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# Inveraray parking fees threaten Covid recovery

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Business owners in Inveraray have described the council's latest move to introduce year-round parking fees to the town as 'bewildering' during the coronavirus pandemic.

For the third time in five years Argyll and Bute Council is proposing to make a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce charging to Inveraray car parks all year round, as opposed to the current summer charging system.

Inveraray Community Council has confirmed it will object to the plans.

A similar move in 2016 sparked objections and ended with the TRO expiring after two years with no decision.

In 2019, a fresh TRO sparked

more than 200 letters of objection, in a campaign led by Inveraray Community Council, many of which cited the fact that no investigation had been carried out on the impact on tourism and claiming it would be an additional 'tourist tax' for Inveraray.

**'After the year we've been through, this is bad timing...'**

The current 2021 draft TRO is in the early stages of consultation, but it states that all-year fees would apply in the Avenue, Fisher Row and Front Street car parks 'to align the Inveraray charging structure to the council's other off-street car parks'.

Off-street car parking at the

Avenue south, Community Hall and outside Inveraray Jail would remain free of charge, but would be included in the order to allow parking control.

A spokesperson for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'The main aim of Traffic Regulation Orders is to manage traffic flow, support the local economy and protect our town centres from inappropriate parking. We haven't progressed TROs recently and will be starting the TRO for Inveraray afresh. Before we move to the public consultation part, we have to contact all statutory consultees and anyone who objected to the previous TRO proposals.'

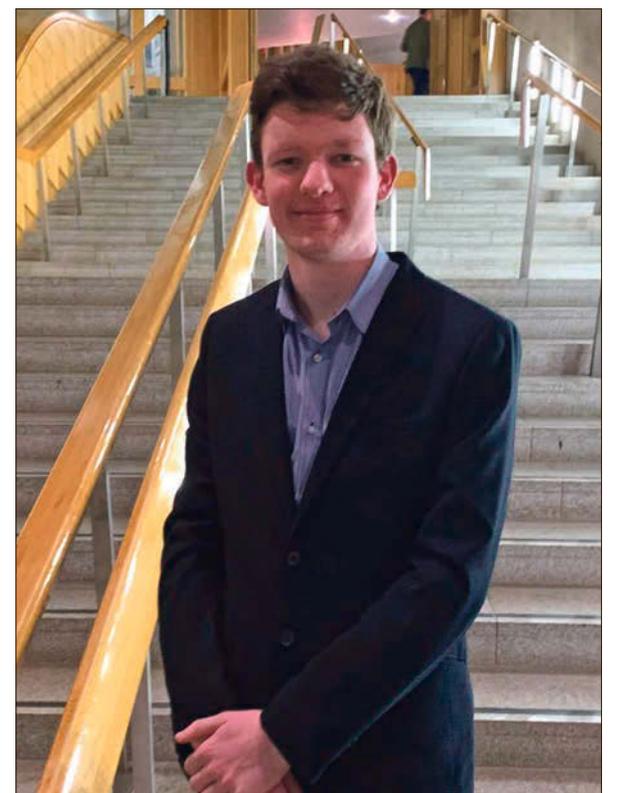
'Once the new, draft TRO is published, members of the public will have the opportunity to submit their views.'

The Sweeney family operates Dewars Boot Store and

MacIntyres of Inveraray, and Scott Sweeney said: 'The introduction of year-round parking charges would just be another deterrent for people to spend time in town in the quieter months. We've had to endure one of the toughest economic events in history during the Covid pandemic, and have had 10 years of inadequate action from local and national government with regards to the Rest and be Thankful fiasco.'

'We find the decision to consider an introduction of these charges bewildering at this time.'

Inveraray Community Council convener Linda Divers added: 'The community council will object to the proposals again. After the year we have just been through, it is bad timing on the council's part.'



Cameron Garrett in the Scottish Parliament building at Holyrood.

## Cameron scoops top award

A Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) from Ardrishaig has been named MSYP of the Year.

Cameron Garrett, 18, earned the prestigious title after two years representing Argyll and Bute while working towards environmental improvements and boosting education amid the pandemic in Scotland.

For the full story, turn to page five.



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## POLICE FILES

## Theft of kayak

Between about 12pm on Sunday January 24 and 12pm on Saturday March 20, a blue and white kayak was taken from a shore front in Tayvallich.

## Abusive behaviour allegation

A 28-year-old man was charged with assaulting another man at around 2am on Monday March 29, at Glenburn Road, Ardrishaig. When police attended and arrested the man, he allegedly struggled with officers, resisted arrest and became abusive. He was later charged and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

## Charged

On the A846 near Bridgend, Islay, a car was found to have been crashed into a ditch at about 2.20am on Sunday March 28. A man aged 23 was later arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol. He was also charged with having no driving licence and taking the vehicle without the consent of the owner. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

## Excavator stolen

At some point between 10am on Saturday March 20 and 4pm on Friday March 26, an excavator was stolen from a layby near Ardlui on Loch Lomond-side.

**Police are investigating the above incidents and are appealing for any witnesses or anyone with any information to contact them on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.**

## Crinan Canal refills in heavy rain

Heavy rain earlier this week left the ground saturated and flooded roads around Mid Argyll – but there was another consequence of the Atlantic weather front.

The Crinan Canal, drained for refurbishment work, was refilled by rainfall.

Loch Fyne also overtopped the sea lock at Ardrishaig in high tides, flooding

this part of the canal. A spokesperson for Scottish Canals explained: 'Due to heavy rainfall over the weekend and in the early hours of Monday morning, the canal filled back up. Fortunately, no damage was incurred to the works from this event.'

'The canal is currently being drained by pumps which will allow the work to

resume.' On the refurbishment project itself, the spokesperson added: 'New gates for locks one, three and four have already been installed, with new gates for lock two due to arrive and be installed by end of next week.'

'Final adjustments and checks to all lock gates will be undertaken over the next four weeks.'



Photographed through Heras fencing, seawater and rainwater flooded the Ardrishaig sea lock on Monday, lapping works generators at the site.

## Registrar Shona retires after 32 years

Council friends have paid tribute to a much-loved Mid Argyll registrar as she retires after 32 years of service.

And, aside from her sense of humour and willingness to help, Shona Brechin's baking talents will also be much missed by her workmates.

As Shona officially hung up her registrar's pen on Friday March 26, colleagues paid tribute on the Argyll and Bute Registrars Facebook page, writing: 'Shona has been a massive support to us all as our senior registrar and is always on hand for some advice and a good



Shona Brechin, who is retiring after 32 years of service. 06\_a12WeddingShow04

laugh, and will be sorely missed by the whole team. We are devastated to not be able to throw Shona the retirement party that she deserves right now, but that gives us all the more reason to catch up once things are back to some sort of normality.

'We all wish her all the very best in her retirement.'

Argyll and Bute Council's head of customer support services Jane Fowler added: 'For the last 32 years, Shona has been a well-respected and loved registrar conducting weddings at Crear, Lunga House and Inveraray.'

'She started working with Argyll County in 1974, then Strathclyde Region in 1975 and then, after a short career break to bring up her boys, she started as an assistant registrar and has been with us ever since,' said Mrs Fowler.

'Shona has been there for hundreds of people and is still in contact with couples she has married. We're very sad to see her go, and will not only miss her but also her legendary shortbread.'

'On behalf of Argyll and Bute Council, I would like to thank Shona for her service and wish her a very happy retirement.'

## Good idea i

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Groups in Mid Argyll keen to battle food waste have teamed up with Lochgilphead Co-op to save unsold food from going to landfill.

The ACT Now project, funded by the Climate Challenge Fund, aims to reduce food waste as research indicates that one million tonnes of food is wasted in Scotland every year.

The Co-op's Foodshare scheme, tying in with the aims of ACT, links stores with not-for-profit groups to donate unsold produce that would otherwise be thrown away.

ACT at Blarbuie Woodland, the project bringing it all together, is the hub of Lochgilphead's newest Foodshare partnership.

Each day ACT Blarbuie Woodland co-ordinator Bek Hawkby-Whitwell collects unsold ambient food from Lochgilphead Co-op and takes it to polytunnels at the food growing area in Blarbuie Woodland.

She said: 'Each morning I collect food from the store; one day I might have two cabbages and the next 300 carrots and 60 baking spuds.'

'The foodshare is used by the community and has become a bit of a focal point, with people popping up and having a chat while collecting their veggies.'

'So far we have saved more than 400kg of food from going to landfill and we even have some people donating fresh eggs for people to

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# Food, great in Mid Argyll



Left: Bek Hawkby-Whitwell, ACT Blarbuie Woodland co-ordinator.

Below: Saved from landfill, free food available at Blarbuie Woodland.

collect which is fantastic.' Anyone can help themselves to food from the tunnel between 10.30am and 4pm, and check what is up for grabs on the ACT at Blarbuie Woodland Facebook page, which also has recipes shared between users.

Jamie Joyce, project officer for ACT Now, added: 'Aside from the social issues food waste raises, food that goes to landfill rots and produces methane - a greenhouse gas more potent than carbon dioxide.'

'Working with our Co-op member pioneer, we recently teamed up with the MS Centre in Lochgilphead to ensure any surplus fruit and veg goes to support the centre's service users. Going by the social media response, this has been well received.'

'The vast majority of food wasted in Scotland comes from households and the Act Now project is looking to build

on this Foodshare scheme by supporting Mid Argyll residents in their homes.

'We have materials and upcoming workshops that will assist in reducing food expenditure and food wastage.'

Lochgilphead Co-op manager Mark Crawford commented: 'It has been great to see how

much food has already been saved from going to landfill through our partnership with ACT Now and ACT at Blarbuie Woodland.

'One of the Co-op's mission areas is Fair Access to Food and we believe we are striving towards this through the Foodshare scheme.'



## Council decides how to spend extra roads reconstruction cash

A number of road repair projects around Argyll and Bute will be carried out thanks to an extra £2.61 million added to the roads reconstruction programme at last month's budget.

The total value of works planned for 2021/22 is £10m, as reported to the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee earlier this month.

Council members will review the full, updated, programme at the committee's next meeting in June.

The 2021/22 roads re-



Councillor Rory Colville.

construction programme includes schemes which are carried over from the current financial year. Covid, and the restrictions imposed on construction works, meant no surface dressing was carried out in this financial year.

Significant preparatory work was, however, undertaken.

The roads reconstruction programme aims to arrest the rate of decline and provide an overall improvement in condition.

The success of this approach has been demonstrated in re-

cent years through independent evaluation, as outlined in the annual status and options report.

Councillor Rory Colville, policy lead for roads and infrastructure services, said: 'This is a significant investment and recognises the vital role that transport and travel will play in Argyll and Bute's post-Covid recovery.'

The overall budget is divided on the basis of the surface area of the road network within each council area.

In line with this, projects in the Mid Argyll and Tarbert area will benefit to the tune of £270,000 from the additional cash, for road improvements around Kilmartin, in Furnace village and at Glenralloch, Tarbert.

## Police Scotland issues appeal to help trace Tighnabruaich woman



Kathleen Symons - appeal

A police appeal has been issued to trace a Tighnabruaich woman who was last seen in mid March.

Kathleen Symons, aged 34, is described as white, 5ft 7in tall, with black hair.

She was last seen in the Tighnabruaich area of Cowal on Tuesday March 16.

Police Inspector Simon Shanks of Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Division said: 'Enquires are ongoing but we are now seeking the assistance of the public to help us locate Kathleen.'

'We believe Kathleen may have travelled to England by car. I would ask anyone with information, or who has seen Kathleen since this time, to

contact the police. I would also like to appeal to Kathleen directly to attend at a local police station or to contact one of her friends or family so that we can ensure she is safe and well.

'Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland via 101, quoting incident number 4253 of March 27.'

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# MacLeod's in running for national construction award

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

MacLeod Construction Ltd has been shortlisted in the UK's premier awards programme for the construction industry.

The Lochgilphead firm is one of three companies in the running for Building Contractor of the Year: Scotland at the Construction Awards of Excellence, online on April 15, alongside Richard M MacKenzie from Tain and Castle Douglas firm Riddick & Son.

Now with a multi-million pound turnover and employing around 200 people, MacLeod Construction Ltd was founded in 1975 by brothers Kenny and Murdo MacLeod.

The company specialises in the manufacture and assembly of timber frame buildings

using the latest technology – involving everything from family homes to commercial and community structures.

It also operates stone, sand and gravel quarries, producing the attractive 'Achnaba stone' with its distinctive greenish hue, which has not only enhanced the All England Club at Wimbledon, but now also graces the pavements of Colchester Square in Lochgilphead.

In a written submission to the awards panel, the company emphasised the role it plays in providing much-needed social housing in remote and rural areas of Scotland in partnership with housing associations, as well as creating construction-related jobs, employing around 20 apprentices and enhancing skills in the construction industry.

The company also notes that as a local, family business,



one of its main priorities is supporting the communities it operates in. Wherever possible, local labour, sub-contractors, suppliers and consultants are employed, which assists the local community and minimises

the environmental impact of travel in the challenging geography of Argyll and the Isles.

MacLeod Construction Ltd business development manager Mairi Coleman said: 'We are pleased to be considered

for Building Contractor of the Year: Scotland at the Construction Awards of Excellence.

'To achieve a place on the shortlist has only been possible through the hard work and



Managing director and co-founder of the business Kenny MacLeod.

06\_a41MacLeod\_BalfourBeattie\_site06

The first sod is cut in 2019 by Councillor Donnie MacMillan on a social housing development in Kilmartin for Argyll Community Housing Association.

commitment of our teams in delivering projects across Argyll.

'We are really proud of the work that we do and are delighted to be shortlisted for this award.'



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## Almost two thirds vaccinated in Argyll

An estimated 60 per cent of the population of Argyll and Bute had received their first dose of a Covid-19 vaccine by March 23, a report has revealed.

More than 44,000 people in the area had been vaccinated by that date, while people aged 18 to 49 and not in the vulnerable category are expected to begin getting their jobs at the end of April.

The Covid-19 update report went before the integration joint board (IJB) of the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) at its virtual meeting on Wednesday March 31.

Associate director of public health Dr Nicola Schinaia said in the report: 'Vaccinations across Argyll and Bute commenced in December with all care home staff and residents vaccinated.'

'It is reported that 44,069 people in Argyll and Bute (an estimated 60 per cent of the population) have had a first dose up to March 22, updated March 23. Uptake is expected to be relatively high in Argyll and Bute due to the high

proportion of the population in older age groups, which have been prioritised for vaccination.

'Vaccinations continue to progress well led by GPs for the public. Currently age groups 55 to 59 and 50 to 54 are receiving first doses. Most of our practices plan to continue with the 18 to 49s due to commence at end of April.

'Care home clients, staff and frontline HSCP staff are currently receiving their second doses.'

A table in the report, based on information from Public Health Scotland, shows that Covid-19 cases have been very

limited in Argyll and Bute in recent weeks. In the past two weeks on record, no part of the area had more than two cases, apart from four in Helensburgh North in the seven days before Saturday, March 20.

As of Thursday, March 25, Public Health Scotland's online portal showed that there had been six cases in Argyll and Bute in the seven days up to Monday, March 22.

This amounts to seven cases per 100,000 of the population – the third lowest for a council area in Scotland behind only the Orkney Islands (4.5) and Scottish Borders (3.5).

### FyneFest cancelled once again

In yet another casualty of the pandemic restrictions, Cairndow's colourful FyneFest celebration of beer, food and music will not be happening in 2021.

Organiser Fyne Ales announced this week: 'It's with great sadness that we announce that FyneFest won't go ahead this year, but it will return from June 3-5, 2022. Thank you to everyone for their patience while we explored every option to host our beer, food and music festival this year – we know many of you will be disappointed but please head over to our blog for ticket info and early plans for next year's festival.'

# Ardrishaig's MSYP of the year 'overwhelmed' at vote

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Cameron Garrett is clearly a young man going places.

The 18-year-old Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP) from Ardrishaig said he was 'overwhelmed' to be voted MSYP of the Year at an online ceremony last Saturday.

Along with fellow Lochgilphead High School pupil Yasmin Bowden, he was elected to the youth parliament in 2019, representing Argyll and Bute.

Since then Cameron has been prominent in the Scottish Youth Parliament's national 'Pack it up, Pack it in' campaign focused on environmental protection.

He has also been a member of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, leading on a project aimed at improv-

ing personal and social education (PSE) in Scottish schools.

As convener of the Education Committee, he led work on the recovery of education from the pandemic and sits on the SQA's National Qualifications 2021 group, representing young people's views on a range of issues such as the alternative certification model for 2021 and this year's appeals process.

The Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) is fundamentally a rights-based organisation, and Cameron is proud that United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has been approved by the Scottish parliament in the last fortnight, after tireless campaigning through the SYP.

He explained: 'The incorporation of this into Scots law will make consultation with young people regular practice. Being a member of the NQ21 group



is a step forward in ensuring youth participation is standard rather than tokenistic. Of course representing the young people of Argyll and Bute has been a huge honour and

a privilege,' added Cameron. 'It's been amazing to meet and work with so many incredible young people across the constituency, who will continue to do our area proud.'

Cameron and fellow Lochgilphead High School pupil Yasmin Bowden were elected to the youth parliament in 2019, representing Argyll and Bute.

The SYP is entirely youth-led, representing Scotland's young people. Elections are held every two years and people aged from 14 to 25 from across Scotland stand as candidates in all 32 local authority areas and from national voluntary organisations.

The next SYP elections are due to take place at the end of this year, but Cameron will not be standing again in Argyll and Bute, though does intend to do so in another constituency. He said: 'I would encourage any young person in Argyll and Bute considering standing for SYP to do so.'

Young people can register

an interest now by contacting the Argyll and Bute Council's community learning team or by checking SYP's social media accounts for more information @OfficialSYP.

Reflecting on the past week Cameron said: 'I feel incredibly overwhelmed but really proud to have won MSYP of the Year. I absolutely was not expecting it.'

Looking to the future, he continued: 'My plans for the future are a bit uncertain. I'm currently taking on life's twists and turns when they present themselves to me! I have a passion for politics so who knows where it might take me. SYP has given me so many incredible opportunities that I am really grateful for as well as boosting my skills in campaigning, consulting and lobbying as well as hugely boosting my confidence.'



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# Crinan Canal autism on water festival to set sail

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

With perfect timing to coincide with World Autism Awareness Week, a special event has been announced on the Crinan Canal.

Autism on the Water, a charity founded by Oban man Murray MacDonald, is planning a life-changing weekend on the iconic canal for people with autism.

The Autism on the Water Crinan Canal Festival is open to people on the autistic spectrum of all ages and will include a transit of the beautiful nine-mile Crinan Canal on new yacht Confidence from Ardrishaig to Crinan and back again, to be held over the weekend of May 22/23.

The event will be run with Covid safety precautions in place and is, of course, subject to ongoing pandemic

guidance. Autism on the Water aims to raise awareness of the condition, but is also designed to give young people on the autism spectrum the experience of sailing.

Murray firmly believes that sailing can benefit autistic people in many ways – boosting their confidence, enhancing problem-solving skills and improving social skills.

## Thanks

Murray thanked the charity's supporters, trustees, volunteers and sponsors, adding: 'The charity has built up a great relationship with the Scottish Canals team, most notably Helen Cunningham and Donna Mallan, who I must thank for all their support and help in the organisation of this event.'

'In addition, I would like to thank all the communities



Murray MacDonald.

within the Crinan Canal, the volunteers who are giving their time to help us run this event, to Pam and her team at Argyll Backpackers for reserving accommodation and particularly to Alan and Maggie Moore, who are joining us in supplying an additional boat for this event.

'The pandemic has caused severe disruption across the world for everyone.

'However, with the vaccine rollout and also the recent announcement from the first minister regarding the easing of restrictions as well as guidance from RYA Scotland – this has enabled



Having fun during a 2019 adventure on the Crinan Canal.

51\_a35AutismOnTheWater04

us to plan and run the Crinan Canal event but with a variety of changes from our original plans earlier last year before lockdown.

'The changes have been made to ensure we comply with as much of the Covid safety precautions as possible to ensure

the safety of all those taking part – nevertheless, we aim to ensure this experience is as enjoyable, fun and safe as possible and fingers crossed that we get good weather to finally bring you the long-awaited Autism on the Water Crinan Canal Festival.'

Places on the trip are going fast, and more information, along with a booking form, can be found on the Autism on the Water Facebook page.

All forms must be returned by email to aotwofficial0@gmail.com no later than Friday April 30.

## Council introduces fees for electric vehicle charging

Argyll and Bute Council has increased its electric vehicle charging network to 28 points across the area as part of its commitment to reduce the impact of climate change.

The council's new policy of recovering costs for electricity drawn to charge private vehicles comes into effect on April 9, bringing Argyll and Bute in line with many other Scottish local authorities.

So far, electric vehicle (EV) users have been able to charge their vehicles free of fees. The council, however, agreed

at its budget meeting in February 2020 to introduce a nominal fee to cover the cost of the electricity, with a small contribution towards the upkeep of the system.

Announcing the new charges, an Argyll and Bute Council spokesperson said: 'People rely heavily on private vehicles in rural communities.'

'In the HITRANS area – the Western Isles, Orkney, Highland, Moray and Argyll and Bute, excluding Helensburgh and Lomond – vehicle ownership is 18 per cent higher than

the Scottish average, with average distances travelled by road estimated to be around 20 per cent greater.

'Investing in EV technology helps people connect in a way that is more climate friendly. It also helps remove barriers to accessing employment, education, leisure activities and essential services.'

'The council's EV charge point network has been made possible through funding from the Scottish Government, via Transport Scotland.'

Visit the Argyll and Bute Council

website [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ev](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ev) for more information on locations of the EV charging points and fees.

EV charging stations have been installed in many places, including Lochgilhead's Stag car park.

mp\_a38ChargingStation01



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# GRAB an environmentally-friendly chocolate Easter egg

By Kerry MacKay – Beaches and Marine Litter Project Education Officer, the GRAB Trust

I'm looking forward to Easter more than usual this year. I think most of us are after our Covid-19 winter confinement. The lure of spring, sunshine, chocolate and the outdoors.

Easter brings a major spike in chocolate consumption. The first chocolate Easter eggs weren't introduced to Britain until 1873 by Fry's. These days around 80 million Easter eggs sell each year.

There is also the annual call for less plastic and better chocolate, so here is our Cream Egg's worth.

Is it really chocolate you're paying for?

A 2018 survey by Which? found that about a quarter of your Easter egg's weight is the packaging. Thornton's got the worst rep with close to 40 per cent of their classic large egg being packaging.

The results of the 2019 Great British Beach Clean show around 558 pieces of litter on every 100-metre stretch of UK beach, with plastic still being the worst offender. The solution to this problem is clear; we need to stop creating as much stuff to be wasted in the first place.

Many companies have made efforts to improve their packaging by reducing the amount of plastic.

Thornton's reduced their packaging in 2018 and Nestle have removed all plastic from their Easter eggs, saving more than 700 tonnes of plastic waste and by making the boxes more compact they can



Kerry MacKay.

fit more eggs per lorry, saving 48,000 road miles.

But there are still plenty of tempting Easter treats to catch you out. A recent study by Uswitch found that Nestle Easter eggs produce the highest amount of CO2 per egg, closely followed by Cadbury's.

You can also help look after the planet by choosing chocolate that is better for people and the planet. There are all sorts of labels to help guide you.

Here are a few certifications to look for: Fair Trade, organic, palm oil free or sustainable palm oil.

There are lots of ethically-minded and more environmentally friendly chocolate companies around, and more are appearing every day as demand is soaring.

Here are just a few brands you can be fairly certain are doing their best: Divine, Montezuma's, Ombra, Seed and Bean, Chocolate and Love, Buttermilk (rated best in the Uswitch carbon emissions



Enjoy a clear conscience and plastic-free Easter.

study). Instead of comforting yourself with the promise to recycle all that plastic, choose plastic-free and planet-friendly Easter eggs instead.

There are plenty of eco-friendly Easter eggs out there and they often contain much nicer chocolate too. There are vegan, dairy-free, and low sugar options, so something for everyone.

This Easter take the focus off wowing your family with a

hollow box of plastic. Instead create lasting memories with your loved ones during these difficult times.

Decorate real eggs, enjoy an egg hunt, and savour delicious, Fair Trade, organic chocolate from a simple cardboard box that you can squash flat and 100 per cent recycle.

Follow our Facebook page @GRABbmlp for all sorts of waste free tips, fun activities and marine facts.



Recycling information from a Cadbury's Easter egg.

mp\_a14EasterEgg02

## Top tips to help you enjoy a guilt-free Easter:

- Choose eggs in cardboard boxes or simple foil wrap.
  - Avoid anything with a plastic window or box.
  - What's in the box with the big egg? It's all fine and well choosing an egg in a cardboard box, but you could still be buying needless plastic if the little bars or chocolates you also get with your egg are in plastic packets.
  - Again, look for your extra goodies to be wrapped in foil or paper.
  - Bags of smaller treats can be a real minefield. Many come in plastic bags or netting, with each individual treat inside also wrapped in plastic. Stay well clear of these!
  - Aim for treats that are wrapped in foil or not individually wrapped. Ideally in a paper bag or card box.
  - The chocolate eggs in a traditional egg box are a great plastic free choice.
  - Keep the cardboard clean while you enjoy your goodies.
  - Use the foil as a plate or have your Easter feast from your finest china.
  - Whatever you eat your chocolate from, make sure your cardboard and foil are clean when you go to recycle them.
  - Wash off any bits of chocolate that may have melted on to the foil.
  - Scrunch all your foil into a nice big ball and put it in your recycling bin along with your flattened cardboard boxes.
- Great job! You successfully enjoyed Easter without adding to the global plastic crisis.

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## 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**Donate the proceeds?**

The council's keenness to bring in year-round car park charging is perhaps mis-timed. Some places already have this, while others don't.

Almost every aspect of life has suffered during the coronavirus pandemic, the council included. While saving in some areas of expenditure, it has incurred extra costs in tackling the pandemic and faces an uncertain funding future while the national economy tries to recover. The drive to save money in services where bringing in a little more through, for example, parking fees and fines, is understandable up to a point.

But when the economy is on life support after a pandemic, surely the relatively paltry sums to be made are not worth the potential damage to Inveraray's recovery, as seems to be the view of locals?

Perhaps councillors could look at this a little differently. If they are determined to push this through for control traffic purposes, why not donate the proceeds, which would be a by-product of well-behaved traffic, to the town? The pier fund could certainly use it. Both the community council and Inspire Inveraray would no doubt welcome the cash and find many uses for public benefit. Just a thought.

**Well done all**

Congratulations to Cameron on his award. This is a huge achievement among a group of young people who each work hard for others.

It is also a great achievement for MacLeod Construction to be shortlisted for a national award. We wish them all the best in the final decision.

We also wish Shona Brechin a long and happy retirement after many, many knots tied and wedding day smiles created.

**Isolated by unreliable A83**

Sir,  
Over the years my regular visits to St Catherines on Loch Fyne have often been adversely impacted by the unreliable A83 at the Rest and be Thankful, resulting in lengthy delays getting there or having to use the expensive Gourrock to Hunter's Quay ferry.

The recent announcement regarding the alternative route initially gave some hope of a permanent resolution. However, on further reading, this was yet another unsurprising disappointment. The preferred corridor through Glen Croe is still to be announced and there is still no timetable for completion.

Landslips at the Rest and be Thankful have frequently seen much of Argyll isolated from central Scotland, or journeys delayed by endless roadworks or convoys along the old military road. Most of these problems have occurred during the SNP's 14 years in government and the continued failure to provide a permanent solution is yet more proof of how little the SNP cares about or understand the needs of people and businesses outside the central belt.

It was clear long ago that patchwork schemes were not a solution but, rather than provide a new corridor which would have resulted in major capital expenditure, tens of millions of pounds have instead been wasted on years of ineffective schemes which nature evades in next to no time.

In the meantime, the SNP has had no difficulty finding money to prop up central belt vanity projects like the Edinburgh trams.

Michael Russell, SNP MSP for Argyll and Bute, has been far more concerned with Indyref2 and Brexit than the day-to-day concerns of his constituents and has done nothing to ensure that providing a reliable road connection to Argyll is a top priority for Michael Matheson, the Cabinet Secretary for Transport.

The Holyrood elections on May 6 are an ideal opportunity for the residents and business owners in Argyll, whose daily lives are affected by

such an unreliable road, to voice their dissatisfaction and vote for anyone other than the SNP or the Greens who oppose any road building on principle.

A different government might not guarantee a speedy resolution, but after 14 years of failed sticking-plaster attempts to patch up the existing road, it certainly couldn't be worse.

**Donald McCallum, Strathaven.**

**Shoddy road signs**

Sir,  
Across the Kintyre and the Islands ward I continue to receive complaints about the rather shoddy condition of road signs.

In some cases the signs are faded and covered in dirt and in many other cases they are falling to pieces.

One example of this is the road signs above the footpath outside Port Ellen Primary School on Islay and sadly there are many other examples. In my opinion in the future Argyll and Bute Council must be more diligent in maintaining our signs. Road signs help to regulate traffic, provide crucial visual guidance and give drivers important previews, especially during night-time conditions.

**Councillor Alastair Redman.**

**Tank trap roundabout**

Sir,  
I write further to correspondence on Lochgilphead's expensive new pavements.

When they are finally finished, could somebody see if they have a bucket or two of tarry stones left over that could be chucked into the tank trap that passes for a roundabout, next to the Tesco garage?

**David Hay, Minard.**

**Citizens' advice has new address on Argyll Street**

Sir,  
I have immense pleasure in communicating to your readers our new address following our successful relocation of our main office premises.

Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau (ABCAB), 18 Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NE

Our email, website and telephone numbers remain the same as before. Email: [info@abcab.org.uk](mailto:info@abcab.org.uk) and phone 01546 605550.

We have had no break in service and continue to provide advice and support to clients across Argyll and Bute, with our advisers all working from home under current government guidance.

We are also available to provide advice to those who find themselves in a vulnerable position and require face-to-face advice by appointment in our Helensburgh and Lochgilphead offices.

We commence our second volunteer adviser training programme next month and look forward to welcoming our new trainees.

**Jen Broadhurst, Bureau Manager, Argyll and Bute Citizens Advice Bureau.**

**Reward NHS workers**

Sir,  
Following the Scottish Government's pay offer of four per cent across the board for all NHS workers, Unite will ballot its members on the offer over the next few weeks.

Unite represents workers in every pay band across the entire NHS structure and recognises that while this offer will put money into the pockets of our members, any monthly pay uplift will vary considerably between individuals. For this reason Unite will be putting this offer to our members without recommendation.

The offer includes an opportunity to revisit any settlement including an intention by the Scottish Government to allocate additional funding through Barnett Consequentials. Unite will demand that any additional payment made to the Scottish Government by Westminster through this formula, is passed on to our members.

Workers across the NHS have been described as 'heroic' in what has been an exceptionally challenging year. Now is the time to reward those workers with the pay uplift they deserve, not just for their work during the Covid pandemic, but also for the pay cuts they have endured through years of austerity.

For Unite, other pay potential remains on the table in the form of additional Barnett Consequentials and we will pursue any additional pay that is intended for our members through further negotiation with any future Scottish Government.

**James O'Connell, Unite regional officer for Scotland.**

**Fancy a simpler life?**

Sir,  
I work for a TV company called Five Mile Films and we are making a new documentary series this year for Channel 4.

We are looking for people to apply to take part who are wanting to live a simpler life. The filming will take place over a number of months this year in rural Britain.

The idea behind the series is about saying goodbye to smartphones, Zoom calls, social media – all the distractions and pressures of normal life – to go and live a simpler life, experience the 'good life' fantasy and think about what our modern life and its multitude of choices has really given us.

We will explore the idea of whether, in fact, less is more.

We are looking for people of all ages to apply; families, couples, single people – to take time out from their normal life and step into a different way of living.

If any of your readers are interested in finding out more, they should email [simplelife@fivemilefilms.co.uk](mailto:simplelife@fivemilefilms.co.uk), telling us briefly why you would like to live a simpler life.

**Kathryn Burke, casting producer, Five Mile Films, Bristol.**

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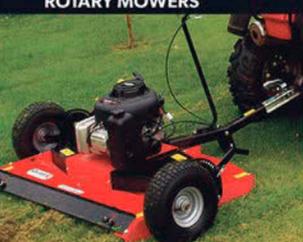
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## YOUR PICTURES



This week's featured photograph was sent to the Argyllshire Advertiser by Christine Reynolds from Ardpatrik, by Tarbert. Christine explained: 'The pussy willow on our tree is just amazing this year. Spring is definitely here.'

## CONTACTUS

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## Time to stop smoking? The 5 Step Timeline

**QUIT YOUR WAY**  
with our support



### 1 Make your first appointment with an Advisor

Your local advisor will welcome, support and listen to the challenges you face. Everyone's journey is different so a bespoke stop smoking programme will be made for you. You may want to set your Quit Date there and then, others like to take some more time to prepare for this.

### 2 Get through the first 3 days

Your advisor knows this can be a real challenge, when your body is craving a nicotine hit. But, support is available to get you through this initial phase, together with effective use of medications.

### 4 At 8 weeks

You will have built a really strong relationship with your Advisor, giving you opportunities to review your progress and any challenges.

### 3 At 4 weeks

4 weeks without smoking is a real milestone. Well done! Your Advisor will provide continued support and motivation, with the help of any stop smoking medication you may use and work through the most difficult times with you.

### 5 At 12 weeks

Many people find by twelve weeks they are Smoke Free and no longer need the support of an Advisor and we officially count this as a successful Quit! Stop Smoking Services will continue to be here for you if you need us in the future.

**To talk to someone directly, contact your local advisor for Mid Argyll, Carradale and Muasdale:**

**Jill Denton**  
Tel. 07707868351

Alternatively, contact the free Smoke Free National Helpline on: 0800 84 84 84 if you'd like to stop smoking. Or, complete the online form at: [bit.ly/Smoke-Free-Highland](https://bit.ly/Smoke-Free-Highland) and your local advisor will get in touch with you.



### Some of the health benefits to be gained by giving up smoking:

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 coronary heart disease by 50%!

### £ Savings

Calculate the savings you could make by giving up smoking at [www.canstopsmoking.com/tools/cost-calculator](https://www.canstopsmoking.com/tools/cost-calculator)

# CalMac community fund boosts west coast groups

by Colin Cameron  
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Ferry operator CalMac has awarded funding to projects tackling social issues arising from Covid-19 in west coast communities.

Groups and charities working to help people experiencing mental health issues, social isolation, loneliness or poverty have successfully applied to the CalMac Community Fund for awards between £500 and £2,000.

Successful applicants include the Kintyre Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service for its peer education project.

Referrals have increased from young people since the pandemic began and the project will give them the skills and knowledge they need to safeguard their mental health, as well as that of their peers.

Other successful groups include the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust for a hub to allow young people on the island to socialise; the Islay Link Club for courses and training in mental wellbeing; the Tarbert Youth Group for sport and health activities; and Argyll FM, Campbeltown Picture House and the Jura Care Centre Group.

Last year the fund welcomed applications from non-profit organisations from across the CalMac network to tackle mental health, social isolation, loneliness and or poverty. Groups could apply for an award between £500 and £2,000.

Half of the latest round of awards made will address social isolation, a third of awards will address mental health and the remaining awards will address social isolation, poverty,



CalMac provides ferry services to communities up and down the west coast of Scotland.

or a social issue relative to the respective community.

Recent research has forecasted that for every pound spent by CalMac, communities across the network benefit from a social return of £5.14. Previously, the CalMac Community Fund supported 76 different projects that benefited the lives of children and

young people living in west coast communities.

CalMac is the first Scottish company to be awarded a level two Social Value Quality Mark for initiatives such as the CalMac Community Fund, which is expected to deliver £676,391 of value over three years.

Jane Millar from the Gigha

Heritage Trust said: 'We are delighted to have been awarded £2,000 from the CalMac Community Fund which will support Gigha's younger generation to develop their community hub project.'

'The award will allow us to buy sports equipment and furnishings that will turn a currently vacant cabin into a safe space that the young community can come together to exercise, study, and socialise.'

'We hope this project, which is being led by our young people, will start to address these needs, and help to make Gigha a vibrant and welcoming place for young people to live.'

'Our project will help and enable individuals within the community of Islay to feel a stronger sense of inclusion, well-being, confidence and overall resilience in these difficult times,' said Polly Mather

of the Islay Link Club. Mental health issues are on the increase and equally important are serious concerns around the negative impact of social isolation.'

Gordon McKillop, CalMac corporate social responsibility manager, said: 'The CalMac Community Fund is much more than corporate giving. The fund was created to make a difference for our communities and customers, and we are beginning to see its impact and value.'

'The last year has been turbulent for so many and the third sector has responded magnificently across our network.'

'There are still many challenges to come as we progress through the Covid-19 pandemic and I hope the awards we have made alleviate some of the social issues that arise consequently.'

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## First Highland games of the 2021 season cancelled

Gourock Highland Games, traditionally the first pipe band and Highland dance competition of the season, has been called off for the second successive year due to the pandemic.

The organisers at Inverclyde Council are, however, examining options for a possible reschedule for later in the year, subject to Covid restrictions. The 65th Gourock Highland Games were scheduled to take place at Battery Park on the banks of the Clyde on Sunday May 9.

Provost Martin Brennan, a former games chieftain, said: 'The event is of great local and

national importance with it being the traditional start of the Scottish season. There's always an international interest too, especially with the overseas competitors who travel to Inverclyde to take part and many visitors making the games a part of their holiday to Scotland.'

'It's deeply disappointing that the games have been cancelled but staying healthy and saving lives remains the priority as we navigate our way out of the pandemic.'

Sharon Smith, contents secretary for the Glasgow and West of Scotland branch of the Royal Scottish

Pipe Band Association (RSPBA) said: 'The branch is equally disappointed with the cancellation but will be working with Inverclyde Council to hopefully reschedule later in the year, subject to guidance from the Scottish Government.'

Gourock has been well attended in the past by pipe bands in preparation for the British Pipe Band Championships in Paisley later in May - but this event, along with the UK championships in Northern Ireland, have also fallen victim to Covid restrictions for the second year running.



Oban High School competing at Gourock Highland Games in 2017.

# Springtime glory in Mid Argyll

Lochgilhead photographer – though she is a Ford girl at heart – Aileen Gillies was out and about with her camera recently and sent these fantastic photographs of springtime in Mid Argyll. Aileen took these pictures at Bellanoch and Kilmartin just ahead of the clocks changing for the start of British Summer Time.



Reflected clouds with hues of purple at Bellanoch marina.

Again at Bellanoch, reflections of a beautiful sunset on water like a millpond.



It's spring in Kilmartin as daffodils illuminate Kilmartin Glen.

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## Thought for the Week

I discovered an article on acedia recently and I was intrigued by the concept – the more I read, the more I recognised the reality of this ancient wisdom, recorded by fourth century monk Evagrius the Solitary.

Acedia is described as listlessness, torpor or not caring about things. It is not depression; it is more subtle and has spiritual overtones – I would say it is most profoundly a spiritual phenomenon. Looking into it, I clearly identified aspects of it in my myself today! It appears to be the most ‘underdiagnosed’ and unacknowledged spiritual illness of this age.

I found that Pope Francis also came across it. Commenting in the context of healing the paralytic by the pool, he said the ‘first illness’ is the one afflicting the paralysed man. He had ‘resigned himself to it,’ the Pope said, ‘perhaps saying to himself: “Life is unfair, others are more fortunate than I am”. There is a plaintive tone in this way of speaking ... there is resignation but there is also bitterness.’

He added that it is an attitude reminiscent of ‘many [Christians] who lack enthusiasm and who are bitter’, who repeatedly say to themselves: ‘I go to [church] every Sunday but it is better not to become involved! I believe for my own sake, but I don’t feel the need to give it to others: each one peacefully at his own home.’

‘These people, the Pope added, also take the attitude that ‘if you do something well in life, they’ll reprove you: so, it’s better not to take the risk.’

Good Friday, Easter Sunday - excellent days to take the risk and resolve to do something well in life, to set sensible goals to be better than I am now. But really, any day is a good day to do that.

**Father Tony Wood, St Kieran’s RC Church.**

## KINTYRE

### Bin not worth its salt

An Argyll and Bute councillor has raised the problem of disintegrating road signs and a decrepit grit bin in east Kintyre.

Councillor Alastair Redman, one of three councillors representing Kintyre and the Islands ward, said: ‘I have been contacted by many of my justifiably concerned constituents in east Kintyre about the shocking condition of local signage which has rotted through.

‘There is also the dangerous state of a salt bin which the roads department has filled recently but for some reason failed to notice the crumbling state of the receptacle.

‘I have raised both of these matters with our roads department and they have assured me that both problems will be rectified.’



This grit bin is not really worth its salt.

## FURNACE

### History walk to be repeated

Following a successful inaugural Furnace history walk, the village’s community charity plans to repeat the event later this month.

Furnace SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) is delighted that Mid Argyll historian Duncan Beaton has agreed to repeat the guided walk on April 18 for those not able to make the first one.

To ensure compliance with Covid guidelines, numbers are restricted and booking must be in advance.

## Dunoon’s arts and crafter Ailsa is a Young Scot Enterprise finalist

A young Dunoon woman has been announced as a finalist in this year’s Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards in recognition of her incredible achievements.

Ailsa Smart, 25, is a finalist in the Enterprise category, after harnessing her creative passions to launch a successful arts and crafts social enterprise. Ailsa, who has autism and learning difficulties, designs unique and eye-catching illustrations and tote bags which she sells via her online store, ‘Ailsa’s Art e-fax’.

She is committed to using her success to demonstrate the positive contributions of disabled and autistic people and has donated some of her earnings to several community-based initiatives.

The young entrepreneur has become a role model for her peer group and has motivated other young people in the area to seek volunteering opportunities.

This year’s winners will be announced during a live online ceremony on April 22.

The finalists join a prestigious roll call of previous recipients including Sir Andy Murray, Olympian Laura Muir, and top vlogger Jamie Genevieve.

Recent winners include actor Ncuti Gatwa from Netflix’s Sex Education and the



Ailsa has become a role model for others.

team behind Fridays For Future Scotland. Louise Macdonald OBE, chief executive of Young Scot, said: ‘Ailsa’s inspiring achievements and incredible contribution to the community in Dunoon show how important young people are to Scotland.

‘Huge congratulations to all of the 2021 finalists – we can’t wait to celebrate their achievements at the awards ceremony.’

To find out more, email [ruthtott@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthtott@hotmail.com).

## COWAL

### GP practices to be merged

Plans are afoot to relocate two GP practices into a new surgery at Cowal Community Hospital in Dunoon.

The proposal for a single merged practice is currently being developed by Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) in partnership with the two Dunoon practices involved – Church Street Surgery and Cowal Medical Practice.

In a statement, the HSCP said that the ‘partners involved are committed to working closely with patients, staff, the local community and other stakeholders’, adding: ‘The next stage is to secure the required funding.

Once secured, the project will be taken forward to develop final construction requirements before any building works commence.’

## YOURSTORY

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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.

9 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.

10 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.

# The Softer Crofter

FIONA ROSS

editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



# In fine (over-)condition for spring

Well, this farming malarkey is an education.

This week my husband caught me, yet again, in the woods with our three pigs, not just for cuddles and a bit of welly-nibbling, but for some totally unnecessary grooming. I had worked out that their boisterous shoving, leaning and squealing could be immediately calmed in one single stroke.

As soon as I begin to brush their tufty backs with the comb intended for Highlander hairdressing they fall silent and even stretch out flat at my feet, eyes closed, snouts twitching in delight.

It was at this point that the farmer/husband taught me some new vocabulary.

'That one on your feet; she's verging on being over-conditioned.'

'What, Splodge?' I replied, looking at the young pig cutting off the circulation to my ankles, 'she's too conditioned?'

Yup, it turns out that one of our girls is getting a bit porky and is now on reduced rations until she's as lean and trim as her sisters, but personally I'm delighted with this new terminology and I intend to adopt the concept myself.

With foreign holidays having been given the Covid kybosh there will be no need this year to swap my crofting attire of hats, hoodies and leggings for anything approaching beachwear, so the threat of over-conditioning this summer brings no fear.

Nevertheless, a bounty of nourishment to get us all in top condition is already budding in our cosy, if slightly smelly, Polycrub.

The husband has discovered skills and muscles previously well hidden.

He has dug out and shifted tonnes of soil, manure and compost to create the perfect base for a load of veg, but he's also now quite the craftsman.

Inside the Polycrub, he's built perfect little walls and raised beds from scraps of wood to keep everything tidy and efficient.

It's not going to win Grand Designs 2021, but it's an impressive feat from a guy who's never put up a shelf.

In neat little rows we have garlic and onions; early potatoes and carrots; asparagus and courgettes; peas and tomatoes; mint and strawberries and all sorts of salad. In one corner there's a wee cherry

tree, in another a thriving lemon tree. Hanging baskets await the arrival of new strawberry varieties and the back wall is poised to be completely festooned in vines and raspberry canes very soon.

The bulk of our seeds, bulbs and seedlings have been sourced locally, the more exotic stuff from a bit further afield, including yesterday's new arrival.

Trays-full of baby wasabia japonica plants made their way to us from Dorset, but were soon comfortably ensconced in their new Argyll home.

I confess that these versatile brassicas would be more commonly found on riverbanks high in the Japanese mountains rather than on the windswept Scottish west coast, but they might just work.

Their accompanying leaflet tells me the leaves are lovely in a salad, the stem is an excellent stirrer for a Bloody Mary and the famously nippy rhizome can be distilled to make a very punchy vodka. Sounds like the perfect recipe for peak conditioning. And if we get a bumper crop?

Well, there are worse years to find oneself slightly over-conditioned...



Over-conditioned? Surely not.



At home with his girls – and now discovering building skills he never knew he had.



Buds wait to burst forth as planting goes on apace on the croft.



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# Care in your community



**We can all, at any time in our lives, need the extra help that the care profession gives – in a home or our own homes**

Many people are cared for in residential homes but care is most often provided in our own homes. We all want to keep our independence and a large part of the care profession is geared towards this.

People of all ages need care, not just the elderly; illness and accidents mean we can all find ourselves needing these valuable services.

Each care package is as individual as the person receiving the care. The first step is to contact the social care department of your local council. There you will be advised about getting the services you need and what you are entitled to so you – or the person you care for – can live at home as independently as possible.

Never forget that a massive amount of care is provided by unpaid, family carers and one growing branch of the care industry is providing respite for them.

The actual referral for care home services often comes from health care professionals such as GPs, district nurses and hospital staff.

The care package will be a blend of a home care worker and social care, health and housing services – general cleaning, heavy housework and gardening, shopping, personal care, meals on wheels or a frozen meal delivery service.

Many people will find that simple adaptations at home like improvements and the provision of equipment will make a massive difference.

## Hospice care

The West Highlands and islands is a huge area with a wide-spread population and hospice care has adapted to support this need.

The Oban, Cowal and Highland hospices work with organisations such as Macmillan and Marie Curie as well as with the NHS to provide in-hospital, at-home, day-care and drop-in palliative care not just cancer patients but anyone with life-limiting illnesses.

These three remarkable organisations are each backed by an army of supporters and volunteers – who are all keen to get back in action as the Covid restrictions ease.

They also support the families of the people they are for; the hospices are there when needed with practical information and support, advice on accessing community services plus advocacy and bereavement support.

## Care as a career

Looking for a job that makes a difference? Then think about the caring profession.

Care workers help vulnerable people to manage their daily activities and to live as independently as possible.

You could be working in a hospice, care home, in people's own homes, or for a charity which provides services.

As well as the frontline staff, there jobs in management, administration, training and assessment, with many specialism for the types of care needed.

Home care workers and assistants' jobs involve working with people of all ages who need care and attention in a variety of roles, including care assistant, support worker and nursing home assistant.

University of Highlands and Islands recognises the need for excellent training for the profession, offering courses, both full and part-time to help people progress within their careers.

One of the first places to start your career in care is here. The caring profession is such a large employment sector that jobs are advertised regularly in our newspapers and HIJOBS our recruitment website.



## 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/dochascentre](https://www.facebook.com/dochascentre) which will be updated regularly with information and advice.**

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

Providing Information and Accessible Youth Friendly Services

**Are you a young carer? We are here for you . . .**

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

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

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

Online support is also available on [www.cool2talk.org](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)**



### Dochas Carer Centre

The Dochas Carer Centre supports unpaid carers. Throughout Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands, we work to improve the lives of all unpaid carers who face particular problems due to the rural and remote aspects of this region.

Our staff offer hope, emotional and practical support by providing information, guidance and training for unpaid carers through the maze of available services. All our services are free to unpaid carers. In particular it is worth noting that Dochas provides professional counselling services also offered free of charge. This free service has been invaluable to those whose mental health and general wellbeing has been affected during the last year of lockdown.

Dochas is conscious of the present risk associated meeting people face-to-face and so while the centre remains closed, the staff are continuing to work effectively from home using telephones and holding virtual meetings. Catherine Paterson Chairman of Dochas said: "Everyone at Dochas is looking forward to returning with hope for a new norm that will allow us to continue providing all the services we can to support Unpaid Carers."

### Home-Start Lorn

This is a particularly challenging time for new parents. Can you imagine how it feels to go home with a tiny baby and miss out on all the usual visits from family and friends?

Our volunteers certainly can't replace that, but they can definitely help to reduce the sense of loneliness many parents are feeling at this time.

#### Volunteering with Home-Start Lorn

At Home-Start we are still supporting families. Some of our families are being supported by meeting up and going for walks, some are being contacted digitally – via Facetime or Skype. A volunteer on Mull is even organising Story Telling on the Beach!

### Lochaber Care & Repair

Lochaber Care & Repair is a non-profit making charity offering free, independent advice, support and assistance to help elderly and/or disabled homeowners to repair, adapt or improve their homes so that they can live independently and safely in their own communities. For more information and contact details, please see our advertisement on this page.

Do you have a disability and/or are you aged 65 or over and have difficulty with small repairs around the house?



## The Lochaber Handyperson Service may be able to help!

Lochaber Handyperson Service is a free service aimed at helping elderly and disabled people with minor repairs and tasks around the home.

The Handypersons also deliver and uplift Community Aids and Equipment loaned to people by NHS Health & Social Care Services. You can contact Lochaber Handyperson Service on 01397 706333.

If you have any aids or equipment which you no longer require please contact us and we will arrange to have it collected.



Lochaber Care & Repair Handyperson Service  
Telephone: 01397 706333 | Email: [info@lcr.org.uk](mailto:info@lcr.org.uk)



# HOME START

## Lorn

**WE ARE RECRUITING**

### FAMILY SUPPORT MANAGER

we are looking for someone who is passionate about engaging with parents and young children, with an understanding of Getting it Right for Every Child, committed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and with experience of working with children and families. This is a full-time position offering a competitive salary.

**If you think this might be something you would like to be part of please contact**

Andrew Parker



01631 566749

Kirsty Renton (Mull)



07717 527035

## CROSSROADS Caring for Carers NORTH ARGYLL

Are you an Unpaid Carer? What is an Unpaid Carer?

Crossroads North Argyll is a locally managed charity covering Oban, Lorn and the Isles.

We provide a local respite service for unpaid carers, to enable them to look after a relative/friend/neighbour and to have some time to themselves. Even a brief period of respite can benefit the Unpaid Carer to cope better in their daily lives. This helps to promote and maintain independence and choice for both the Unpaid Carer and the Cared-for.

Crossroads North Argyll is aiming to meet the needs of local Unpaid Carers as earlier as possible in the caring role, so that we can hopefully prevent the Unpaid Carer reaching a crisis stage.

In doing so enabling them to take care of their own health and wellbeing, to carry on in their caring role.

We are also in the initial stages of developing a respite service on the islands of Mull, Tiree and Coll.

**If you, or someone you know, may benefit from some respite, please contact:**

Joan Best, Manager Crossroads North Argyll on 01631 562277 or email Joan at: [joan@crossroadsna.org.uk](mailto:joan@crossroadsna.org.uk)

**Website: [www.crossroadsnorthargyll.co.uk](http://www.crossroadsnorthargyll.co.uk)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/crossroadsna.org.uk](http://www.facebook.com/crossroadsna.org.uk)**

# DO YOU RUN A HOSPITALITY OR TOURISM BUSINESS? ARE YOU LOOKING TO RECRUIT?

We hope that soon, businesses like yours will once again be able to reopen and it looks like 'Staycation' is going to be the buzz word this season.

The Oban Times is offering very low cost advertising packages, combining the power of our newspapers, with the digital expertise of HIJOBS. Over 200,000 people in Scotland use HIJOBS every month.

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or email [nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:nmurphy@obantimes.co.uk)



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ES Warnock, D Cluckie, CJ Husthwaite & G R MacLean an appointed representative of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 111982).

# Dog attack bill hailed as 'a big step forward'

Dog owners who allow their pets to chase and attack live-stock now face fines of up to £40,000 – and could be locked up.

Farming union NFU Scotland welcomed the Scottish Parliament's decision to pass the landmark Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Bill and paid tribute to South of Scotland MSP Emma Harper for her hard work over four years in driving through this 'hugely important piece of legislation'.

The new Bill significantly increases the powers of investigation and penalties to tackle the ongoing blight of dog attacks on livestock and dog fouling – two of the biggest issues faced by farmers, crofters and landowners through



Far left: Mid Argyll farmers joined union officials, police, vets and council officials to publicise 'Your Dog – Your Responsibility' in 2019.  
06\_a26NFUSdogattacks01: Left: Emma Harper MSP in 2018 at Carloonan Farm, Inveraray when she met Argyll stakeholders to discuss the issue of dog attacks on livestock.  
06\_a50SheepWorryingMeet08

irresponsible dog owners. Under the legislation, penalties can extend from imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months to a fine not exceeding £40,000 – or both.

The union also praised cross-party support afforded to the bill by all MSPs which successfully saw it reach stage three approval on

March 24 ahead of the Scottish Parliament going into recess for the Scottish elections in May.

NFU Scotland President Martin Kennedy said: 'With dog attacks on livestock occurring daily, and irresponsible dog ownership persisting, I thank Emma Harper MSP for her tireless efforts in bringing

forward this landmark Bill to address this.

'As someone who has seen several dog attacks on my sheep in the past, the pain and suffering of animals is dreadful to see.

'The cost to livestock owners is often high, both financially and emotionally, and such attacks are easily avoidable by

dog owners acting responsibly around livestock. The stronger penalties must act as a better deterrent; and when paired with the investigative powers granted by the Bill, the number of prosecutions of those dog owners responsible for allowing livestock attacks to happen must increase.

'This bill sends out a cry-

stal-clear message on this matter.

'NFUS has spent considerable time, effort and resource on this blight over many years.

'Efforts have been focused on awareness raising amongst dog owners of their responsibilities, raising awareness amongst livestock keepers of their rights and lobbying local authorities and Police Scotland to use control mechanisms available to them.

'It was clear that there was a need for legislation, stronger penalties and appropriate compensation to hammer home the responsibility and liability of dog owners who do not exercise their pets responsibly on agricultural land. This bill is a big step forward.'

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**MAIN FEATURES:**

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- All hurdles are 8 railed x 970mm high
- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- Includes all joining pins/stakes

**OPTION 1**  
20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen  
**£1975 + VAT**  
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)

**OPTION 2**  
16 foot sheeted race, 2 way shedding gate, galvanised gate, race joiner, 100 foot of penning, will comfortably hold 200-250 fully grown sheep, **£2,395 + VAT.**  
I can sell 10' wide x 5' high available in packs of 10.

**PARTS LIST:**

- 14 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2-foot swing gates

**ALL EQUIPMENT FULL GRANT APPROVED**

**MOBILE CATTLE SYSTEM**  
**FROM £1850 + VAT**  
Crush Gate optional extra £599.00 + VAT.

As standard, our Mobile Cattle System comes with a 60 feet holding pen and 20 feet race, 1 sliding gate and all joining pins/stakes included. Our system will safely hold 45 full grown cattle (approx.)

The system is easy to move and erect where required and can be easily modified to suit your requirements. Also ideal for TB testing and the cattle sliding gate gives full control of the livestock from outside the race and stops the race from spreading out.

**MAIN FEATURES:**

- Made from high-tensile steel
- 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

**PARTS LIST:**

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

**NATIONWIDE DELIVERY £100 + VAT ON ALL ORDERS OVER £1500 PLUS VAT.**

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Source: YouGov 2018

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**T: 07885 203020**

**Email: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk**

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## WANTED ALL 4X4'S & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

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Caravanettes and camper vans, all makes and models considered. Also touring caravans and statics, instant decision, same day payment.

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**Contact William 07730 130284 email wlmotorhomes@outlook.com**

## WANTED 4X4

All types of 4x4's, Landrover Toyota, Nissan etc. We also buy MOT failures and accident damage vehicles. Anything considered.

**T: 07885 203020 or E: gbplantsales@hotmail.co.uk**

## WANTED

All types of 4-wheel drive vehicles & pickups, Landrovers, Toyota, Mitsubishi, Kia, Ford and MOT failures, non-runners, etc. Will travel and collect.

**T: 07546 788945**

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Source: Consumers' Choice V, The Newspaper Society

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**S & S Services**  
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr  
01292 880080 01292 880440



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# West Coast **MOTORING**

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Local press in print and digital 74%  
Local commercial TV 73%  
Search engines 43%  
Social Media 22%  
Other websites 39%

Source: YouGov 2018

# PUBLIC NOTICES

# PERSONAL NOTICES

**South Kintyre Development Trust**  
SC042018  
SKDT is holding an **Annual General Meeting** via Zoom on **Thursday, 15th April 2021 at 6pm**. Members and friends wishing to join us on Zoom, please click on the link below to join the meeting.  
<https://zoom.us/j/98888941192>  
All welcome

**69%**  
of the business community read the regional press

Source: Business Choice 8, The Newspaper Society

**Regional Press**  
Closer to Home

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**  
**ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (VARIOUS STREETS, LOCHGILPHEAD) (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT)(No.2) ORDER 2021**  
On Monday 29th March 2021, Argyll and Bute Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be that for a temporary period, the following restrictions will apply:  
**Schedule 1 – Prohibition of Waiting At Any Time**  
**U12 Union Street, Lochgilphead**  
On the northeast side, from its junction with Argyll Street extending in a south-easterly direction to its junction with Manse Brae, a distance of 331 metres or thereby.  
**C67 Lorne Street, Lochgilphead**  
On the north side, from its junction with Argyll Street extending in a westerly direction to its junction with the U007 Lorne Street, a distance of 219 metres or thereby.  
**C67 Lorne Street, Lochgilphead**  
On the west side, From its junction with Poltalloch Street (A83 Trunk Road) extending in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 132 metres.  
**Schedule 2 – Prohibition Of Traffic**  
**Colchester Square (C62)**  
From its junction with the Tarbet-Lochgilphead-Campbeltown Trunk Road (A83), extending in a northerly direction to its junction with Argyll Street a distance of 40 metres or thereby.  
**Argyll Street (C62)**  
From its junction with the north side of Colchester Square extending in a northerly direction to its junction with Union Street a distance of 72 metres or thereby.  
Exceptions will apply to a vehicle being used in an emergency for fire and rescue services, ambulance or police purposes, a vehicle being used for carrying out the works, or a vehicle requiring access/egress to and from affected properties when possible and as directed by traffic management operatives on site. The restrictions imposed by this Order which are required to allow essential works to be carried out on or near the road will be effective when indicated by signs from 0000 hours on Monday 5th April 2021 to 2359 hours on Friday 23rd April 2021, or until the works are complete, whichever is the earlier.  
Roads & Infrastructure Services 1A Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8RD  
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

**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
21/00333/PP	Erection of steel framed warehouse and formation of parking area	Site 11A, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8RR
21/00252/LIB	Internal works to listed building and works to the fabric of building to be upgraded as necessary	Lussa Power Station, Peninver, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6QP
21/00263/PP	Installation of two temporary kiosks to serve and prepare food during the duration of the construction works as per Planning Application Ref: 17/02994/PP, formation of a single car parking space, relocation of information point and removal of trees	Kilmartin House, Kilmartin, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8RQ

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

**Thank You!**  
**Rhodick**  
Geordie and Betty want to thank everyone for the good wishes, cards and gifts we received on our Golden Wedding anniversary. Special thanks to all the family who help make our day so special. We are truly blessed.  
Stay safe  
Kindest regards  
Betty Rhodick  
6 Fernoch Crescent, Lochgilphead



**Bobby's 90!**  
After decades of fixing lorries & buses Driving BM's round Argyll, the views were breathless  
With Mag by your side for 70 years strong 25b, where lots of little ones came along  
We hope to see you very soon  
When we can all visit the wee toon  
Sending lots of virtual hugs and kisses  
Happy 90th Birthday and well wishes

# CLASSIFIED

**SCOTTIE'S HOUSE & PET SITTING**  
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Email: [louisescott63@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:louisescott63@yahoo.co.uk)  
Website: [louisescottart.com](http://louisescottart.com)



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- Social Media 22%
- Other websites 39%

Source: YouGov 2018

# RECRUITMENT

## North Argyll House

Bealach an Rìgh, Oban, Argyll PA34 5TG  
Currently recruiting for:

### Senior Carer

Qualification; Nursing or SVQ level 3 in health and social care essential. £12.12 per hour

### Care Assistant

From £9.30 per hour

### Housekeeping Assistant

£8.91 per hour

Full and part-time permanent positions.

For an application form  
contact 01631 562168

Email [info@northargyllhouse.org](mailto:info@northargyllhouse.org)



## Crinan Hotel Bookkeeper

Flexible hours

Please send CVs to Frances Ryan  
[macdonaldart.crinan@gmail.com](mailto:macdonaldart.crinan@gmail.com)  
or [reservations@crinanhotel.com](mailto:reservations@crinanhotel.com)



## Kilmartin Museum

Independent  
Scottish Charity



An exciting opportunity  
has arisen for a full time

## Education and Volunteer Officer

Initially a two - year post with possibility of  
further extension  
£24,480 per annum  
37.5 hours per week

For an application pack, please see the  
[www.kilmartin.org/jobs](http://www.kilmartin.org/jobs) section of our  
website [www.kilmartin.org](http://www.kilmartin.org) or email  
[admin@kilmartin.org](mailto:admin@kilmartin.org)

Deadline for applications will be  
**Sunday May 2nd 2021**

Interviews will be held via Zoom on  
**May 19th and May 20th.**

This post is part-funded by the National  
Lottery Heritage Fund.

## Career opportunities



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exciting place to be right now.

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A competitive salary. Access to training and  
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Send C.V to [jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk](mailto:jobs@mkmacleod.co.uk)



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## Manager | Carradale Community Shop

Salary: £22,500; fixed term contract for up to 2 years in  
first instance part-time/job share will be considered. For  
further details, see <http://eastkintyre.org/Vacancies.php>.

Please send a copy of your CV, together with a brief note  
of your plans for ensuring a sustainable future for our  
community shop to [machall@torrisdalecastle.com](mailto:machall@torrisdalecastle.com).

Let us know if you have any questions?  
We would be happy to arrange a phone call!

Closing date: **Monday 12th April 2021**

Carradale Community Trust: SC024417

## Loch Melfort Hotel

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Housekeeper (9.45am - 2.45pm)	Receptionist

For full job descriptions, salary, benefits, hours  
and how to apply please see our website:

[lochmelforthotel.com/careers](http://lochmelforthotel.com/careers)



**Employer:** Kilchoan Management Ltd

**Location:** Kilmelford, Oban, Argyll,

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The main duties of the role are as follows:

- General maintenance in and outside the properties.
- Occasional driving duties particularly when the  
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- Looking after and catering for the owner and his  
family/guests when in residence.
- General Housekeeping – cleaning and deep cleaning  
of all the properties to a very high level on the estate.
- Security on the estate.

Please apply to Mrs Melissa Oatts, email: [factor@kilchoanestate.co.uk](mailto:factor@kilchoanestate.co.uk)

Melissa Oatts, Kilchoan Management Ltd, Kilchoan Estate,  
Kilmelford, Oban, Argyll PA34 4XD

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# Come to church this Easter

## A wonderful celebration for us all

The Christian faith at the heart of the Easter message celebrates the Resurrection, rebirth, new life, growth and rejoicing – what better themes could there be now that spring is here and the Covid restrictions are being eased slowly.

Let's all rejoice this Easter weekend.

The Scottish Government has revised its plans to say that 'should progress suppressing the virus continue', it will permit churches to re-open for communal worship from March 26, meaning they will be able to hold Easter services as usual this year.

It will let churches re-open for communal worship earlier than previously planned as the Covid-19 vaccine rollout continues to bring down case numbers.

The attendance limit will be 50 where social distancing permits; but this will depend on levels of the virus.

The news has been welcomed across Scotland.

The Catholic Church said: 'The opening of churches is a sign that the sacrifices endured so far are bearing fruit and gives us hope and encouragement to persevere. We pray that the Risen Christ, for whom we long during this holy season of Lent, will bless and bring healing to our nation.'

The Most Rev Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, said: 'We now hope to be able to move forward, while remembering that not everyone will be able to be in church

despite this re-opening for various reasons, and that is why we will continue to provide online worship for those who will not be able to return.'

All churches recognise that many people, who have to keep shielding, will not be able to go out to services and are continuing to post their services on line.

The National Worship Team of the Church of Scotland summed up the feelings: 'We may not all be gathered in the same building, but at this time, when we need each other so much, we are invited to worship together, from where we are – knowing that God can hear us all and can blend even distant voices into one song of worship.'



## ST. KIERAN'S RC CHURCH

St. John Street, Campbeltown  
stkieransrc.org

Passion (Palm) Sunday, 28th March, 10am

Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper), 1st April, 7pm

Good Friday (Commemoration of the Lord's Passion),  
2nd April, 3pm

Blessing of Easter Food baskets, Saturday, 3rd April,  
between 4-5pm

The Easter Vigil, Saturday, 3rd April, 8.30pm

Easter Sunday, 4th April, 10am

Easter Sunday, 4th April, 4pm (Islay, location TBC)

Limited places so please register with  
Fr. Tony by telephone or email.

01586 552160 campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk

Please give: Name, address, telephone no.,  
and number from the household wishing to attend,  
and the date of the Mass.

Holy Mass will be also be broadcast on Facebook for those  
who are unable to attend:

(<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>).

A Parish of the R.C. Diocese of Argyll and the Isles; Charitable Trust,  
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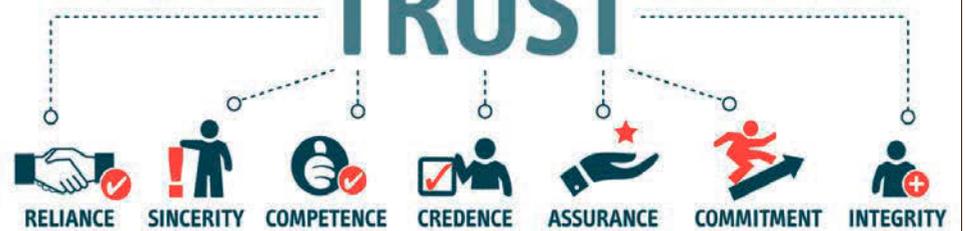
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Source: YouGov 2018

**GOLDEN WEDDING**

**MACVICAR - ROSS** - Alasdair to Mary on April 3, 1971 at Colston Parish Church Glasgow. Tigh an Obe, Auchendarroch, Ardrishaig.

**DEATHS**

**KELLY** - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on the March 26, 2021, Ethel Mary Kelly, in her 92nd year, 3 Isleview, Machrihanish, a much loved daughter, sister and aunt.

**ROBERTSON** - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on March 31, 2021, Isobel McAulay Morrison, in her 91st year, 2 Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, dearly beloved wife of the late David Robertson, much loved mother of Charles, David, Annmarie and the late Peter, loving granny and great-granny. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Isobel's funeral will take place on Saturday 3rd April. The cortege will leave the family home at 11.00am after a short prayer, travelling down Longrow, along Aqualibrium Avenue and past the cross on our way to Kilkerran Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Isobel may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

**SERVICE** - Hew, passed away at home, on Saturday, March 20, 2021. Greatly loved by all, he will be hugely missed by family and friends alike. We would like to thank his doctor and the amazing nursing teams for their care throughout his many battles with cancer. A private funeral will be held on April 6. The funeral cortege will leave from Christ Church, Lochgilphead approximately 11.30am en-route to St. Columba's Church, Poltalloch.

**SLOAN** - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on March 23, 2021, Mary Alice Sloan, in her 85th year, Lochview, Whitehouse, dearly beloved mum of Paul, mother-in-law of Zofija, loving granny to Sam and Maddy and a much loved sister and auntie. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Mary's funeral will take place on Tuesday, March 30. The cortege will leave the family home at 11.00am after a short prayer, passing Whitehouse Village Hall

and heading south on the A83 to Killean Cemetery. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Mary may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing. Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to the Macmillan Nurses at [tributefunds.macmillan.org.uk/1n-Memory/Mary-Sloan](http://tributefunds.macmillan.org.uk/1n-Memory/Mary-Sloan)

**SMITH** - Stewart Victor passed away peacefully on March 28, 2021 at home in MacDonald Terrace with family present. Loving husband to Doreen and father to Murray and David. Private funeral.

**SMITH** - After a short illness, with her family by her side, on March 29, 2021, Jeanette Smith, née Hatton, aged 68 years, of 1 Jubilee Terrace, Lochgilphead. Dearly loved wife of the late Willie Smith. Adored and loving Mum of Lyndsay and Sarah. Proud and doting Gran of Ashleigh, Kirsty and Gregor. Much respected mother-in-law of Innes and Danny. A dear sister of Donald, Mackie and the late Jim and Geordie. A much loved aunt and cousin to all the family. A good neighbour and very dear friend to many. A private funeral service will be held on Wednesday April 7, 2021. For those wishing to pay their respects, the funeral cortege will leave from Lochgilphead Parish Church at approx 10.45am, travelling along Bishopton Road en-route to Achnabreac Cemetery. Please observe social distancing.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**GRAHAM** - Iris. A heartfelt thanks to Kenny and his family for all of his patience and guidance through this difficult time also to Iris's friends and colleagues Mhairi Yvonne and staff at the Royal and Paula and the girls from the Ugadale, the show of love and kindness towards Iris will not be forgotten. A special mention goes to Anne, Lorna and Val and all the community nurses who helped me take care of Iris and Maggie from Macmillan nurses who was a guiding light. A special thanks to Debbie who helped cheer her up and brighten up her day and to Linda her best friend from childhood, thank you for the love and kindness. Rab, Louise and Robert.

**KELLY** - Jennifer, Gillian, William and family sincerely thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness and

the many expressions of sympathy, flowers, cards, letters and phone calls received following the sad loss of Tommy. Thank you to all doctors and nurses who cared for Tommy during his short illness. Thank you also to the air ambulance service, the ambulance crew and the Community Nurses. We extend our gratitude to Kenneth Blair and family for their dignified and professional services, McIvor's for the beautiful floral tributes and to Rev. William Crossan for the comforting service before we left home and at the graveside. Finally, we thank everyone who paid their respects to Tommy as the cortege made its way to Kilkerran Cemetery.

**MACARTHUR** - The family of the late Helen MacArthur, would like to thank everyone, for their kind expressions of sympathy and support, following their recent sad bereavement. Special thanks to Ward J South at Inverclyde Hospital, Ward 1 at Cowal Community Hospital and Cardiac Nurse Lorraine, for all the kind care and devoted attention received. Thanks also to Rev Roderick Campbell for his tribute and comforting service at Glen Shira Cemetery, Inveraray, Stan Lupton Funeral Directors for professional services and Piper Stuart Liddell for his appropriate renderings, a final thanks to all who came out to pay their respects as the cortege made its way to Glen Shira.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**LIDDELL** - In loving memory of our dear Mum, Elizabeth, died April 2, 1990. The world changes from year to year Our lives from day to day But the love and memory of you shall never fade away. Loved and remembered every day Missed more than words can say. - Evelyn and Hamish, Elaine and Brian, Robert and Lesley, Grant and Stephanie.

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**



He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:6

Our building is opening again this Sunday. Our Easter Service will be in the church on **Sunday, 4th April 2021 at 11am**

when Bob Craig from Aviemore will Zoom in with the Easter message. If you cannot make it in person, you can still join us online. To join the Zoom service, send your email address to [officespringbankchurch@gmail.com](mailto:officespringbankchurch@gmail.com) and you will be sent a link to Sunday's Zoom meeting.

Covid restrictions will apply in the building - masks and social distancing [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 Sunday services**  
10 am Saddell and Carradale Church SC002609  
10 am Highland Church, Campbeltown SC002493  
11.30am Southend Church SC005484  
Covid 19 restrictions apply  
Ministers  
Revd Steve Filcher  
Revd Christine Fulcher 01586 830504  
[www.kintyrepsrishes.org.uk](http://www.kintyrepsrishes.org.uk)

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**GOLDEN WEDDING**



**SALVATION ARMY**



Our meetings are **Friday 2nd April**  
3pm Worship  
Easter Sunday  
**Sunday 4th April**  
Easter Celebration  
3pm Worship  
Normal Covid restrictions remain in place  
If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046  
Major Ruth Russell  
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

**GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH**

Barr Mhor Kilmartin  
Welcome to our Easter Sunday Service  
Rev Robert McLeod 11am  
Covid restrictions apply

**CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH**

George Street, Campbeltown  
**free church of scotland**  
**Sunday 4th April**  
11.15am Worship Service  
Rev Rodger Crooks  
4.00pm Sunday School (by Zoom)  
7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)  
**Wednesday 7th April**  
12.00 noon Prayer & Bible Study  
Covid-19 guidelines apply  
All welcome  
[www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk)  
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

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**GOLDEN WEDDING**  
**MacVicar - Ross**  
Alasdair and Mary at Colston Parish Church on April 3, 1971.  
Tigh an Obe, Ardrishaig  
Love and Congratulations from all the family x

**CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH**



**Our doors are open again.**  
A warm welcome awaits you in the Kirk Street Hall at 11:00 am from Sunday 28th March.  
Pastor Mark Jasper 01586 554 092 [pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](mailto:pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
[www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
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**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH in Mid-Argyll & Arran**

Open Again!  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
12 noon  
Christ Church  
**EASTER DAY**  
9am St Columba, Poltalloch  
11am Christ Church  
[www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk](http://www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk) SC013787

**NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH**

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

**LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH**

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686  
**Sunday 4th April "He is risen"**  
Morning Worship  
10am and 11.30am  
Rev W Crossan  
All welcome at either service  
Covid 19 Guidelines apply  
Maximum attendance 50  
There will be a message on our Facebook page each Wednesday and Sunday

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

Both churches are open on Sunday 4th April 10am Skipness and 11.30 am Tarbert - for a place at the Tarbert service please email [janne8@btinternet.com](mailto:janne8@btinternet.com)  
Please wear a face covering and stay 2 metres apart for the services  
Contact Rev. Lyn Peden 01880820158 for pastoral care  
Charity number Tarbert SC 002622 Skipness SC004280

**ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES**

**Friday 2nd April Good Friday**  
A Strange Time  
Ardrishaig at 6:30pm  
**Sunday 4th April Easter**  
"they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy"  
Achahoish at 9:45am  
Ardrishaig at 11:00am (Covid19 control measures apply)  
Weekly Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches

**WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES**

(Cumloddan, Inveraray and Lochgair)  
**Good Friday service 2nd April**  
in Cumloddan church at 2.30pm and in Inveraray church at 2.30pm  
**Sunday 4th April**  
An Easter service in Inveraray church at 11.30am for all. led by Mrs Dorothy Wallace  
Masks must be worn  
Charity No: SC016665

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 scottishfield.co.uk/subscriptions  
\*Terms and conditions apply. In the UK for direct debit subscribers only. Minimum one year subscription to  
 Scottish Field. Offer ends 31 May 2021. While stocks last. Limited stock available. first come, first served basis.



# Keeping active via school challenge

An initiative organised by LiveArgyll's Active Schools and Sport team has been deemed a huge success.

The School Strava Challenge was aimed at encouraging young people in secondary schools across the area to keep active and healthy while in this last lockdown and not having access to regular school activity.

Staff and pupils in every secondary school were given the challenge of walking, running or wheeling as many kilometres as possible over a five-week period.

The schools were pitched against each other to offer a competitive element, and pupils vied for top spot in their school community.

A total of 10 schools, 378 pupils and 112 school staff amassed an incredible 29,670 kilometres over the course of the challenge.



**Rio Brown was the top boy from Oban High School.**



**Rachel Carré was the top girl from Oban High School.**



**Below: Ezra Manning and Olivia Bruce were the top performers at Tiree High School.**

Tobermory High School was victorious in the title for the average number of kilometres per pupil, followed by Tarbert Academy and Tiree High School, with Dunoon Grammar School winning the highest number of kilometres travelled. The top schools were rewarded with a selection of sports equipment for their efforts.

The top performing boy and girl from each school, were awarded a fitness tracker watch for clocking up the highest number of miles.

The Active Schools and Sports team is working on a number of projects in order to restart extracurricular activity when this allows, and have already produced some online resources for school pupils to keep them active at home, which can be found on the LiveArgyll website [www.liveargyll.co.uk](http://www.liveargyll.co.uk).



**Bob MacIntyre in action earlier this year.** (Photograph: Ross Kinnaid/Getty Images).

## Great week in Texas opens Masters door for Bob

An invitation to the US Masters in Augusta (April 8-11) is imminent for Robert (Bob) MacIntyre following a great effort at the WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play last week.

Hopes of lifting the title in Austin, Texas came to an end on Saturday after losing five and four to Victor Perez.

Having made it to the last 16, however, the Oban golfer guaranteed his place inside the top-50 on the Official World

Golf Ranking, maintaining his 44th position when the weekly update took place on Monday.

In Wednesday's opening encounter the 24-year-old lefty produced a sensational performance against five-time PGA Tour winner Kevin Na, scoring two eagles over the last six holes to secure a two and one victory.

On Thursday he tied with world number one Dustin Johnson and showed nerves of steel against Adam Long on Friday to nail himself a place in the last 16.

Trailing by three shots at the turn Bob dug deep to chip away at the advantage and halve the match.

## Vice-presidents win the day at Tarbert golf opener

The traditional Tarbert Golf Club season opener, the presidents versus vice-presidents match, took place at Glenralloch in dry overhead conditions.

The vice-presidents team took the honours in the competition, held on Saturday March 27, with a comprehensive 3.5 points to 0.5 victory.

This weekend sees the ladies' open with the April Stableford on Sunday followed by a nine-hole Stableford on Thursday April 8.

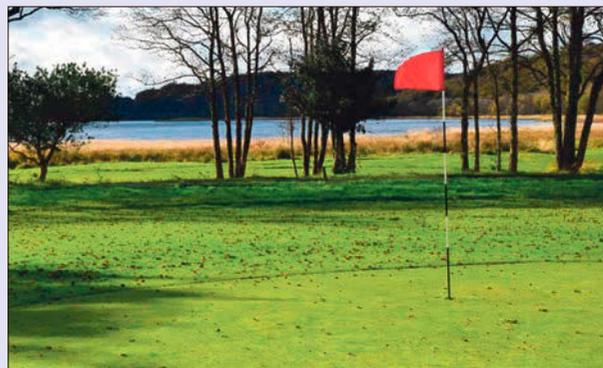
The gents start on Saturday April 10 with the first round of the Fyne Tankard.

The course has seen a huge amount of

work take place over the past six weeks, with a hardy band of dedicated volunteers seeing to a whole host of tasks. This will be of great benefit to the members as the season progresses.

Any new members wishing to join should contact club captain Kenny MacFarlane or secretary John MacNab for details.

**The Glenralloch course has seen a huge amount of work take place over the past six weeks.** 51\_a14TarbertGolf02



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