearly loved son of Rhea and the late Hamish MacDougall, dear brother of Jane, James and Fiona, and a cherished uncle of all the family. A private funeral, owing to current restrictions, will take place at Carrick Cemetery, for those wishing to pay their respects, the cortege will leave from Tarbert Fish Quay, on Friday, January 22 at 11.30 a.m., along Harbour Street on route to the cemetery.

**MAXWELL** - Peacefully at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead, on January 14, 2021, Tommy Maxwell, in his 87th year, of 6 Hermione Terrace, Ardrishaig. Retired Hydro Electric Board Engineer and former Royal Corp of Signals. Beloved husband of the late Florence (Bunty) Currie. Adored father of James, much respected father-in-law of Sandra, and dearly loved Grampa of Emily and Thomas. Cherished brother of Ileen and the late Hugh (Tuan.) A dear brother-in-law, uncle, great uncle and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour, dear friend and former colleague. A private funeral service was held at Achabreac Cemetery on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Forever in our thoughts.

**WINSTANLEY** - Sadly at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 18, 2021, Agnes O'May McLean (Nancy) in her 87th year, Pierview, Low Askomil, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late Jim Winstanley, much loved mum of Ann, Margaret and James, a loving, much loved granny and great-granny and a dearly loved sister of Elaine McFadyen. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Nancy's funeral will take place on Wednesday, January 27. The cortege will leave the family home at 1.00pm. We will head along Low Askomil, George Street and the Esplanade, past the Cross on the way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Nancy may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**MC FARLANE** - Mhairi and the family of the late John McFarlane (Furnace) would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for all their sympathy and support, flowers, cards and phone calls during their sad loss. Special thanks to Dr Strane, all the carers who attended to John over the months and to all who lined the funeral route from John's house to the cemetery, thank you also to Donald McDonald funeral directors (Roddy, Fiona and Cammy) for their excellent, heartfelt services, also to Rev David Carruthers for a lovely service.

IN MEMORIAM  
BRISTOW -



Bill Bristow at Longrow church. Rev Bill Bristow of Southend. March 1, 1926 - January 22, 2018. Much loved, respected and missed. Bill was so thoughtful, caring and always had time to give to so many. He

will remain much in our hearts.

**HARKNESS** - In loving memory of Chris, a dear husband, dad and papa, died January 20, 2000. - From Ellen and family.

**LONG** - Chris, January 19, 2020. The day I realised you don't know what you've got til it's gone. - Denis.

**MACDOUGALL** - Loving memories of Duncan, a much loved nephew and cousin, taken too soon on January 18, 2018. No length of time can take away Our thoughts of you from day to day No need for words except to say We miss you Duncan in every way - McIntyre family.

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander, who passed away January 25, 2016. The world changes from year to year

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK  
EVANGELICAL  
CHURCH



.For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. — Psalm 100:5

Our building is currently closed but you are welcome to join our online Praise and Worship Zoom Service on **Sunday, 24th January 2021** at 11am when Bob Craig from Aviemore will join with us To join us online send your email address to [officespringbankchurch@gmail.com](mailto:officespringbankchurch@gmail.com) for an invitation to Sunday's Zoom meeting [www.springbankchurch.org.uk](http://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](http://www.kintyreparishes.org.uk)

Our lives from day to day But the love and memories of you Will never fade away. - Mum, Jock, Peter and Aly.

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander, who passed away January 25, 2016. Time passes and memories stay Loved and remembered every day. - Heather, Iain and the boys.

CHURCH NOTICES

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 24th January**  
In line with the current Covid restrictions, there will be no services held in the church building until further notice.

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 27th January**  
12 noon Prayer & Bible Study (by Zoom)  
[www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk](http://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](mailto:pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk)  
[www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
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**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of Alexander MacKinlay Jnr, died January 25, 2016. Memories last forever.

- Sadly missed by Mum, John, Jason, Kelly-Anne and family. Gone but not forgotten. - Daughter, Courtney.

**MACKINLAY** - In loving memory of our daddy Alexander MacKinlay. Death leaves a heartache

No one can heal Love leaves a memory No one can steal - Love your girls Caitlyn and Chloe xxxxx

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

Forever in our thoughts. - Love Jean, Jessie and family.

LORNE & LOWLAND  
PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686  
There will be no services in the church during present Covid 19 restrictions  
There will be a message on our Facebook page each Wednesday and Sunday  
Rev W Crossan

SKIPNESS LINKED  
WITH TARBERT  
LOCHFYNE AND  
KILBERRY CHURCH  
OF SCOTLAND

The churches are currently closed - a reflection from the Rev Lyn Peden will be available on the Church of Scotland in Tarbert, Kilberry and Skipness Facebook page 01880820158  
Charity numbers Tarbert SC002622 and Skipness SC004280

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 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](mailto:campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk).

ARDRISHAIG AND  
SOUTH KNAPDALE  
PARISHES

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

Weekly Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches (Deuteronomy 4)

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**Shinty clubs  
 commit to  
 season ahead -  
 whatever that  
 might be**

Every shinty club registered in season 2019 has confirmed its intention to take part in season 2021 when it starts after lockdown.

Steven MacKenzie, Camanachd Association President, said: 'I was delighted to hear all of our member clubs are registered to play shinty this season and help us shift back to some sense of normality.'

Restrictions will delay the start to the shinty campaign, however, when it is safe to start, clubs will be given a pre-season period to prepare. Details of the proposed restart of shinty plan will be discussed by the competitions committee then presented to the Camanachd Association board for approval at the end of January. Derek Keir, Camanachd Association chief executive officer, said: 'It is hugely positive all our clubs are signed up for the 2021 season. This highlights the enthusiasm from communities to get back to the sport they love. Whilst this is just the first step in a return to our sport, credit for this achievement undoubtedly lies with the volunteers within our clubs. The work they have already done to ensure their clubs are Covid-19 compliant has been a shining example of the leadership that makes community sport possible.'

# Boaters urged to abide by lockdown guidance

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Scotland has urged boat owners to follow government guidance during the coronavirus lockdown.

Working with sportscotland and the Scottish Government, RYA Scotland has produced guidance covering the essentials affecting boating activities. The revised guidance recognises that travel is severely restricted by law and owners may only travel to their boat if it is kept in the same local authority area they live in.

RYA Scotland, Sail Scotland and British Marine Scotland have joined together to encourage boat owners to use the services of staff where their boat is stored, if at all possible, in an effort to avoid making a journey, to respect that storage providers may not be able to open and to advise owners to contact providers before travelling to confirm access.

The information is tailored towards RYA affiliated clubs and recognised training centres as well as individual members and the wider boating community across Scotland.

James Allan, chief executive officer at RYA Scotland, said: 'Lockdown will be disappointing for everyone, but it is still possible to go boating as a form of exercise and spending some time afloat or near the water is great for our wellbeing. It is important to remember we are in the grip of a pandemic that has become significantly worse in recent weeks. The overriding message for Scotland's boating



Owners may only travel to their boat if it is kept in the same local authority area they live in. 51\_a04TarbertHarbour02

community is to stay at home wherever possible as we must all help to stop the spread of the virus.'

Owners may travel within their local authority to undertake essential maintenance on their boat but may not stay longer than the length of time required to undertake essential maintenance. To check what

level of measures apply in an area or to participate in activity, please check the postcode on the Scottish Government webpage.

In the meantime, RYA Scotland has decided to postpone its directly organised, non-virtual events and training in response to these measures to protect participants,

volunteers and others and to reduce the risk of placing an additional burden on the emergency services at what is a hugely testing time.

The RYA will be providing a range of online events and #SailFromHome activities. RYA Scotland will continue to host online sessions for clubs and training centres and

deliver its regular podcast, Off the Water, to keep the boating community informed.



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