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Poignant painting coming home to rest in Ardrishaig

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

A painting with links to Mid Argyll missionary James Chalmers is to have pride of place in his birthplace of Ardrishaig.

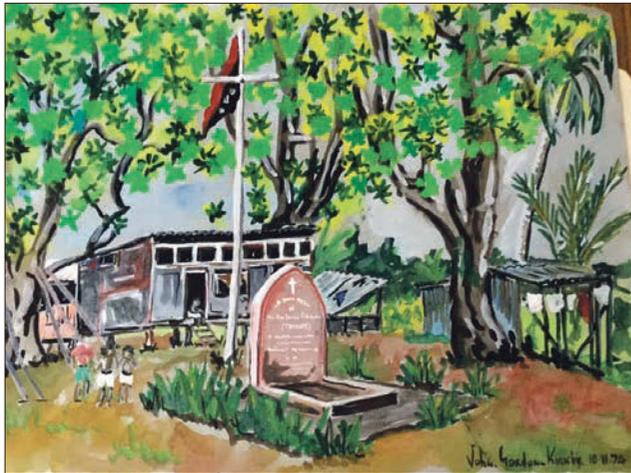
He was murdered in New Guinea 120 years ago on the island of Daru in the Western Gulf of Papua, but his life and work have not been forgotten.

Retired Australian civil servant John Gordon-Kirkby recently revealed on Facebook that he had a watercolour, painted by himself, of the final resting place of James Chalmers, and he wanted it to come home to Argyll.

He wrote: 'My 1974 painting is of the grave for the collected human remains of the cannibalised Reverend 'Tamate' James Chalmers (1841-1901) on the island of Daru.

'I am prepared to donate this 28x38 cm watercolour on paper if there is a suitable local museum or public gallery.

'I am only a hobby artist



and seek no recognition.' James Chalmers was born in Ardrishaig in 1841, moving as a child with his family to Inveraray, where he received his schooling.

He had decided to become a missionary by the age of 20 and his first posting in 1867 was to the South Pacific island of Rarotonga in the Cook Islands where, popular with the people, he was given the

name 'Tamate'. Ten years later he was sent to New Guinea, then an almost-unknown land. It was dangerous work among warlike people and he was ever the peacemaker.

His last station was Daru, near which he and fellow missionary Oliver Fellows Tomkins were attacked and killed by cannibals on April 8 1901.

His memory lives on in the



Far left: John Gordon-Kirkby's 1874 watercolour of the final resting place of Rev James Chalmers.

Left: Mid Argyll born and raised missionary, Rev James Chalmers.

bished Ardrishaig Public Hall and it remains to be seen what the decision will be.

Mr Gordon-Kirkby, meanwhile, sees a parallel between his own career on Papua New

Guinea and that of James Chalmers.

Chalmers believed that as long as there were foreign pastors in the land, the church could not flourish – they had to be locally-run.

'In a like manner, that was my mission too,' said Mr Gordon-Kirkby. 'To introduce local and provincial self-government and to be there to celebrate their 1975 national independence.

'Our object was to work oneself out of the colonial job!'

Argyll musicians wanted for MOJO

A call has gone out to musicians of all genres, with Argyll connections, to showcase their talents at the 2021 MOJO festival in Ardfern.

Covid-permitting, the feast of original music will be held on October 16.

Entries will close on July 25 and acts must perform a 30-40 minute set of original music and be aged 16 and over.

To apply, send a short description of your music accompanied with a demo - video, EP, Soundcloud, Youtube are all accepted - via the MOJO Argyll Facebook page.

Previous MOJO artists can re-apply, provided it is with new material.



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Yacht turns up safe after Loch Sween search



Tayvallich harbour, from the Islay RNLI lifeboat Helmut Schroder of Dunlossit II. Photo: RNLI

An Islay RNLI coxswain praised the actions of a member of the public in raising the alarm after becoming concerned about a family yacht in Loch Sween.

Islay lifeboat was launched at 5.10am on Sunday May 16 to search for the 17-foot sailing yacht after the family member had not heard from the person on board at the expected time.

In favourable conditions, the crew arrived at Loch Sween to assist in the search along with Oban RNLI, Tarbert Coastguard Rescue Team and the coastguard search and rescue helicopter.

After a search of the loch, the yacht was found safely moored in Tayvallich harbour. The person on board was well and the concerned family informed and reassured.

Islay RNLI coxswain David MacLellan said: 'It was a good result on this occasion to find the boat safely moored. The concerned family member was right to call the coastguard and we are pleased all was well.'

Mid Argyll police issue fraud warning

A recent jump in fraud-related crime has prompted police in Mid Argyll to warn people to be on their guard.

Police advice is to be careful with online activity and in responding to unsolicited messages by email and phone.

Common themes include:

■ False listings for boat engines and farming equipment listed on eBay or Facebook, where money is exchanged and no product received.

■ Police advice: Use recognised registered retailers. Do not exchange money until you are in possession of the item or face to face. See it before you buy it.

■ Emails and text messages purporting to be from your



bank or internet company asking for personal details or requesting you to click on a hyperlink.

■ Police advice: Do not respond to the message or click any links. Go through the company's own website and only phone using the numbers detailed there. Check whether they have sent the correspondence. Also consider upgrading the security software on any devices you own.

■ Cold calling by companies at your door or via telephone.

■ Police advice: Responsible

companies avoid doing this. Never buy from a cold caller or pass them your personal or financial details.

■ Financial service providers, advertising on social media, offering high value returns for investments in shares or cryptocurrency.

■ Police advice: Check the company with the Financial Conduct Authority. If a deal seems too good to be true, it usually is. Reputable firms don't cold call, pressure sell, use mobile numbers or offer heightened investment returns beyond the ability of trusted businesses.

Sergeant Matthew Shaw of Lochgilphead police said: 'I would urge people to be

cautious and not to trust any unexpected correspondence.

'Never pass your financial or personal details to anyone unless you're 100 per cent sure who they are and why they require that information.

'If you feel the need to reply to check the authenticity of a contact, please, only use the company's verified official website and the communication methods detailed upon it.

'Particularly where financial fraud is concerned, always, 'stop', 'think' and 'check' with a friend, relative or neighbour before taking any action.

'Any victims of such crimes, or anyone with any concerns can contact their local police station via 101.'

POLICE FILES

Vehicle damaged

Between Saturday May 8 and Sunday May 9 at Church Street, Tarbert, the front bumper and grill of a grey Peugeot 3008 car was damaged by another vehicle which failed to stop and report the collision.

Theft from van

At the bus turning circle, between 5pm on Friday May 7 and 8am on Monday May 10 on Pier Road, Tarbert, an insecure van was entered and a camera and monitor for a Sky Vac gutter cleaning device was stolen.

Police officers assaulted

At about 8pm on Wednesday May 12, at Oban Road and then at Mid Argyll Hospital, a 45-year-old man allegedly behaved in an abusive manner, possessed an offensive weapon and assaulted several police officers. The man was arrested, charged, held for court and a report was sent to the procurator fiscal.

Uninsured vehicle seized

When a car was stopped by police for a routine check on the A83 at Ardrishaig at about 10.30pm on Thursday May 13, checks revealed there was allegedly no insurance in force for the vehicle. The driver, a woman aged 19, was charged with the offence and the vehicle seized. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Arrested for assault

A 39-year-old man was arrested and charged with assaulting a woman at about 1.30am on Saturday May 15 in MacDonald Terrace, Lochgilphead. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Window smashed

Between 12pm on Saturday May 15 and 8.15pm on Sunday May 16, a house near Furnace Medical Centre had a window smashed.

Failed to provide breath sample

Police attended after a car crashed onto its roof on the A846 between Bowmore and Bridgend, Islay, at 9pm on Saturday May 15.

A 20-year-old man was charged with failing to divulge the driver's details when required and failing to provide a breath specimen. A report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.

Anyone with information in relation to the above, or to any other incident, should contact their local police station on telephone number 101 or, anonymously, through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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The boaters are back

Boats are back on Mid Argyll's famous Crinan Canal.

Navigation resumed on May 13 after winter upgrading described by operator Scottish Canals as 'the most significant investment in 20 years'.

Work began in November 2020 on phase one of a multi-year programme of works by Scottish Canals, which included draining sections of the canal to complete a series of lock gate replacements.

The £3.7million improvement works have seen new lock gates installed at locks one to four along the canal - future proofing this part of 'Britain's most beautiful shortcut' for another 40 to 50 years.

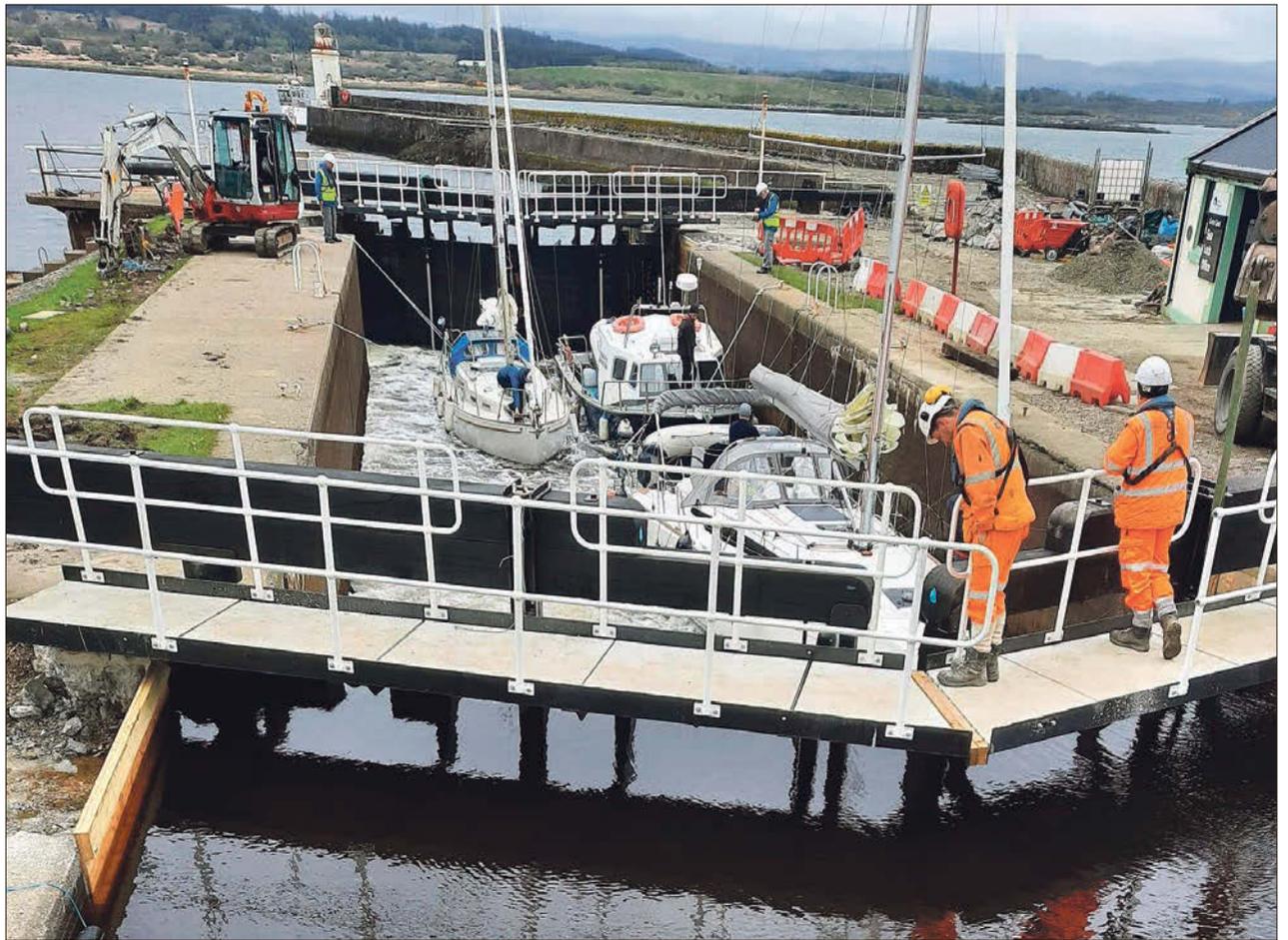
While the lock gates were being replaced, some of a £1 million Scottish Government fund for dredging has been

used to clear the canal, ensuring that the 1,200 boats transiting the canal each year can do so with ease.

Work was also carried out, as part of Scottish Canals' Asset Management Strategy, on the Caledonian, Forth and Clyde and Union canals.

Scottish Canals Chief Executive Officer Catherine Topley said: 'Our mission at Scottish Canals is to deliver world class waterways and the completion of winter works across our network ensures that our canals remain open, vibrant and able to welcome 22 million visits each year.'

'Our improvement works ensure that Scotland's canal network is not only fit for purpose but also enables future investment in tourism and businesses across the country safeguarding local economies.'



Contractors and canal staff kept a close eye on the operation of the new lock gates at Ardrishaig as the Crinan Canal re-opened on May 13. Photograph: Nikki Thompson.

Report reveals council's best and worst budgets

Budget gaps totalling more than £23 million could be facing Argyll and Bute Council up to and including the 2026/27 financial year, a report has predicted.

And a gap of almost £2.5million is forecast for the authority for the 2022/23 financial year - more than nine months before the budget is set for it.

The figure for the next five financial years is the mid-range forecast by council executive director Kirsty Flanagan, who says that even the best-case scenario is a budget gap of £5.7m over the next five years.

The worst case five-year scenario is more than £43m, while the best and worst case scenarios for 2022/23 are £1.7m and £6.3m respectively.

The forecasts are published in a report that went before a virtual meeting of the council's policy and resources committee on May 13.

In a section of the report referring to Scottish Government funding, Ms Flanagan said: 'The Scottish Government had given a commitment to provide a three-year settlement from 2020/21 but both 2020/21 and 2021/22 have been one-year

settlements. It is accepted that due to the uncertainties surrounding the EU exit and the Covid-19 pandemic that it has been difficult for the Scottish Government to honour that commitment, but it is hoped a three-year settlement will be announced next year, as this would provide much more certainty to allow councils to agree a medium term budget.'

'It can be seen that the settlements in 2020/21 and 2021/22 have been much more favourable than in previous years and it is hoped that this is due to the Scottish Government recognising the pressures being faced by local government.'

'It is extremely difficult to estimate future years' funding and it is likely that the Chancellor will have to increase taxes or cut spending in the future to pay for the significant borrowing that has been taken out in the response to the Covid pandemic.'

'It cannot therefore be assumed that the more favourable settlements will continue into future years.'

Turning attention to future council tax budgeting, Ms Flanagan added: 'The council

tax budget for 2021/22 was set at £52.859m which reflects the council tax freeze agreed by the council in February 2021 and an assumption there will be no increase in the council tax base due to the impact of Covid.'

A83 resurfacing

Five days of roadworks are planned for the A83 trunk road. Two sections between Inveraray and Lochgilphead are to be resurfaced as part of a £100,000 Transport Scotland project.

Depending on the weather, work will start on Monday May 24, when a length of the A83 south of Inveraray will be improved over three days.

Teams will move on to a section at Port Ann from Thursday May 27 to Friday May 28. A 10mph convoy system will be in place between 7am and 7pm each day. Traffic management will be removed outwith working hours, but a temporary 30mph speed limit will remain in place on a temporary surface.

Access for emergency services will be maintained.

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Islay – a powerhouse of politics

But where does this need to get involved in government come from?

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

For four centuries they ruled the west coast, from the glens of Antrim to Argyll and far beyond.

Finlaggan on Islay was home to the MacDonald Lords of the Isles. With their strong Gaelic and Norse heritage they defied the will of kings and their political influence was undeniable.

This independence of spirit might account, in part at least, for a modern-day habit of Islay folk - to enter the world of politics.

With the election earlier this month of Jenni Minto as constituency MSP, the island now has three serving Argyll and Bute politicians, with council leader Councillor Robin Currie and Councillor Alastair Redman.

Orkney and Shetland LibDem MP Alistair Carmichael, another Ileach, can be added to the list - and there may be more out there.

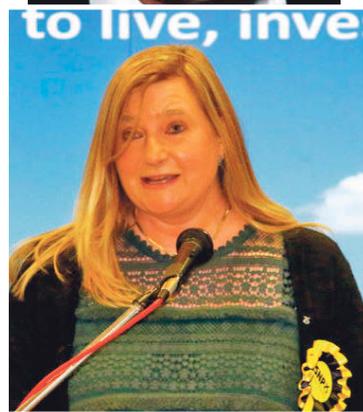
Then there is George Robertson - now Lord Robertson of Port Ellen - former Labour politician and Secretary General of NATO, and the much-respected late Labour leader John Smith, both of whom have Islay connections.

All of the above from an island of little more than 3,000 people.

The Argyllshire Advertiser decided to ask the politicians themselves for their theories about why Islay has the habit of producing a preponderance of politicians.

Leader of Argyll and Bute Council Robin Currie explained: 'Ileachs are known for their sense of community, their enthusiasm for their island and their culture and their diverse mix of skills and resilience, so it's no surprise so many of us want to take that a stage further by representing not only our own island but Argyll and Bute or, indeed, the country itself, as is the case with George Robertson and the late John Smith.'

'All of these characteristics will



Clockwise from above: Could the legacy of the Lords of the Isles, based at Finlaggan, persist in the crop of modern-day Islay politicians? Councillor Alastair Redman; Argyll and Bute Council leader Robin Currie; Jenni Minto MSP; the late John Smith; Lord George Robertson of Port Ellen. Photograph: Roger Harris and Alastair Carmichael MP.

stand anyone in good stead when it comes to life as an elected representative, whether that's at local or national government level.

'It's great that [in Argyll and Bute] we have a good balance of elected representatives of all political flavours who understand the needs and characteristics of that mix of communities and who can bring that knowledge together to work on issues of strategic as well as local importance.'

Councillor Currie added: 'It goes without saying that I wish my fellow Ileach, Jenni Minto, every success in her new role and I look forward to working with her.'

Conservative Alastair Redman - one of three councillors serving Kintyre and the Isles alongside Councillor Currie (LibDem) and Tarbert's Anne Horn (SNP) - pointed to Islay's 'unique economy and location' as part of the reason for its political

prominence. 'Islay is both rural and at the same time heavily industrialised with our large number of distilleries,' he said.

'It might be considered isolated yet is a global trading powerhouse. We on Islay have a population of just a few thousand, yet our name is world famous.'

'There is also our history which to a degree separates us from mainland Scotland. Finlaggan was the seat of the Lords of the Isles under Clan Donald with roots that go back beyond the Kingdom of Scotland, beginning with Somerled in the 12th century.'

'I feel this has led to Ileachs being more independent and perhaps at times more forthright than others.'

'I hope many more councillors, MSPs, MPs, cabinet ministers, lords and even prime ministers will come from my home island which, though

small, has made a huge mark on this world.'

The last word goes to the newest member of Islay's political gang, Jenni Minto MSP.

The SNP member also cited the island's past influence on Scottish politics through Finlaggan and the Lordship of the Isles.

And she highlighted more examples of single-minded Ileachs making their mark on the world.

'In 1738-40 three ships with Islay people on board sailed for the New York colony,' said Ms Minto.

'On one of these was five-year-old Alexander McDougall, who became a key figure in America's war for independence.'

'He had a very successful life, rising to the rank of Major General in the continental army. He then entered public service and was elected to the New York state senate. On his

death, he was described by George Washington as one of the five pillars of the American revolution.'

'I am not Islay-born,' she continued, 'but feel very lucky to live on such a wonderful island. I often describe it as the centre of the universe and there are very few places you can visit without meeting someone from Islay or someone who has a connection with the island.'

'Coming from, or living on, an island means you need a level of resilience and creativity but you also have a true sense of community and working together.'

'Islay is also known to be a friendly place, where everyone has time to chat and listen to other people's thoughts and views.'

'I think all of these traits are needed in politics so perhaps it is not a surprise that Islay people have entered public service.'

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A bright future awaits Arrochar hall

A business plan has been created to keep Arrochar's community hall operating once Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted.

The Three Villages Hall and Community Café has had no income from use by community or commercial groups for more than a year.

But an update from Arrochar and Tarbet Community Development Trust has given details of a recovery process.

The details were part of a report by the trust presented to Argyll and Bute Council's Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group on May 20.

It also detailed the village's mobile post office operations for a second day of the week and planned changes in the management of the community café and post office.

Trust chairman Duncan MacLachlan said: 'Development trust directors held a monthly board meeting recently at which a range of matters was covered, as they continue to oversee recovery

After no social events for more than a year – a reminder of the main hall jumping during a Skerryvore concert in 2013; far right: The hall is a hub for the villages of Arrochar, Succoth and Tarbet.



of the Three Villages Hall and Community Café, following year-long closure, with no income from commercial lets or club hire.

'Fortunately, with government and council business support, the buildings have been secured, maintained and actions taken to create a new business plan, when Covid restrictions will allow re-opening and the return of group meetings.

'Throughout lockdown we have hosted a mobile post office service which has been

operating successfully on Mondays and a good relationship has been established with the Crianlarich postmistress.

'We're now looking to arrange this service for two mornings a week, Monday and Friday, which will start soon for the summer months and then be reviewed for continuation over the winter.

'Many villagers in Arrochar, Tarbet and surrounding loch-side areas have attended coronavirus vaccination clinics in the Three Villages Community Hall, organised by Dr Troup's

Arrochar surgery team, with rigorous cleaning and hygiene measures throughout and following the clinics.'

Mr MacLachlan also gave information on progress with refurbishment of the café during lockdown and its new name. He added: 'As a consequence of lockdown, the trust has overseen a change

in the community café and post office, with the manager/postmistress and long-term trust director Melanie Tonks retiring from her front line role and the future of the building reassessed. This resulted in an approach from a local business couple who proposed to lease the building and invest in its complete refurbishment, with

a view to future operation and integration with community hall events and activities.

'A business plan and legal agreements were drawn up to the satisfaction of everyone concerned. Café refurbishment has progressed apace through lockdown and is soon to be opened as the 'Cu Mara' bistro and takeaway.'



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YOUR PICTURES



An area familiar to many readers features in this week's photograph.

If you look closely, you will recognise the glaciated U-shaped valley of Glen Kinglas and the A83 running down to Cairndow and Loch Fyne.

Thanks to Kathleen Mirrlees of Strachur for the image, which was taken on May 16 on the northern flank of Beinn an Lochain above Butterbridge.

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

YOURSTORY

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Summer in the garden – roses and relaxing

June is a lovely month to be in the garden.

With the evenings getting longer and brighter you can use your garden or patio as a great extension to your home and sit back and relax.

It's now that lawns need to be mowed frequently, so here are some pointers on getting that perfect cared-for look. Mow at least once a week and raise the mower blades when it's very hot weather.

Don't mow when grass is wet or during a drought and don't collect your clippings during dry spells as this helps conserve moisture.

Repair bare patches with turf or re-seeding.

Ensure all your plants are adequately fed this month, particularly those in baskets and tubs. Plants benefit from regular feeding as they are growing vigorously and need



Create an instant rose garden by planting containers with a varieties of roses and placing them together.

nutrition levels to be kept up.

Slow-release granules are a good idea for pots and baskets as they release food as it is required.

An excellent container option for small gardens is a rose. Buy a selection of different sized pots, plant them with a varieties of roses, then place them together in a group.

There is a rose for every garden situation – from hybrid teas to miniatures and climbers to floribundas.

Roses are easy to grow and will thrive in most soil types providing there is good drainage.

They prefer a position that is sunny and not too exposed and need regular feeding which will improve their resistance to pests and disease, although some roses will require spraying to combat aphids and mildew.

Pruning is also important to remove dead heads and improve flowering over a longer

period of time.

If you are replacing old roses with new ones, ensure old soil is removed and replaced with fresh soil.

As the temperature rises and midsummer day arrives, here are few 'must do' jobs for the garden this month from the Royal Horticultural Society:

- Lawn mowing and management
- Plant out summer bedding plants
- Trim hedges
- Look after your tomato plants
- Pick the first salad leaves and herbs
- Keep on top of weeding
- Ensure all plants are fed and watered
- Pest control
- Sow French and runner beans
- Feed local wildlife, particularly in dry weather

Council aims for carbon-neutral future

Argyll and Bute Council leader Robin Currie says the authority is 'delivering progress' as it adopts environmentally-friendly ways of working.

Carbon emissions have fallen by 27 per cent over the past five years and the council's 2019/20 carbon report shows that its emissions have dropped for the third year in a row thanks to a range of measures.

These include buildings being made more energy-efficient, traditional lightbulbs being replaced with LED and a move to electric or hybrid vehicles.

Processing household and other municipal waste is highlighted in the report as being responsible for around half of all the council's carbon emissions.

Measures to address this form part of the council's de-carbonisation plan, which sets out a range of climate-friendly activities across all council services, including:

- Implementing a sustainable waste strategy
 - Reducing the use of disposable and single-use plastics
 - Reducing food waste by extending pre-ordering for school food
 - Introducing renewable heat incentive projects
 - Installing solar technology at council properties
 - Completing an LED streetlight replacement programme
- The council's policy and resources

committee considered the carbon emissions report and de-carbonisation plan when it met on May 13.

It also considered new measures expected to come into force for all local authorities from 2022, including dates for meeting emissions targets and how spending plans align to climate change.

Councillor Currie said: 'We all share one planet and rely on its resources to live our lives. The steps we are taking already are delivering progress.'

'The actions we have planned will progress us further towards achieving the goal of becoming a net zero emissions organisation by 2045. We need to be ambitious to achieve the climate-friendly lifestyles a sustainable future needs.'

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'Lots to do' as new MSP gets down to business

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Jenni Minto, the newly-elected MSP for Argyll and Bute, is getting down to business.

The Islay resident, who became the first female MSP for the constituency after the May 6 poll, spoke to the Argyllshire Advertiser about her priorities.

'You could fill your newspaper with the answers to this question,' she began.

'I am absolutely clear we need to get a permanent solution to the Rest and be Thankful – a key artery into Argyll and Bute,' the MSP continued.

'And we need fit-for-purpose ferries and terminals. These are key infrastructure requirements for those of us who live here, our businesses and for tourism.'

'We also need to build new carbon-neutral housing to

encourage people to move here, but also to have enough housing for those of us already here.

'We need to support our tourism and hospitality industries to recover from Covid and encourage people to holiday here.'

Coming from the fertile isle of Islay, Ms Minto praised the quality of Argyll and Bute's produce, from the land and sea.

She added: 'These industries need to be supported as they are key to the survival of our communities.'

On the Covid-19 pandemic, she said: 'Scotland and Argyll and Bute need to recover from Covid. We also need a transition to ensure we are net carbon zero by 2045.'

'I believe both of these will be achieved in a fairer and more progressive way by Scotland achieving independence. I dis-

agree with people who suggest we can only recover or plan for the referendum to become independent – not both at the same time.

'If we think back to WWII, which was the last time we were hit by something as serious as the pandemic, a war was being fought, the country was being governed, the NHS was being planned and hydro electric power was being established in the highlands.'

'This is what people are good at - doing more than one thing at once.'

'I live on an island and want to ensure islanders are listened to and decisions made with them as opposed to for them. This is the same across Argyll and Bute.'

'There is lots to do and I am looking forward to listening to and working with all sectors of Argyll and Bute to ensure our voices are heard in Holyrood.'



Jenni Minto MSP – aiming to make Argyll and Bute heard in Holyrood.

CONTACTUS

The Argyllshire Advertiser
44 Argyll Street,
Lochgilthead, PA31 8NB.
Phone: 01546 602345

Chief Reporter:
Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Advertising:
01631 568000
adverts@obantimes.co.uk

Head office:
Wyvex Media,
Lochavullin
Industrial Estate,
Oban, PA34 4HB

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Dunfermline Car Club has been given the green light to run the Machrihanish rally in July.

Engines firing up for Mach 1 Stages Rally

Rally drivers and fans are gearing up for the 2021 Mach 1 Stages Rally which has been given the go ahead following a change in Covid-19 rules.

Confirmation that the event can take place in the summer came after a relaxation in rules about dual occupancy in rally cars, announced last week by Motorsport UK (MSUK), the national membership organisation and governing body for four-wheel motorsport in the UK.

Plans are now being put in place by Dunfermline Car Club (DCC), which organises the Marshall Construction Scottish Tarmac Rally Championship, for this year's rally, taking place at Machrihanish Airbase Community Company Business Park on July 10 and 11.

The event usually takes place annually, but last year's event had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

An event spokesperson said: 'We have been granted the event permit from MSUK and the team at DCC would also like to confirm the inclusion of the Junior 1000 championship at this year's event.'

'Running at the end of the main field, this is surely going to be a challenge for the young up-and-coming teams. While the news is welcomed, there are going to be some changes to the way we organise and run the event this year and are currently awaiting guidelines from MSUK on how this will be carried out and will be shared as soon as we have them.'

The race regulations will be published on www.dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk on May 25 and entries will open on May 30. Volunteer marshals and officials are asked to sign up as early as possible to give organisers an indication of the numbers who are willing to assist with the running of the event.

The spokesperson added: 'We have already reviewed routes for this year and, mile for mile, the value for money, with just under 100 miles, is excellent.'

Anyone with any queries about the rally should email strc@dunfermlinecarclub.co.uk for more information.



Kintyre's George and Lois Fell taking part in 2019's Mach 1 Stages Rally.

Science matters

DOROTHY H CRAWFORD



A unique holiday destination

Have you ever thought of holidaying on the moon?

No Covid-19 and apparently some space tourism start-ups will be offering moon trips from around 2023.

But if you're intent on actually landing on the moon's surface there are several major problems: it has little gravity, no oxygen, no water and no food. But never mind, Chinese astronauts, who regard a moon base as essential for probing outer space, have just about solved these problems with a bioregenerative life support system called Yuegong-1, or Lunar Palace 1 (LP1). (*)

LP1 is a temperature and humidity-controlled, sealed, artificial human-animal-plant-microorganism ecosystem in which oxygen, water and food sources are recycled to create an Earth-like environment. The latest experiment had LP1 in use continuously for a year, with two crews of four each having two periods of occupation and the maximum stay being 200 days. All emerged fit and healthy.

LP1 comprises a living area, two cabins for growing plants - wheat, potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers, strawberries, mushrooms - an animal-raising room housing yellow mealworms and waste treatment and storage rooms.

Crew requirements - food, water, oxygen and waste disposal - are accommodated as follows: plants and mealworms provide food, the latter being processed into 'flour' for bread.

Plant photosynthesis provides oxygen and consumes CO₂, while purified water



Human beings could soon be able to survive on the lunar surface. Photo: Achituv/

Wikimedia commons

from plant transpiration and condensation provides drinking and washing water.

Nitrogen purified from crew urine generates plant fertiliser, while the remaining urine is purified along with waste water for plant irrigation.

Crew faeces mixed with straw are fermented by bacteria to produce CO₂ for plant photosynthesis, while fermented vegetable waste is fed to the mealworms. The system achieved 98 per cent recycling, the only non-recyclable product requiring storage being solid waste from fermented faeces.

All this represents huge progress, but we are not there yet. Running LP1 requires massive energy input, particularly since lunar days and nights each last an earth month and the nights are freezing.

But still, I have read of plans to build kilometre-high lunar towers bearing solar panels (#), possible because of the moon's zero gravity, but don't hold your breath!

* <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.01.12.426282>
arxiv.org/abs/2103.00612

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COVID-19

Going to work?

Make space.

Around 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and are spreading it without knowing, so keep a safe distance.

Let's take this next step safely.



Heather's Treks – Carradale

Heather Thomas-Smith runs Heathy Heights, an outdoor adventure and discovery company based in Lochgilphead, offering guided walking adventures, outdoor activities, training and experiences. She has travelled and trekked throughout the world, walked across Scotland numerous times, climbed many of its peaks and now lives in Argyll amongst the scenery she loves.

With the K66 officially launched, Carradale is bound to be on many folk's itineraries.

This lovely walk takes in an array of views from sea to summit and is certainly rich in variety covering a hill walk, beach walk, riverside walk, woodland walk, coastal walk, geology, history, wildlife...I could go on.

The landscape with its twisted and convoluted rocks is certainly worthy of exploration and the beach offers its own temptations. Then there's the goats.

Leaving the harbour car park, turn right and follow the road back up the hill for 850m.

You will pass two minor roads on your right, the turning to Port Righ on your left.

Continue until the school is on your left and immediately look for a forestry road to your right after the last bungalow

before the bridge. Turn right on to the track, keeping the car park to your left. Ignore a small path to your right and continue to a T-junction.

Turn right (north) past the village playing fields, with woods to your left. After 250m, turn left at a fork in the track into the woodland. If you miss this, the next turning left joins the same route.

The track meets the other route just ahead.

Veering left, your path climbs noticeably over the next 1.25km, through plantations, past the reservoir off to the right - worth a small detour - until arriving at a junction.

The Kintyre Way continues north, whereas your path heads sharply left to continue up the hill.

The next section opens out and is a lovely part of the walk, with excellent views back to



Arran. After a few minutes, and as the path heads south on the higher section, look for the path to the summit on your right.

It is now a short hop to the summit Trig point - painted white - for some lovely views down Kintyre and towards Ailsa Craig.

Although known as Deer Hill, Cnoc an Ghabar translates as Goat Hill. I suspect there will be an explanation!

Return to the path, meaning southwards for 1.5km,

with the odd little up and plenty of steep downs, passing back into the woodland where it meets another track.

Turn left and look out for the path right just over 50m ahead. Follow this down through the dark woods.

After 200m look for the path and steps heading right. Take these to the Network Centre which, if open, is a good place to stop for a well-deserved cuppa.

Exiting the Network Centre, carefully cross the road, head-

ing left towards a track opposite signposted to Carradale Bay Caravan Park. Follow this briefly before turning right onto Sally's Walk.

After a minute or so look for a turning left signposted 'Carradale East Services' and take it. After 300m you will re-join the main track but will soon take the turning right heading south to 'Carradale Bay'.

En route you will see the stepping stones that cross over Carradale Water to Waterfoot

- I don't recommend standing on them as they can be very slippery.

Continue by the river, passing through gorse and a gate, before finally reaching a sharp left-hand bend.

Head straight on via the little path to the beach. You can now enjoy the vast open expanse of sand as you head eastwards across the lovely Carradale Bay.

When you reach the far end of the bay, more than 1km away, veer right to a gate



The folded rocks are well worth seeing.

Safety in the outdoors

The described routes and accompanying information are there to be used as a guide and do not replace the use of map and compass and the skills required to use them. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the route is accurate at the time of

going to print, please be aware track and path closures can happen at any time. All walks are undertaken at your own risk. Please continue to adhere to current guidelines as set out by the government, exercise responsibly and use appropriate clothing and equipment for your chosen outdoor activity. Inform a contact about

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



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ale, from sea to summit



Far left: Time for a swim? Beautiful Carradale Bay. Left: The view to Arran from Deer Hill, known as 'Goat Hill' in Gaelic. Right: A few residents of the area.



towards Carradale Point. It is worth keeping to the higher ground on the way out as the path drops down through interesting rocks near its end with some grand views.

This is also a great vantage point from which to see the area's feral goats, if about.

At the end you can cross to the vitrified fort on the islet unless there are very high spring tides.

To return, take the lower path* up the western side just above the shoreline - a mass of wildflowers in early summer. This also allows closer inspection of the amazing folded Dalradian rocks.

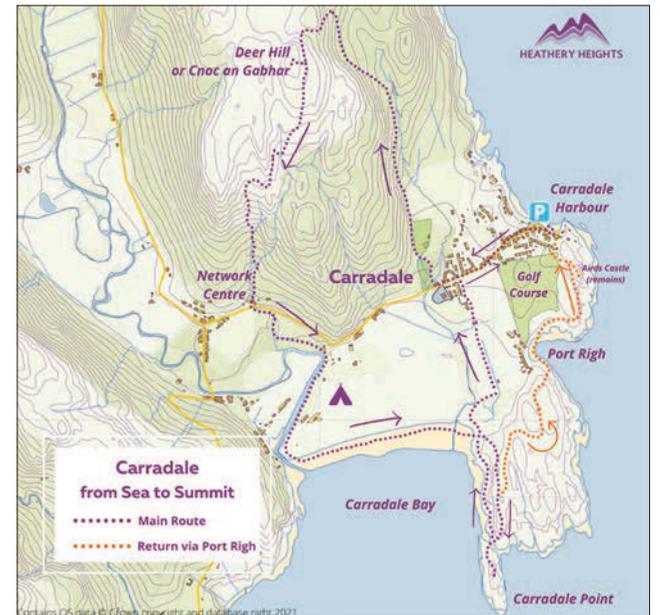
Once back at the bay - where you may decide a swim is in order - head right up the track from the carpark at its eastern end.

After a gate you will be in fields which may have livestock. Veer sharp left at the other side of the first field and follow the track to another gate out on to a lane.

Head straight ahead to return to Carradale village and the main road. Right will take you

back down to the harbour and past potential refreshments.

* You can also follow part of the coast or go over the top to Port Righ - avoiding rhododendrons and boggy bits - and along the edge of the golf course via Airds Castle ruins before dropping back down to Carradale harbour. But beware, the former requires good route-finding skills to avoid difficulties and steep drops.



Walk Information

Route: Deer Hill and Carradale Point
Distance: 11.5km (seven miles)
Ascent: 360m
Time: 3½-4 hours walking, but allow plenty of time for exploration and maybe a swim.
Terrain: Paths, beach and tracks,

some steep, uneven and occasionally boggy sections.
Map/s: OS Landranger 68 (1:50 000)
OS Explorer 356 (1:25 000)
Start/finish/parking: Carradale harbour car park
Grid reference: NR 818386
Public Transport: 445 to Campbeltown
Toilets: Yes

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Ben's Argyll trek will make an ocean of a difference

The Argyll coast is playing host to an eco-adventurer with a mission to bring the ocean's plight to the world stage, writes Fiona Ross.

Twenty-six-year-old Ben Taylor is kayaking and walking along the coastlines of Kintyre, Knapdale and Lorn as part of his round-Britain expedition.

He is collecting litter as he travels and documenting it in a blog and photographs that he plans to take to the UN COP26 conference in Glasgow later this year.

'I had been volunteering for conservation charities and reading into climate change, but had come to feel hopeless about the sheer scale of the problem,' Ben explained.

'After thinking about it all for a few years I started looking in to what I could do and realised in December that one person can make a difference, particularly when combined with community efforts.'

Ben describes his environmental mission as a personal journey he embarked on after a period of depression.

'The idea came to me one evening when I was standing in the kitchen chopping vegetables.

Eco-adventurer collects litter as he travels around the west coast

'I was listening to a song - Albatross by Fleetwood Mac - and suddenly I broke down in tears.

'From there the idea took hold and I got in touch with the Marine Conservation Society and the John Muir Trust and told them that I

'When I'm picking up rubbish on beaches I feel really up and down about it all'

wanted to fundraise for them and highlight their work while doing this trip.'

A website and an online fundraising page were next on Ben's to-do list, followed soon after by a host of practicalities he needed to work out.

Ben said: 'I'll be on the go around Scotland until COP26 in November and then continuing on to England.

'I can't carry much food as I've already got a tent, stove, inflatable kayak and paddles. I was really pleased to find a company that does dehydrated



Ben on the shores of Loch Sween. FR_a21BenTaylor01

ten in detail about the threat plastic litter poses to marine life and the environment in general.

'I wasn't brought up by the sea; I'm from Manchester,' Ben added. 'I worked at a youth hostel in Ullapool for a couple of years and felt a connection there.'

'When I'm picking up rubbish on beaches I feel really up and down about it all.'

'I feel so sad about what I find and about the amount that's below the ocean's surface. But then I realise I need to do what I can.'

On that note, Ben is keen to work together with locals who want to make a difference.

He is helping out at a beach clean in Oban this Friday, May 21. Information on this and how to donate to the John Muir Trust or the Marine Conservation Society can be found on Ben's www.ukcoast-journey.com website.

vegan food in compostable bags, so I bought 120 meals and have mailed them in batches to post offices around the country so I can collect them as I travel.'

As far as training for such an extraordinary expedition is concerned, Ben explained

he has participated in several endurance events, including multi-day running, in the past but now, three weeks since he left his starting point of Glasgow, he is enjoying this trip more than these previous competitions.

'I'm loving this as it's not all

'go, go, go'. I want to be able to sit back and take time and explore all the different parts of the coast. This trip has given me time to write, which is something I've wanted to do for a while.'

Ben's blog can be read on his website where he has also writ-

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Safety first as shops reopen

Hairdressers to hotels, cafes to cinemas, pub chains to independent shops ... high streets across the country are opening up again. But it is important it happens safely!

Businesses are ensuring they comply with COVID-19 safety measures such as social distancing signs, PPE and hand sanitisers. Restaurants, salons and theatres

are among the venues to put in place new booking procedures, ensuring we can all enjoy meals or watch shows in relaxed and safe environments. It is vital all

customers also obey the rules ... hands, face, space and fresh air. For the latest on government guidance, retailers should visit [gov.uk/workingsafely](https://www.gov.uk/workingsafely)

'We ensure measures are effective'

PAUL BAINES, MANAGER, STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH

THE CURTAIN goes up again at Stephen Joseph Theatre on May 17 while Eat Me Cafe, in the bar area, and a gift shop, in the foyer, will also reopen.

"We were open for nearly six months of last year. We did a huge amount of work including introducing a one-way system, social distancing measures and putting down markers," said theatre manager Paul Baines.



"One of the biggest challenges was getting people in and out safely.

"We have to ensure the measures are genuine and effective and they are

visible. Visible reassurance is important for customer confidence.

"It is a juggling act because you have to balance creating a too clinical atmosphere with offering a unique theatre experience."

The theatre has been awarded the VisitEngland We're Good to Go industry standard mark, signifying that it adheres to government and public health COVID-19 guidance, also approved by UK Theatre Seat Safety.

'People need care and pampering'

ROSIE FRASER, OWNER, THAT ROSIE GLOW, EDINBURGH

ALONGSIDE FAMILIAR COVID-19 safety measures, Rosie Fraser has introduced a new service called "Silent Treatment".

"We love a good chat but we also understand some people prefer not to," said Rosie, whose beauty salon opened in 2019.

"Clients can see the service as soon as they look at the online booking menu and add it with whatever treatments they are having.



"We still carry out a full consultation and then let them just relax."

Also in place are bespoke engraved screens between stations, extra time for

cleaning, screening forms for track and trace, PPE and sanitising measures. Rosie emphasises that it is safety with style!

Members of the seven-strong team are carrying out rapid COVID-19 tests at home thanks to the UK Government asymptomatic testing initiative.

"We have exciting plans for this year in expanding. COVID-19 and lockdown has reaffirmed how much people need care and pampering to feel good."

'Trade boost from vaccine confidence'

JOHN LAVERY, OWNER, FISH CITY, BELFAST

INVESTMENT HAS helped Fish City in Belfast continue operating.

The award-winning seafood restaurant extended its seating, installed outdoor heating and started a delivery service. Since reopening for outdoor dining, it has been doing a brisk trade bolstered by confidence in the vaccine programme.

Reopening indoors is scheduled to start on May 24. "We created a dining room



upstairs with a completely different feel," said John, who owns the restaurant with his wife Grainne.

Safety processes include a digital thermometer

mounted at the door which all staff and customers are required to pass before entering. Anyone recording a high temperature is refused admission.

Hand sanitisers are also available. Kitchen and front of house staff are required to wear masks and wash their hands regularly. Tables and chairs are cleaned rigorously after every diner. The restaurant's commitment to the safety is also seen in its recognition as COVID-19 Compliant by Tourism NI.

'We worked hard to train all the team'

MEURIG JONES, LOCATION MANAGER, PORTMEIRION VILLAGE, PORTMEIRION

"IF I could do cartwheels, I would" is one retail chief's response to welcoming the public back.

"When we saw the first trickle of people coming back last month, it was lovely," enthused village location manager Meurig Jones.

"Portmeirion needs people here.

"It's lovely but it isn't what it should be without people



appreciating it. It's easier this year in that it was such a new thing when we opened in July.

"We had to do a lot of work to train the staff into a

new way of working. We're constantly improving and we're learning as we go on."

App orders and one-way systems will ensure ongoing safety.

Outside seating, pods and marquee are also available. Misting machines, meanwhile, will keep hotels "squeaky clean - safe for staff and guests".

Meurig added: "There's hand sanitiser outside every shop and we ask people to wear masks indoors, but not outside."



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The life of a missionary

It is difficult for us to imagine what life must have been like for the men and women who set out in the 19th century to spread Christianity to remote populations around the globe – not all of whom welcomed these foreigners.

Before meeting a grisly end, Reverend James Chalmers was a reformer. He believed that people should be governed not by a colonial rod of iron, but should be treated with respect and dignity – a notion which seems ahead of its time.

He is remembered in Papua New Guinea, and it is a really touching gesture to offer the painting to Rev Chalmers' place of birth. Now we just need to settle on a home for it.

Welcome boaters

The re-opening of the Crinan Canal is welcome indeed, symbolising the gradual relaxing of life under Covid restrictions.

But we must remain wary of this virus and take all recommended precautions, otherwise the relaxation might be short-lived.

There were seemingly some false starts with the new lock gates and teething troubles to contend with. Not too surprising with such a large-scale renewal project and, hopefully, the gates will have settled into easy operation for canal users.

Just get on with it

Sir,
I have been reading a lot of reports and letters in national and local newspapers about the problems experienced at the Rest and be Thankful.

I have no doubt that those charged with keeping the trunk road operational and safe for drivers are doing their best in the circumstances. However, there now seems to be an acceptance in Transport Scotland that a new solution has to be found.

In a letter to the press, George Allan points out that the 20-mile route from Strathlachlan to Colintraive and the eight miles between Ormidale and Tighnabraich were designed and constructed in 12 or 13 years.

I was a member of the survey and design team on these routes. I was also involved in the construction of 100 miles of the A9 between Perth and Inverness in 10 years. These civil engineering schemes demonstrate what can be

achieved when there is real political will and commitment to prioritise projects. I realise Transport Scotland has its own procedures for appointing consultants for the design processes and there are detailed environmental impact assessments to be done. It does, however, seem to me that its programming of the Rest and be Thankful improvement is completely lacking in ambition.

As a former director of roads and transport in Highland, perhaps I may be permitted to comment on the long-term solution.

I would say if there are no geological features found on the other side of the glen which will cause a repeat of current problems, then the construction of a new road in diversion would cause less disruption to traffic than trying to form landslip shelters or tunnels adjacent to the existing carriageway. The main thing though is for Transport Scotland and their political masters to just get on with it.

Philip Shimmin, Inverness.

Great work at canal

Sir,
I would like to say thank you to all the lads who have been working at the Crinan Canal – often when the north winds were blowing and water was pouring down from the hills into the empty canal more quickly than the pumps were able to remove it.

The men greeted me each morning as I walked past to go over the temporary bridge. They were trying to renew the basement concrete which supports the new bridges in spite of the wet, cold weather. Fortunately, April was drier and they managed to fit the new gates thanks to the massive cranes and the skill of the lorry drivers carrying these heavy loads to and from the canal. Others have cleared the rubbish, including lots of old car tyres, which had been dumped. It is good to see the canal in working order again.

J Thorgrimsson, Ardrishaig.

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For more information contact jboyle@scottishfield.co.uk

Thought for the Week

Loneliness can be devastating. And often we have no choice but to do the tough parts alone.

And yet...

One night in the 1980s, a young British student felt compelled to get up and pray for 'Irina'.

She had no idea who that was. A year later in London she met the Russian poet Irina Ratushinskaya, released from a labour camp in the USSR where she had been imprisoned for her Christian faith.

Denied paper, she wrote poems on soap bars. In one poem she wrote:

*Believe me, it was often thus:
In solitary cells, on winter nights
A sudden sense of joy and warmth
And a resounding note of love.
And then, unsleeping, I would know
A huddle by an icy wall:
Someone is thinking of me now,
Petitioning the Lord for me.
My dear ones, thank you all
Who did not falter, who believed in us
In the most fearful prison hour
We probably would not have passed
Through everything – from end to end,
Our heads held high, unbowed –
Without your valiant hearts
to light our path.*

I have never forgotten that extraordinary poem. How far can kindness reach?

In Mid Argyll there is a group of people who offer prayers for anyone who asks. You don't have to be 'religious' – whatever that means – to ask. You can ask for yourself or someone else. It can be something huge, or something ordinary. It is totally confidential.

People are sometimes touched that people they don't know are thinking of them – a 'sudden sense of joy and warmth, a resounding note of love'.

Do ask. Contact us on midargyllprayers.co.uk or on our Facebook page Mid Argyll Prayers.

**Reverend Canon Simon Mackenzie,
Lochgilhead Scottish Episcopal Church.**



TARBERT

Loch Fyne Pipe Band is celebrating four years in existence.

The Tarbert-based band made its first public appearance leading the parade at the 2017 Lochgilhead Armed Forces Day and hasn't looked back since. Shortly after supporting Eddi Reader in Tarbert in February 2020 the pipe band, of course, faced Covid lockdown.

Even a pandemic, however, failed to stop band members working on new tunes and sets.

Skype and Zoom tuition kept pipers and drummers engaged through lockdown as pipers posted daily videos on the Loch Fyne Pipe Band Facebook page to help keep spirits up.

A post of the band's Facebook page this week read: 'We were told that a pipe band based in Tarbert wasn't viable. We're four years in and still here – and we intend being around for a while. Thank you to everyone who supports us, those who have given us grants or dropped cash in a collecting bucket. We appreciate it.'

'If you'd like to join us or learn, please get in touch by messaging us.'

ISLAY

Talented pupils from Islay High School narrowly missed out on winning this year's FilmG Gaelic Learners Award after beating off stiff competition and being shortlisted for the final.

Loch Fyne Pipe Band leads the parade at the 2019 Armed Forces Day event in Lochgilhead.

06_a25ArmedForces-Day04

ship from the University of the Highlands and Islands.

Professor John Howe was one of four scientists who established the BSc marine science programme.

Professors Axel Miller, Keith Davidson and Mark Inall have also previously received the academic title from the university.

Professor Howe, who lives in Bonawe, came to SAMS UHI in 1998 when the institute was known as Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory.

It was almost exclusively a marine science research centre until it became a founding partner of the UHI Millennium Institute.

Originally from Bournemouth, he previously worked at the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge.

Professor Miller, now deputy director at SAMS UHI, said: 'I am absolutely delighted to welcome Professor Howe into the professoriate.'

'It is a highly deserved recognition of his tireless work on behalf of the university and the success of its marine science students.'

'On top of his international renown as a marine geologist, his prowess as an educator has been recognised on several occasions in the 'inspirational lecturer' category of the Highland and Islands Students' Association annual awards.'

FilmG is an annual competition organised by MG ALBA, which celebrates Gaelic screen talent and attracts hundreds of applications each year.

Islay pupils entered two short films, one for learners and one for fluent Gaelic speakers.

This provided learners with the opportunity to see new words and phrases and gave fluent speakers the chance to use Gaelic outside the classroom.

It was the young learners who really caught the judge's attention though, with their production 'Eirich'.

Eirich tells the story of a social media trend that transports people into a dangerous new world, with some students caught in an infinite loop and others caught by the 'person in the shadows'.

Leader of Argyll and Bute Council Councillor Robin Currie said: 'These talented filmmakers from Islay High School have created two exceptional productions and I'm very, very proud of them. Gaelic has played an important role in the history of Argyll and Bute for many years and we're committed to continuing to promote the language and its culture to our communities.'

OBAN

A marine geologist who was instrumental in creating the marine science degree at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) UHI 21 years ago has been awarded a professor-



Professor John Howe.

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Share and reduce farm costs

Farmers are invited to hear all about the benefits of working together to improve their businesses.

Scotland's Farm Advisory Service is bringing together expert speakers and farmers to share their experiences of co-operation to showcase its value.

Co-operation involves farmers and others working together to achieve a commercial objective which they cannot achieve independently and individually.

Through working together members help themselves, pro-actively taking responsibility for generating value and sustainable services in which they have a common purpose.

A Benefits of Working Together webinar will be

chaired by Kerry Allison from SAC Consulting on May 25, between 7pm and 8.30pm.

Guest speakers will be Anna Robertson, project manager, Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society – the experts on co-operation and supply chain collaboration; Hector Munro, Foulis Farms, Ross-Shire, discussing the benefits of sharing machinery and Caroline Black, Backboath Farm, Arbroath. The first of a number on the subject, this webinar will focus on informal co-operation and neighbouring, which has always been a feature of the farming community.

While perhaps less popular than in the past, neighbouring is a great route to share

resources, reduce costs, save time, make lives easier and build relationships in a community.

It makes sense on so many levels, not least for social reasons, wellbeing and on safety grounds.

This is an opportunity to hear from those involved in the practice, why they did it, how they make it work and the lessons they have learned along the way. Check out the FAS website www.fas.scot under 'events' for more.

Agricultural co-operation can have many benefits.

25_c29silage01





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For more information contact jboyle@scottishfield.co.uk

Fears farming will suffer in post-Brexit trade wrangling

Post-Brexit trade deals must not undermine Scottish farming's high standards, says Scotland's farming union.

NFU Scotland joined other UK farming interests in calling for ongoing free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations to recognise and support farmers and crofters and the high standards they meet.

Momentum is building behind a trading agreement with Australia, with discussions also under way with New Zealand.

The UK Farming Roundtable – involving 19 farming bodies from all four nations – said this week that the UK government must set up a statutory Trade and Agriculture Commission to scrutinise all future trade deals. It should be in place before any agreement is reached.

Five principles agreed include:



NFU Scotland president Martin Kennedy.

- Upholding high standards of production and positioning the UK as a global leader in sustainable farming and in tackling climate change
- Recognising the specific sensitivities of some UK farm-

- ing sectors
- Balancing improved access and lower tariffs for agricultural imports with quotas and other safeguards
- Ensuring any trade deal is genuinely reciprocal

- Acknowledging that these deals will establish precedents in all trade deals

The roundtable said that while it supports broad liberalisation of tariffs 'on a mutually beneficial basis', the UK's high

environmental protection, animal welfare and food standards should be protected.

The group also endorsed the government's 'commitment that UK farmers should not be undercut by unfair competition' as counterparties push for unrestricted market access by eliminating tariffs.

'Additionally, the suggestion that negotiators are now in a 'sprint' to finalise the details of a UK/Australia FTA gives rise to concerns that the UK will come under pressure to make serious and potentially damaging concessions to meet the expedited timetable.'

NFU Scotland has sought the support of Scottish politicians to ensure any trade deal follows the correct process.

NFUS president Martin Kennedy said: 'We share the concerns expressed regarding the Australia FTA

negotiations.

'Scotland's beef, dairy, sheep and grain sectors are particularly exposed should a deal be rushed through with Australia that fails to strike the right balance. All deals must be properly scrutinised and ratified to avoid any risks to the future viability of the farming sector.'

'Rushing through a trade deal without the promised statutory Trade and Agriculture Commission in place prior to the deal being concluded also sets a damaging precedent for other trade deals.'

'UK consumers already enjoy some of the most affordable food in the world, produced to the highest standards. Employment, the prosperity of rural areas and our high standards should not be jeopardised for the sake of a headline-grabbing deal.'



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PLANNING

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

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

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

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/02112/PP	Change of use of land to form extension to garden ground and erection of summerhouse and garden shed (retrospective)	23 St Clair Way, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA30 8FB
21/00732/PP	Painting of white stonework at the front of the building in Terracotta masonry paint	Anchorage Restaurant, Harbour Street, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6UD
21/00811/PP	Engineering operations to re-profile ground (retrospective)	Land South Of Ardrishaig Water Treatment Works, Ardrishaig, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA30 8HF
21/00609/PP	Change of use of retail unit into 2no. residential flats to include installation of replacement front doors, 1 rear window of the same style and finish, installation of 1 rooflight and repainting of exterior	Shop Bayview And Cragfoot, Harbour Street, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute, PA29 6UD

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.

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TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

THE A83 TRUNK ROAD (CAMPBELTOWN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF SPECIFIED TURNS AND TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON WAITING, LOADING AND UNLOADING) ORDER 2021

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS give notice that they have made the above Order under sections 2(1) and (2), 4(1) and 14(1)(a) and (4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, temporarily prohibiting specified turns, waiting, loading and unloading on that length of the A83 Tarbet - Lochgilphead - Campbeltown Trunk Road from Old Quay Roundabout, Campbeltown in a south easterly direction along Hall Street, Campbeltown to its junction with New Quay Roundabout, Campbeltown and thereafter from said junction in a north westerly direction along Hall Street, Campbeltown to its junction with Old Quay Roundabout, Campbeltown a distance of 495 metres or thereby. Prohibition Of Specified Turns

1. All right turns from St John Street, Campbeltown to Hall Street, Campbeltown
2. All left turns from St John Street, Campbeltown to Hall Street, Campbeltown
3. All right turns from Hall Street, Campbeltown to St John Street, Campbeltown.
4. All left turns from Hall Street, Campbeltown to St John Street, Campbeltown.

The Order, which is required because works are being or are proposed to be executed on or near the road will be in operation from the 24th May until 8th July 2021 and will only have effect in relation to such part or parts of the length of road as is indicated by the appropriate traffic signs. Access to pedestrians will be maintained at all times. The Order does not apply to vehicles being used in an emergency for fire brigade, ambulance, police or coastguard purposes, or a vehicle being used for carrying out the works.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES

An alternative route is not required. A copy of the Order and this Notice will be available on the Transport Scotland website at <https://www.transport.gov.scot/road-orders/?roadorderregion=1291> For information about roadworks on motorways and trunk roads visit www.trafficscotland.org

S LEES

A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers, Transport Scotland, Roads, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF



ACCESS TO ARGYLL AND BUTE (A83) STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

As per Section 16(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Scottish Government is now consulting on the documents relating to the Access to Argyll and Bute (A83) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). All documentation, including the Environmental Report, can be viewed at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/strategic-environmental-assessment-a83-access-to-argyll-and-bute/>

Feedback on these documents can now be submitted by email to A83@jacobs.com, by phone on 07999 948736, or by mail to Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF. We ask that views be submitted by the close of the consultation period on 8 July 2021. If further information is required on the Environmental Report, please contact SEA_Gateway@gov.scot

19th Argyll Scout Group Extraordinary General Meeting

7pm Wednesday 26th May 2021 via Zoom
To receive the Zoom link please email 19thargyllscouts@gmail.com

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DEATHS

MACGREGOR

Peacefully at home, 28 Fernoch Park, Lochgilphead, on May 18, 2021, Donald MacGregor, in his 75th year. Formerly of Knapdale Terrace, Ardrishaig. Retired British Waterways Engineer. Beloved husband of Kathleen (Clark) and much loved father of Cameron and Shona. A good neighbour, dear friend and former work colleague to many. A private funeral service will be held at Ardrishaig Parish Church on Monday, May 24, 2021. For those wishing to pay their respects, the funeral cortege will leave from Ardrishaig Parish Church at approximately 11.30am, travelling along Chalmers Street Ardrishaig on route to Achnabreac Cemetery. Please observe social distancing.

MOORE - William Moore of Achahoish, peacefully passed away on May 12, 2021 in his 86th year. Dearly beloved husband of Christine Moore, much loved dad to John and Lynn, father-in-law to Heather and Mark, devoted grandfather to Ross, Sadie and William. Family only cremation, Cardross, Wednesday, May 26, 2.15pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COLVILLE - Catherine, Ailsa and Katrina would like to thank family and friends for the wonderful support received through cards, letters, flowers and gifts. Grateful thanks are also extended to staff at Campbeltown Hospital and to all carers for the kind care Willie received. Sincere thanks to Rev. William Crossan for a

personal and comforting service and to Kenneth Blair and family for their professional and dignified manner. Finally, thank you to everyone who paid tribute to Willie at the Church and on route to the Cemetery.

MACBRAYNE - Mary's family would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy through cards, flowers and messages. Thanks to Reverend Crooks for his kind words at the graveside and to all at T A Blair Funeral Directors for their help and professional service. Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Argyll and Bute Carers at Lorne Campbell Court for the affection and excellent care given to Mary and thanks also to the Community Nurses, Doctors and staff at Campbeltown Hospital. Finally we would like to thank all who paid their respects at the Church and on the route to Kilkerran Cemetery.

STRATHIE - Jim and family would like to thank friends, relatives and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, phone calls, food and visits following the sudden passing of Myra. Special thanks to Dr.Harris and her medical team and the paramedics Lorna and Gerrard for the care she received. To Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their care and attention to every detail, Morna for the beautiful flowers; the Grey Gull for the excellent purvey and the Rev. David Carruthers for his kind and caring service. To all those who braved the weather and

paid their respects to Myra on her final journey from Ardrishaig Parish Church to Achnabreac Cemetery, we were deeply moved. She will be missed by many. A beautiful light has just gone out. The generous donations raised £1,000 for Erskine Home, thank you.

IN MEMORIAM

GILCHRIST - In loving memory of Malcolm (Shorty), who died May 20, 2012, loving husband, dad and granda.

You are always in our minds.
- Jean and family.

HESSEY - Treasured memories of Fionnaigh Margaret Hessey who died on May 23, 2020. A much loved daughter, sister, sister-in-law and aunt. No farewell words were spoken.

No time to say goodbye. You were gone before we knew it, And only God knows why.
- Loved always, Dad, Moira, Christine and families.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of Caroline MacDonald (February 11, 1967 - May 23, 2019). Loved beyond words, and missed beyond measure. Forever in our hearts.
- Calum, Iona and wee Calum.

MACDONALD - In loving memory of Caroline who passed away May 23, 2019. Forever and always in our hearts.
- Love Mum, Neil, Linda and Duncan.

MCGOUGAN - Respectfully remembering my best friend, Angus McGougan (The Cat), who left us on May 22, 2016. Sadly missed along life's rocky road.
- Welly.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. —Acts 1:14

In person..... or Online...? Our building is open and our Service will be in the church on **Sunday, 23rd May 2021 at 11am**

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 and you will be sent a link to join us on Sunday via Zoom. Covid restrictions will apply in the building - masks and social distancing 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.kintyreparishes.org.uk

COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS ADVERTISER ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALVATION ARMY



Our meetings are **Sunday 23rd May** Worship service 3pm
Covid 19 measures in place
If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046
Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor Kilmartin
Sunday 23rd May 2021 11am
Rev Robert McLeod
All very welcome
Please remember to wear a mask.

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 23rd May
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Colin Rogerson
11.15am Sunday School
7.00pm Fellowship Meeting (by Zoom)
Wednesday 26th May
12.00 noon Missionary Meeting (by Zoom)
Covid-19 guidelines apply
All welcome
www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christ Church, Lochgilphead
Sunday 11am
Holy Eucharist
St Columba, Poltalloch
9am Holy Communion
1st Sunday of the month
6pm Evensong
3rd Sunday of the month (SC013787, 31391)

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



A warm welcome awaits you in the Kirk Street Hall at 11:00 am
Pastor Mark Jasper 01586 554 092 pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncommunitychurch SC043322

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

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Sunday 23rd May
Morning Worship 11. 15am
Rev W Crossan
Covid 19 Guidelines apply
There will be a message on our Facebook page each Wednesday and Sunday

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 23rd May
Tarbert - James MacLellan
Skipness - John L Morrison
There will be a weekly service at Skipness 10am and Tarbert 11.30am
Please wear a face covering and stay 2 metres apart for the services
Contact 01880 820158 for pastoral care
Charity number Tarbert SC002622 Skipness SC004280

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

Sunday 23rd May
Services in Achahoish at 9:45am and Ardrishaig at 11:00am (Hebrews 1)
(Covid19 control measures apply)
Weekly Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches

WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES (Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)

Sunday 23rd May 2021
There will be a joint service in Cumlodden Church at 10.30am
Sunday service will be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Due to covid seating is restricted.
Please phone 01499 302 459
To book your seat. Masks must be worn when attending church.
Charity No: SC016665

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campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk
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All liturgies are Live streamed: <https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>
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Kirsty Flanagan, winner of the May medal.

No water woes for Keith and Kirsty

Saturday May 15 saw the gents take to Lochgilphead golf course to contest the John Paterson Trophy.

Jim Hunter was storming ahead with a gross 33 in his first nine, including an eagle at the fourth.

Sadly, though, some antics in the burn at the 16th led to more than his ball getting wet, leaving him way down the leaderboard.

The same waterway also lost Raymond Flanagan a stroke or two when he put his ball in it for the second time, much to the amusement of his wife Kirsty who was playing the first green at the time.

Keith Cowan, though, played a steady game and finished with a nett 65 to lift the trophy.

The ladies played for their May medal and with no burn antics and steady play the scores were all excellent. Kirsty Flanagan romped in with a four under par score of 62 to win the medal, beating Ele Hunter by two strokes.

Hot weather and hot shots in Harvey Pairs

Round three of the Harvey Pairs began to heat up with the glorious weather on a slick-running green on May 13.

On Lochgilphead Bowling Club's rink one, the underdogs looked for their day in the sun.

Scott Gargan and his partner Fiona McLeod unleashed a barrage of deadly bowls in the early exchanges, leaving their opponents Jamie MacLean and Roddy MacDonald reeling.

The final bowl special delivery by the postman was worth the wait, making the score 9-9.

So no bragging rights down Lorne Street, but Scott could at least gain a crumb of comfort at the Lingerton tea table.

There were hotshots, and a lot of hot air, on rink two as the two amigos, Alan Guy and Craig Bruce, duelled in the sun against top guns Sandy Crawford and Murray MacDonald.

The sharp shooters' sights were slightly out, with Ginge thinking more of tacos than tactics.

Alan threw his sombrero into the rink and they rode out of town 9-4 winners.

On rink three, Richard Dewar wrestled with his undergarments but he and partner Mark 'McManus' Harkness had the dream team on the ropes.

Archie MacVicar and Donald Crawford got up off the canvas to apply the full Nelson.

A last gasp slam ensured a split decision 9-9, with another bout on the cards.

The grass was left a bit longer on rink four as John 'big game'



Kennedy and Dorothy 'dead aim' Clark were on the hunt for the 'hair bear' pair of Colin MacInnes and Michael Heafey.

These wily old omnivores didn't 'paws' for the cameras as Dorothy struggled to get a shot off.

Hair bear and square bear edged to the top of the tree with a 12-8 win.

The best was saved to last on the outer rink.

As the sun began to set, the dazzling duo of Anne Moore and Libby McGuinness laid their unbeaten run on the line against golden oldies Neil Ward and Ian Guy.

The game swung to and fro with nerves playing a big part. Anne broke a nail as she sent

the jack long. Libby, by this time, had no nails left. Shots were being shared out like Werther's Original.

Could this be a coupon buster?

As the last end drew to a close, it was a 13-12 win to the old fellas – a victory which blew the leagues wide open.

The season now opens up, with Kimberly McAdam returning from her loan spell to score a simple hat-trick in the Portavadie Cup.

Some class players could return to action with Armour, Macpherson, Martin and Colligan forming an impressive back four to challenge the regular squad. Up front the striking partnership of

Neil Ward and Ian Guy who narrowly defeated Anne Moore and Libby McGuinness.

Mavis Yuill and Liz Johnson may make an appearance off the bench and with Margaret MacKinnon, Lynne Milne and new signing Alma McGuinness all in reserve, the team is looking to have a strong summer campaign.

Submitted.

Sheena's success as Connor rises through ranks

Tarbert's lady members gathered at Glenralloch last Saturday in pleasant overhead conditions to play for Dickie's Cup.

Sheena Ferguson returned to the winners' circle with an impressive 58 nett, followed by Georgie Dickson on 60 and Rona Young on 61.

A successful five-week block of lessons finished last week.

They were aimed at encouraging new lady members to play and the club looks forward to welcoming these new starts.

Junior lessons have also started, with Craig Barrett, Kenny MacFarlane and Calum McCrae tutoring an exciting crop of enthusiastic youngsters.

Connor McCrae had his most successful day yet in the Stephen Gallacher Foundation event at Linlithgow, taking first place in the under-10 event with an outstanding one-under-par 35.

His score bettered those competing in the under-12 section, further elevating his standing.

Connor moves up the rankings, allowing him to play in the stroke play events, which was his ultimate aim.

He has a break this weekend before competing at Glenberrie on May 30.

The gents return to action this Saturday with the second round of the President's Cup and first round of the John Reid Quach.



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